

Rye Beach Committee Minutes Wednesday St. Patricks Day Green March 17, 2021 7:00 pm via Zoom

Members present: Frank Hwang, Mary-Ann Sullivan, Seana Zelazo and Brendan Carney

Joined by: Bill Epperson, Selectman, Select Board Representative to Beach Committee

Assistance from Janice Ireland and Becky Bergeron

Frank called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm and welcomed everyone present. The roll was called and all members were alone in their meeting rooms.

Frank read the attestation.

There was no public comment.

The minutes of the February 2021 meeting were postponed until the next month.

Water Quality:

- Suzanne Williams from (<https://www.healthyiversogunquit.org/about>) Health River OGT from OGT came to speak about the two rivers in her town and water quality. The two rivers are the Josias River and the Ogunquit River. Regular bacteria monitoring has been taking place with occasionally some high bacteria readings. This has occurred for about 20 years.
- The town does have septic and dog waste ordinance
- They also have a pesticide ordinance
- This non-profit was formed to try and effect Behavior Change
- 2-3 days of waste from 100 dogs can contribute enough bacteria, nitrogen and phosphorous to shut down 20 miles of watershed
- Bill suggested that some of Suzanne's information can be included in our newsletter
- Bill made an action item to try and nail down where exactly our water quality problems

Seaweed And Request for Clean-Up

- no conclusion has been made at this time
- DES approval is required to remove seaweed

Dog Waste

- Discussion about “Dog Mitts” and
- Can we engage kids to build new signage
- Identify what exactly is the signage at the beach
- Is the issue more about dog waste or carry in carry out

Earth Day Education

- Frank will follow up with junior high
- We recommend and will try and implement with schools - “Carry In Carry Out Signs to be posted at beaches”
- Mary Ann will create some ideas around coordinating some ideas about carry in and carry out waste and working with schools

Parking

- discussion on revisiting certain topics
- Lack of RVs and Campers felt more safe to many was a consensus

Recruitment of New Members:

- Suggestion of next Select meeting is the 23rd of this month - just need a letter of commitment

Additional Water Quality Testing:

- Added two more sites - shoulder season Dec - End of May would be about \$1,000
- Cover between March - End of May 500 - 700 dollars

Visioning Session

- check newsletter submission for next 1/4
- Parson’s Creek Studies
- Life Guards can help with testing of water
- Dog Mitts and where they are located - can we confirm this

Adjournment:

The next meeting will be April 21, 2021 at 7:00 pm via Zoom

Respectfully submitted,

Brendan Carney