

BEACH FACILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

1/14/13

Meeting Minutes

In attendance: Shawn Brown, Lynne Dible, Tim Shaw, Tom O'Loughlin, Patricia Lang, Terry Mey, Joseph P. Marnane, John Crimmins and Tom Darby

Open Meeting at 6:05pm

1. Review and approval of 11/26/12 minutes.
2. Review of previous beach financial reports that were passed out to the committee at the 11/26/12 meeting with Town Administrator Shawn Brown, Finance Director Lynne Dible, Recreation Director Tim Shaw and Public Works Director Tom O'Loughlin
 - a. Terry Mey stated that a detailed line item breakdown of beach expenses would be helpful to the committee. Lynne Dible stated that any and all detail that is requested can be provided by the Finance Department.
 - b. Committee members asked for clarification of where beach revenues go. Shawn Brown stated that they go to the Parks & Recreation Fund. Lynne Dible added that Beach Ops, Lifeguard Ops, Harbormaster Ops, Security, Campground Ops, as well as Parks & Grounds functions fall under the Parks & Recreation Fund.
 - c. Shawn Brown also added that the Town Council has decided in the past to use beach revenues for such items as the West Main Complex lights, Gaudet Middle School tennis/basketball courts resurfacing, etc.
 - d. Lynne Dible mentioned that the town also uses beach revenue as part of the town's Capital Improvement Program.
 - e. The committee was made aware that the beach operations were audited every year.
 - f. John Crimmins stated that the available money seems to be tapped out. The town will not build a building if the monies are not available because it goes to other areas of the town. It would help with taxpayer support if they knew where the money goes.
 - g. Shawn Brown reiterated the charge of the committee and stated to the committee that the town would look back at anything (ex. Security, hours of operation, etc.).
 - h. The committee was made aware that the town does make money using property of St. Georges School in lieu of taxes.
 - i. Tom Darby asked what was spent for beach security details each year. Shawn Brown stated that it was approximately \$25K. The police details provide 1st responders on site, oversight of the high volume of cash coming in and additional traffic control. Some of the details are CSOs, which are paid less than police officers. Tom O'Loughlin added that the security was needed because the beach runs into the same problems that any other million dollar business would have.
 - j. John Crimmins inquired about the Harbormaster expenses. The expenses go towards gas, a recently purchased used truck to trailer the boat, new channel markers that were mandated by the Coast Guard, tackle for town owned moorings, as well as additional support from police. Pete Marnane asked if the moorings have been bringing in much revenue. The

revenue from the moorings has been increasing. It was also added that the Harbormaster also supports beach operations at 3rd Beach and 2nd Beach in case of an emergency.

3. Update on beach facility tour and discussion
 - a. Tim Shaw mentioned that the tours of the state beach facilities would be no sooner than late- February due to conflicts with DEM and their staff.
 - b. Shawn Brown asked if the committee has considered anything other than a one building structure at 2nd Beach.
 - c. Tom Darby asked if permitting would be an issue. Tom O'Loughlin explained the permitting process to the committee, along with an overview of options and what would be needed to accomplish them.
 - d. The committee reviewed old maps and photos of Sachuest Point that showed the footprint of the bath houses that once existed on 2nd Beach.
 - e. John Crimmins added that the town could increase revenue with additional concessions.
 - f. Pete Marnane added that an alternative option could be to have a facility near Surfer's End.
 - g. Shawn Brown brought up the idea that if there were multiple smaller facilities on the beach, that the contracted vendors could be held responsible for the upkeep as part of their contract, decreasing the town's expenses.
4. Additional discussion
 - a. Shawn Brown asked the committee members "what is it that got you to get on this committee?"
 - b. Pete Marnane stated that the building looks worn out, especially the interior. He figured that he could make a contribution. Men and women lifeguards using the same locker room and single shower concern me.
 - c. Tricia Lang added that smaller buildings or two separate facilities could be a good idea.
 - d. Tom O'Loughlin and Tom Darby agreed that the building is structurally in good shape.
 - e. John Crimmins asked if we would revisit the idea of a second entrance at 2nd Beach. Tom O'Loughlin and Tim Shaw agreed that the entrance needed attention.
 - f. Pete Marnane added that he had learned more in tonight's meeting about the beach building and operations than he has in his 40+ years in town.
 - g. Shawn Brown stated that we would go back and work on a site plan, and would put together expense details. He also closed out the meeting with the idea of providing tent rental space by adding footings in the lot.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00pm