

Rye Beach Committee Minutes Wednesday February 10, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom

Members present: Frank Hwang, Mary-Ann Sullivan, Brendan Carney, Seana Zelazo, Roseann Vozella Clark

Joined by: Bill Eperson, Selectman- Select Board Representative to the Beach Committee

Assistance from Becky Bergeron

Frank called the meeting to order at 7:00 welcoming everyone to the meeting. Attendance was taken and all members were alone in the room.

Frank read the attestation. There were no public comments. The minutes of the January meeting were accepted.

Frank will have Suzanne Williams from Ogunquit Watershed Alliance speak at the next meeting. She will share how that nonprofit works with local government to educate the public on watershed and pollution issues in Ogunquit, York, Berwick and Eliot areas.

Frank and Seana reported that the Elementary and RJH are interested in having their students work with the Beach Committee on a beach clean-up with a takeaway educational component. Details will follow as Earth Day approaches. Questions were raised about social distancing and mask wearing. Frank explained that students and their families could stay in their classroom pods distanced across Jenness Beach.

Frank continues to follow up on the off- season water testing at area beaches with Steve Jones at UNH. UNH may perform water sample testing if Surf Riders and perhaps Beach Committee members help with the water collection during the shoulder season-between Labor Day and Memorial Day. There are currently no funds available from the town for off season testing. Bill asked what the cost involved. Frank reported: for four sites to be tested twice a month for five months-\$25 per test- at 80 tests approximately \$2,000. During the summer season the state covers the cost of testing biweekly at Wallis Sands, Cable Road, Jenness, and Bass Beaches. It was suggested that other avenues for funding might be grants or money from local businesses.

Frank thanked everyone for attending the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Roseann Vozella Clark