

## Rye Beach Committee Meeting Minutes July 20, 2017

### Members in Attendance:

Larry Rocha, Steve Hillman, Lori Carbajal, Brad Fulkerson  
(absent Keper Connell)

### Attendees:

Police Chief Kevin Walsh, (Jacob MacGlashing Rye Fire Department, left for emergency call at 6:42 PM)

### Points of Discussion:

#### BEACH ACCESS POINTS:

Larry Rocha stated that while canvassing the beach access points with Lori Carbajal, it was determined that access point "G Street" did not have a sign posted as "beach access" nor did the last access point off Old Beach Road which appears to be a drive way for 3 homes.

Additionally, the beach access area of G Street not only had no access signage but did have a sign posted on a utility pole which read – "PRIVATE WAY – PEDESTRIANS ONLY, NO WAGONS, NO WHEELS" Steve Hillman also noted the signage is not legal on the utility pole and it basically tells people not to enter the "private way." All members agreed on this note and unanimously felt it very important to give beach goers multiple marked access points to get them off busy Ocean Boulevard with their families as quickly as possible and additionally spread out the crowds converging at E Street and Cable Road. Steve Hillman stated the cones placed at F Street and on Ocean Boulevard near F Street also sends people further south to E Street access or north to Cable Road. Lori Carbajal noted that she seldom if ever sees anyone using G Street and didn't realize it was a beach access point. Chief Walsh stated after a long court battle there was a court order to keep that an access point however, an agreement was reached to not post a sign showing access.

Lori Carbajal stated that the entirety of the neighborhoods in the Jenness Beach district at least south of Cable Road are part of the Myrica –By- the -Sea plan, which allows for homeowners to the west of Ocean Boulevard to access the beach hence, the reason for these access points to begin with and long before these homeowners were there. Chief Walsh stated he would look into the signage that was posted on the utility pole. He noted that both F and G streets are private and the homeowners maintain themselves.

Open Containers alcohol on the beach – Chief Walsh indicated he has encountered homeowners that own beach front homes stating they own that portion of the sand (issue of the presumed high water mark) and they feel they can have open containers since it is their property. He states he is working on this and reasoning with these homeowners, there are other issues at hand they do not want to have deal with. Lori Carbajal indicated one issue they may be dealing with, would be the homeowners tremendous liability for anyone injured on the sand where they claim to own and they can't have it both ways.

Open Container Fines: Chief Walsh states the levels are the same as last year which is \$50.00 plus \$12.00 court staff totaling \$62.00. Liquor Commission assisting with local police.

Animal Control – Dogs issues: - People are not reading the signs. People are not adhering to the designated hours. Dogs are not under owners' control. Trash is being left on access ways after owners leave with their dogs. Chief Walsh indicates much of the policing and education of offenders is being done by responsible dog owners in addition to his staff and animal control.

Parking: Cost for parking in no parking zone is \$30.00 and parking in Permit area parking is \$50.00. Chief Walsh indicates this is in line with other communities fines. Larry Rocha and Lori Carbajal felt the fines are too low considering most people that are parking illegally on off street parking, feel it is worth the fine since parking legally in a parking lot would cost about the same.

Webster At Rye: Two parking permits were issued to the residents on a sign in, sign out basis so they can go to the beach.

Issuance of Beach Fire Permits: Fire Permits are only issued to Rye residents and the resident pulling the permit must be present at the site at all times. Fires must only be at the rocks area and not on the sand and all evidence of the fire must be removed by permittees with no burnt logs left behind. The Rye Fire Department monitors these permits location.

Swim Zones/flags Sawyers Beach: Brad Fulkerson inquired as to making the swim zone smaller at Sawyers Beach at the bequest of the owner of Summer Sessions Surf Shop stating, there wasn't much room for the surfers at that location especially at the pipe which is a desirable location in terms of good surf. Steve Hillman stated the swim zones and flags are staying as is and there is plenty of room on either side. Larry Rocha stated that although the committee doesn't have any oversight for the lifeguards this year or flag placement have been in agreement the flag positioning should remain stationary at Sawyers Beach. He further stated the best vantage point for the lifeguards for swimmers is in the middle of each flag to provide the best view of swimmers especially if emergency action is needed. Lori Carbajal indicated that given the fact that in some cases the swim zone have had as little as 15 yards to swim in whereas surfers and surf camps have all areas outside of this area, the swim zone is minimal at best. She also stated that she agreed the pipe was a great place to surf and has recommended in the past to the BOS, that the surf camps be positioned just south of Jenness State Beach where there is better access for pick up and drop offs, with a cross walk and a bathroom for campers with plenty of street parking early in the morning when the first camps start Monday through Friday. She stated the location was selected by the surf shop that has been operating there and not a location designated by the town.

TRASH: It has been noted that thus far trash seems to be lower at Sawyers Beach than in the past. The "carry in – carry out" trash policy would work better than containers placed there. It was once again recommended by Lori Carbajal that since the State of NH Bureau of Tourism brings people to Rye and the State Parks pick up trash at Jenness Beach, that they provide pick up at town beach locations in Rye that have trash barrels since they make those rounds anyway. Chief Walsh stated it is the town's responsibility.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:33 PM