

Holden Beach Property Owners Association

MINUTES

Easter Membership Meeting

April 4, 2015 10:00AM

Holden Beach Town Hall Meeting Room

The meeting was called to order at 10:01 by the President. There were 54 voting members present, constituting a quorum. The minutes of the Thanksgiving meeting were approved as presented.

Town Manager David Hewett gave an update on the Town. There is a new free Town of Holden Beach app for mobile devices which can be used for emergency notifications. The park is moving forward. Construction plan designs for the restrooms will be completed soon and the dock is waiting permitting.

There is a new issue from the Coastal Resources Commission (CRC) regarding the vegetation line used for oceanfront development. Because we have never had a large renourishment project, which triggers a static vegetation line, we are able to manage our shoreline on a lot-by-lot basis. The CRC is considering a new rule called a "development line" which is a fixed line that can be moved by application to the CRC. The Town has staff on the working group and draft language is expected at the end of the month.

The Terminal Groin is moving forward. The draft environmental impact statement has been submitted and it is anticipated that it will be released to the public in June.

The Central Reach Project is a 1.3 million cubic yard renourishment project which would span from Boyd Street to 780 OBW. We have had the permit for three years, but it expires in December and will need to be renewed. It is roughly estimated to cost \$15,000,000. Partial funding from the County is expected. The Town has a financial consulting firm advising on funding. The Terminal Groin is a stand-alone project but complimentary.

Annual Beach Monitoring is expected to start next week. The report is expected in the fall.

Steve Mercer of Coastal Transplants gave a presentation on sand fencing and the top beach plants for growing a beach. Bitter Panicum, Salt Meadow Hay, Sea Oats and Beach Grass are used in combination to trap sand and raise the level of the beach. The goal is to move the First Line of Stable and Natural Vegetation (FSLNV) oceanward. This requires the plants to produce rhizomes and spread, trapping sand. To build elevation of the beach 75 feet of dry sand in front of the vegetation is needed.

Police Chief Wally Lane gave an update. He reported that it was a busy winter with three groups of thieves stealing flat screens. All three groups have been arrested and crime has leveled off. The speed limit past the pier has been reduced to the seasonal 35MPH.

Mayor Alan Holden gave an update. The dilapidated appearance of the causeway has caused many comments. The County is responsible for the causeway, not the Town. They have recently sent notices to some of the owners of the worst buildings. The condemned apartments at 109 OBW will hopefully be removed by mid June. The County recently purchased a large parcel of property for a

nature park across the waterway. The Town recently secured emergency access to the strand in the 500 block and hopes to have it available in the next few months. The fire station on the island will be manned again this summer. Mayor Holden encouraged everyone to sign up for the email news blast and download the new app for emergency notices. March is usually a month of high erosion rates, we are still considered an accreting island. Sunday concerts will start on Memorial Day weekend, the new schedule featuring an increase in beach music is available on the Town's website. Oak Island is continuing to dredge for their erosion issues. Home sales are the best in six years, there is more active construction and rentals are way ahead. The static vegetation line is under discussion. The Easter Egg hunt sponsored by the Town was a huge hit. They cut off sign ups at 300 people. The sunken shrimp boat has begun to fall apart which will increase the cost to remove it.

Business

President Tom Myers reported that a letter was sent to the Town regarding the Mega-house as voted on at the last meeting. HBPOA also purchased a defibrillator for the fire department.

Liaison Chair Dolly Mitchell reported that the committee is continuing to send the agendas for the Commissioners' Meetings and a follow up email with a synopsis of actions taken at the meeting. The committee has worked with the Town to evaluate all the crosswalks for safety.

Communications chair Marlene Hahn reminded everyone that the HBPOA website is HoldenBeachPOA.com. The communications survey sent last fall showed that most members want to receive their information via email. Social media was also popular with members, especially Facebook.

Gina Martin, Membership Chair, reported that HBPOA will be at the Days at the Docks Festival and giving out free popcorn at the booth. The committee will also be selling concessions at the summer concerts.

Tom Myers presented the financial report. The balance is \$44,262.24.

In Old Business, the Wedding House issue has gone before Planning and Zoning twice and the Commissioners voted down recommendations for changes, so the issue is dead. A motion was made and seconded that we recommend to the Town that County's new Noise Ordinance be adopted. After discussion, the motion was amended and seconded to recommend that the Town consider adopting the County's new Noise Ordinance. The amended motion carried unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:03pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Vicki Y. Myers
Volunteer Secretary