

Fogland Beach Oversight Committee

Regular Meeting Minutes

August 13, 2014

Members present: T. Ramotowski (Chairman; Conservation Commission), C. Lima (Neighborhood Representative); C. Clarendon (Harbor Commission); S. Berlucci (Director of Public Works); and M. Van Hof (Open Space Commission).

Members absent: C. Roemlein (Recreation Commission); and M. Wojcik (Town Administrator).

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Ramotowski at 5:10 PM.

I. Public Delegations: R. Hollenbach stated that the fence enclosing the playground was damaged and needed to be repaired. Mr. Berlucci stated that the DPW was aware of the damage and that it would be fixed within 30 days.

II. Approval of Minutes: There were no minutes for approval.

III. Status/Condition of Boat Ramp:

Mr. Clarendon noted that the boat ramp was in need of repairs. In addition, dredging was needed because it was difficult if not impossible to launch a boat from the ramp during low tide. Mr. Clarendon stated that he had sent a report to the Town Administrator regarding the less than ideal condition of the boat ramp. To date, he has not received a response. It was noted that people are storing small dinghies on/near the boat ramp. Some of the items may be abandoned and all should be removed.

IV. Draft Language for Changes to Section 54 of the Town Code:

Mr. Clarendon stated that dogs were out-of-control on the beach and on the conservation area. Damage was being done to the vegetation on the beach dunes. Mr. Berlucci asked if it would be helpful to purchase and install “doggie stations” at Fogland. These stations contain baggies for handling dog waste and have been used successfully along Main Road. It was the consensus of the Committee that installing such items would only make the situation worse. Dogs are only allowed on the Beach out-of-season.

Mr. Clarendon noted that people were walking all over the dunes to reach the north cove beach, and in so doing, they were creating paths through the dune vegetation. Mr. Berlucci suggested putting signs up on telephone poles indicating where the approved access to the north cove beach was located. He noted that

several cuts through the dunes already existed and those should be used instead of people creating new ones.

Ms. Lima noted that the beach had been open at 0700 hours with the attendant collecting fees. This has caused some vehicles to turn around rather than pay the fee to use the beach.

Ms. Lima stated that she had called the police three times recently to report trucks and SUVs racing along the beach. Each time, the police took too long to respond and the people doing the racing were not caught.

V. Future of the Committee:

Chairman Ramotowski reminded the Committee that it needed to determine when to go back to the Town Council and ask them to dis-establish the Committee.

Chairman Ramotowski noted that one of the items left to do was to determine the ultimate fate of the cul-de-sac road – should it be removed or be allowed to stay? There may be a few other long-standing questions like this that need to be addressed.

VII. Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 6:11 PM

Respectfully submitted,

T. Ramotowski, Chairman