

**New Shoreham Shoreline Access Working Group
Tuesday, August 4, 2015
Town Hall, Old Town Road
4:00 p.m.**

Present: Chair Michael Shea, Members: Gary Ryan, Marc Tillson and Sven Risom. Also present, for the recording of minutes, was Deputy Town Clerk Millie McGinnes. Members Doug Michel and Chris Blane were absent.

Mr. Shea called the meeting to order at 4:12 p.m.

1. Approval of Minutes of: July 7, 2015

Mr. Risom moved to approve the minutes of July 7, 2015. The motion was seconded by Mr. Ryan and carried.

4 Ayes (Ryan, Risom, Shea, Tillson) 0 Nays 2 Absent (Blane, Michel)

Mr. Tillson moved to amend the agenda to add the item "Public Comment" to address items the public may want to bring up that are not on the agenda. Mr. Risom seconded the motion and it carried.

4 Ayes (Ryan, Risom, Shea, Tillson) 0 Nays 2 Absent (Blane, Michel)

Public Comment

There was no public comment given.

2. Receive response from BILT re: Ballard's Inn beach access. If applicable - discuss and act on recommendation to Town Council concerning such.

It was noted that the Block Island Land Trust has abandoned its ownership/boundary dispute with Ballard's Inn and created alternate access path to the beach through the Ocean View property.

Mr. Ryan stated that it was crucial for the Rescue Squad to have access to the beach at that location.

Mr. Risom moved to agenda "Discuss and act on Ballard's Inn beach access" at the next meeting and invite the property owner to attend. Mr. Tillson seconded the motion and it carried.

4 Ayes (Ryan, Risom, Shea, Tillson) 0 Nays 2 Absent (Blane, Michel)

3. Receive response from Nature Conservancy re: Black Rock Road. If applicable - discuss and act on recommendation to Town Council concerning such.

It was noted that the Nature Conservancy has plans to repair the washed out area of the road down towards Black Rock parking area, but has no plans to improve the parking area.

Mr. Risom suggested arranging a meeting with the Town Solicitor to discuss issues of access over private roads and signage.

4. Discuss and act on shoreline access points examined during site visits: Rodman's Hollow, South West Point, Cooneymus Beach, Dorry's Cove, Gracie's Cove,

Charleston Beach, Coast Guard Beach, Bonnell Beach, Ball O'Brien Park, Block Island Boat Basin and Town Boat Launch at Smuggler's Cove

Rodman's Hollow: The DEM did a beautiful job improving the parking area.

Southwest Point: From the audience, Frank Malone of Plat 14, Lot 17-2, the property owner along the north side of the beach access at Southwest Point, presented a survey map. He explained that the stonewall on his property bordering the beach access does not encroach into the access and gives 4ft. of his property to the path.

Cooneymus Beach: It was suggested that the area to the south along the stonewall be leveled off to improve the parking situation.

Mr. Tillson moved to have the meeting adjourn at 5:00 p.m. No action was taken.

Bonnell Beach: No recommendations were made regarding this area.

Coast Guard Beach: It was suggested to:

- Open the area at the beginning of the path behind the motor pool building about 20 ft. to create a drop-off area and an area to site bike racks and picnic tables.
- Open the width of the entire path to 6 ft. wide all the way to the beach.

Block Island Boat Basin: It was noted that the Boat Basin is private property and no recommendations are appropriate.

Town Boat Launch at Smuggler's Cove: No recommendations were made regarding this area.

Mr. Tillson moved to adjourn at 5:08 p.m. The motion was seconded by Mr. Rison and carried unanimously.

Millie McGinnes
Deputy Town Clerk

Minutes approved: September 8, 2015