

March 18, 2012

015 Sunset Beach Blvd. N.C. 28560

To: Gary Parker
Dustin Graham
Fr: Karen Joseph
Re: Bird Island Preservation Society

Representatives from the Bird Island Preservation Society, working in collaboration with the North Carolina Coastal Reserve and Division of Coastal Management, approached me with a request that the Town consider allowing them to install an educational sign about Bird Island and the Kindred Spirit in the Town's gazebo parking area.

The Society will pay for the sign and installation costs and are hoping that our Public Works Department will be able to do the actual installation work. The Society will maintain the sign in good condition and will ensure that any necessary repairs are addressed in the future.

Attached are three (3) possible designs for the sign depending upon location. The Society will strive to choose a design that is in keeping with the ambience of Sunset Beach and the immediate gazebo area. I feel confident they will work with the Town to purchase the best possible sign.

Two areas could be considered:

1. The center median of the parking area.
2. The area between the two bathrooms we are planning to install.

If the sign is placed in the median it would be two-sided; if placed between the bathrooms it would probably need to be limited to one side.

Information on the signs

The following educational topics, depending upon the amount of space available, will include:

1. Saving Bird Island
2. Welcome to Bird Island Reserve
3. Turtle of the Coastal Reserve
4. Information About Sunset Beach and Mad Inlet
5. Birds of the Reserve
6. Plants of the Reserve

As we are about to install the bathrooms (week of April 9), I felt the timing of this request was perfect. If for some reason the median area is inappropriate plans for the sign could be incorporated into the design of the area between the bathrooms.

Please let me know if this requires a blessing from the Planning Board and/ or if it must go before Council and what steps forward you recommend.

I think this could be a first step to building a positive relationship between the Bird Island Society and the Town, something that has clearly been missing over the past years.