

Beach Topic Directives/Research Items from Council Work Sessions 09/24/13, 10/15/13, 11/14/13

Beach Topics Discussion

The Council requested Staff to research a House Bill recently passed that gives municipalities more authority to regulate and enforce ordinances on the beach strand.

- Senate Bill 151 attached

Good Samaritan Resolution, Rip current, Life Guard Safety Zones, Rip Tide Warning System
Attorney Isenberg is researching and developing a Resolution to be forwarded to the Brunswick County Municipalities and the Legislature requesting them to enact a Good Samaritan liability cap or limited liability for municipalities.

- Resolution will be prepared and distributed to Beach Towns for adoption in advance of introduction during the 2015 Legislative Session

Beach Topics for the January Work Session By Department

Public Works & Building Inspections

(Preliminary Information will be distributed and discussed during January Work Session; further detailed information will be distributed and discussed during the Annual Retreat; final decisions will be needed during the March Regular Meeting in preparations for the season)

Sign Pollution & Effectiveness/ New Signage for Access Walkways

- Review the beach strand current signs for suggestions of what needs to be placed on the signs and determine cost.
- Determine the cost of the proposed 6' - 6" tall, 30" wide sign including installation and materials for the 33 walkways
- Research other possibilities for sign materials that could be used so changes could be made to the information on the sign if needed.
- Include information on the signs concerning fireworks

Access Walkways, Maintenance, Repair and Upgrades

- Evaluate the 33 walkways to establish a maintenance schedule, repair schedule and a determination of which walkways could be converted to handicapped accessible.
- Evaluation of the area where each walkway meets Main Street to establish a schedule for maintenance, repairs and which could be converted to handicapped accessible.
- Establish the recorded easement measurement for each walkway and include on the evaluation.
- Determine if handicapped parking could be established at the present and future handicapped accessible walkways.
- Contact CAMA to determine if any of the West end walkway could be converted into an emergency access way.
- Evaluate adding water at the walkway accesses

**Beach Topic Directives/Research Items from Council Work Sessions
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**Beach Topics for the January Work Session
By Department (Cont.)**

Administration

Shading Devices & Athletic equipment

The Staff informed the Council of issues related to Shading Devices and Athletic Equipment from the past season. The Council discussed enacting ordinances to regulate shading devices and athletic equipment including their placement within 30' of the access ways on the strand, tie down strings, the number allowed, commercial and personal shading devices, and attaching them to each other, abandonment of items, wind speed regulation for removal of shading devices from the strand, and size limitation for athletic equipment. The Staff was requested to review the current ordinance and suggest amendments to the Council.

Education of Island Realtors Re.: Ordinances

Research methods to disseminate information to property owners, visitors, rental companies and residents concerning ordinance amendments, new ordinances and laws affecting the beach strand or island

Examples of a welcome packet to be distributed at Town Hall and by rental agencies

Research cost of meeting with area property rental and sales companies

Develop procedure for offering refrigerator magnets and other information to property owners, rental companies and residents.

**Beach Topics for the Annual Retreat
By Department**

Public Works & Building Inspections

Roadway Intersections & Sight Triangle Visibility

Designate different sight triangle visibility measurements for specific intersections as determined by the Building Inspections and the Public Works Directors and submit to the Planning Board for review and recommendation to Council.

Storm Water Management

- Evaluate the drains
- Prepare a Maintenance Schedule
- Determine the cost to have the drains vacuumed

Protection of Dunes & Vegetation; Beach Re-nourishment & Erosion

Establish an erosion base line study that will need to be reestablished each year.

Sidewalks

Evaluate the sidewalks on Main Street, determine the cost of repairs and extending current ones.

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**Beach Topics for the Annual Retreat
By Department (Cont.)**

Driveways/Mailboxes

Contact the post office for mailbox placement rules and compile the driveway ordinances/information for Council.

Restrooms

Explore possibility of putting restrooms on West or East end of island.

Main Street Parking Evaluation - Contact NCDOT to determine if a parking program is available, to evaluate diagonal parking on one side of Main Street and determine how many spaces would be available, and to evaluate paid parking options.

Administration

Aquatic Dangers

The Council discussed issues concerning the fishing pier and the surrounding waters including pier fishing, surf fishing, surfer and swimmer zones and related ordinances. Staff will research for additional information to be considered.

Animals on the Beach

The Council was made aware that exotic animals were brought on the beach strand this year. The Council requested the Staff to research and to propose amendments for the animal ordinances.

Holes on the Beach

The Staff informed the Council of the continuing issues with holes on the beach and discussed ways to ensure that holes are filled in before dark. Staff requested Council to prohibit metal shovels and establish a size limit for other shovels used on the strand. Staff will research and propose ordinance amendments.

Communication & Education

The Council discussed methods of communicating ordinance changes to residents and visitors, such as mailings, sign placement and accessing the community bulletin board channel on television. Staff is preparing an amendment for Council to consider that will establish a section in the Ordinance Book for all beach strand regulations.

Crosswalks

Contact NCDOT concerning painting crosswalks at the beach accesses.

Citation Fines

Evaluate the citation fine amounts and determine if the fines should be increased.

Fire Department

CPR Training

Chief Dempsey has a certified CPR Trainer on Staff that can teach the class in house and free of charge. Each person who successfully completes the class will receive a CPR Certification Card and the cost of the card is \$5 per person. The Defibrillator cost is approximately \$2,800.

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By Department (Cont.)**

Fire Department (Cont.)

Strand Vehicles – Determine the Cost of equipped emergency vehicles needed for strand/water use

Beach Patrol Radios – Work with the Finance Department to transfer radio assets from Fire Department to Beach Patrol.

Fire Personnel for Strand – Prepare proposal of personnel, equipment and associated cost needed to Staff strand with fire personnel from Memorial Day to Labor Day.

Police Department

Seasonal Part-Time Officers - Evaluation of the Town hiring a part-time season patrol officer versus contracting with Brunswick County for a deputy to patrol the island including cost, availability, and pros and cons.

Traffic Control - Direct the officers to respond to the gazebo area when emergency vehicles have been dispatched there to clear a path.