

TOWN OF SCITUATE BEACH COMMISSION

Agenda: Wednesday, September 13, 2023 at
6:00 pm Remotely via Zoom

Attendees: Kelly Bower, Kate Dahlstrom, Chris Mason, Richard Beekman

Absent: Ron Miller

Additional:

The Scituate Beach Commission is committed to providing an environment of respect during meetings. We ask all members to interact in a polite manner even when there is disagreement.

We value the participation of our community and want all participants, including marginalized and minoritized communities, to feel welcomed and respected.

We ask our committee members, and all who participate, to commit to these standards to support and respect our community.

1. Meeting called to order

- Motion by Kate, second by Rich

2. Review & accept meeting minutes from August 2023

- Motion by Rich, second by Kate

3. Election of Board

- Kelly Bower nominated as Chair (4/0 in favor), Kate Dahlstrom nominated as Vice Chair (4/0 in favor), Rich Beekman nominated as clerk (4/0 in favor)

4. Coastal Management Update - not discussed

5. Cleanups

- Museum beach cleanup - 11 in attendance, more trash and bottles than anticipated, clear there are parties, left in good shape
- 10/14 at humarock is next cleanup

6. Beach Reports

- Sand Hills, Minot, Humarock available to Chris, he selected Humarock
- Museum: a lot of trash but new dune sign is up, enjoy the sign
- Peggotty: Recent heavy flooding, likely from marsh side, very deep.
- Egypt: The shower is up but no new bathroom this season, water safety stations not put out
- Minot: No water safety station there either
- Peggotty: Rich has not noticed trash, Kate said she went recently and was surprised how much trash there was
- General: No safety stations this seasons, ring bells when mobi mats go out next year
- General: Chris asked about weekly tractor raking, like FL. Conservation and seaweed removal brought up as possible challenges. Nahant does it. Ask Conservation

7. Resident Survey

- Rich read out high level results; Minot favorite beach due to distance & aesthetic, 80% drive to beach, 18% walk, Sand Hills & Egypt least favorite due to aesthetic & parking, mix of why people go to the beach, Peggotty overwhelmingly most littered, 67% know of floating wheelchairs, 56% against more day passes, mix of respondent ages
- Rich will share survey, ask to get on town weekly updates

8. Beach Sticker Proposal

- Kate - History of proposal - from sunrise to bigger ambition, more day passes
- Visitor sticker revision idea - 5 weekdays/no holidays/no weekends, all 5 beaches
 - Got email from Selectboard member (Karen) - think bigger, rethink out of town sticker idea completely.
 - Kelly - Recreation feedback is no non-resident except Humarock
 - 2019 change - \$75 to \$100 for out of town stickers
 - Move \$35 to \$50 for sticker, has been \$35 forever. Seniors \$40
 - Violation fees - now \$25 or \$50, move up to \$100
 - Kelly did math showing that taking recommendations is net positive even losing non-resident revenue
 - Kate - lot of work put into out of town stickers as well
 - Kate - day passes idea still moves forward, should allow non-residents access. Agreement on solution. Kelly - how do we manage it? Needs to be online. Rich brought up the pilot of automated plate checks this year, did it happen? If automated it could work perfectly
 - Kate - should we say stickers now May to Oct and no stickers necessary at all Nov-April. General consensus yes
 - Paper for beach stickers goes out in Nov, ideally have direction by then

9. Bike Racks & Bicycle Commission Liaison

- Right now only Egypt
- Now there's a bicycle commission - attend meetings, fill out CPC paperwork
- Chris has volunteered
- Bike meeting next Monday. Nancy Warner has the info, we're there in support

10. Beachgrass Planting

- Recreation funding - Nov 4. Rain date Nov 5
- North & South Rivers Watershed assoc will be part of it
- Mullaney's - sponsor?
- Will be both a Planting & Cleanup

11. Floating Beach Wheelchairs

- Disabilities bought a 4th for Minot
 - Stored at Recreation, individuals have to pick it up - they can't deliver. All agreed that system is not ideal
 - Now 4, \$1000 raised for a 5th but now not needed/necessary. Looking for an idea for the \$1000. Maybe fencing? Fencing not needed right now
 - Take off the agenda

12. Next meeting: Wednesday, October 11 at 6:00 pm

13. Meeting adjourned (4/0 in favor)