

## **Beach Commission Minutes – Meeting of 06/14/2016**

**Attending: Rian Wilkinson, Bill Seiple, Dave Leys, John Ceglarski, Charlene Rose, Will Cronin, Warren Hall Antone Viveiros, Janet Freedman, Gary Lapidas**

### **1. Open Meeting 4:35**

### **2. Approved minutes of 4/12/2016**

**3. Janet Freedman- CRMC Coastal Geologist, (jfreedman@crmc.ri.gov), gave a power point presentation. An overview of the benefit of a strong dune conservation program.**

**• Note: Second and Third Beaches are classified as Moderately Developed Barrier Beaches**

**• Dune Benefits**

**Protection of property- Buildings**

**Wildlife Habitat**

**Aesthetics**

**Preserve Beach fronts (Reduce Erosion)**

**Freedman noted that she was surprised at the height of the dunes at Second Beach. Probably the highest of any RI Beach. Rian reported that there has been a long term effort to maintain the dunes, including planting over 100,000 plants and miles of snow fence. And, recently, plastic matting was installed on the beach's more problematic walks.**

**Second beach, due to its' moderate rolling surf and sheltered location has dramatically less beach erosion than almost all the state's**

**beaches.**

- **Storms, like Sandy, can actually, have a beneficial effect on a beach. Sand is moved back into the ocean, from the dunes, and the entire conservation cycle starts over.**
- **Some cities are using curved paths to reduce erosion.**
- **Debris from intense storms is a significant cause of structure damage**
- **Beaches are in constant transition- sometimes, best to let nature take its course.**
- **Planting American Dune Grass is the most efficient way to anchor/build dunes. However, there are numerous plants that tend to rival and in, some cases, dominate...prime examples- Carex grass, rosa regosa, bayberry bushes, misc brush, even small trees.**

**4. Beach Opening- Path Mats- The town is using plastic mats on paths 1,2 an 3 at Second Beach. Initial reports are very positive.**

**5. Plovers- A nest, at the concession stand area, had several chicks. Unfortunately, it is believed rival birds killed the babies. They may try to nest in a less congested area.**

**6. Underground wiring- The initial stage, at the main lot, is complete for the summer. The NFW will continue work throughout the summer, on the road leading to Sachuest Point.**

**7. Beach Operations- The beach is in full operation- No major problems**

**8. New business:**

- **Beach Commission was very impressed with the improvements made at Peabody Beach.**
- **Concern that the 13 resident spaces at the old ABC Club are being used by workers and other non-residents. Will Cronin said that the MPD has a weekend presence and are aware of the problem.**

**Meeting adjourned 5:45 pm.**