

HAMPTON BEACH VILLAGE PRECINCT
MEETING
May 19, 2010

Present

Gary Kubik, Chairman & Commissioner
Chuck Rage, Commissioner
June White, Commissioner
John Gebhart, Treasurer

Chairman Kubik called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Chairman Kubik introduced the members of the Board.

Chairman Kubik said the Precinct mourns the loss of Jim Kennedy, former Precinct Commissioner, who passed away on May 13th.

Report on Bench Project

Ed St. Pierre said repairs had been completed on 11 benches by the sea wall. Three other benches were refurbished. One has been dedicated to John and Linda Gebhart as a tribute for their outstanding work at the beach. Mr. St. Pierre said he is thinking about a series of benches over the course of time. One would be "100 Years of Entertainment" and dedicated to Jack Knox. Mr. St. Pierre said the Precinct may want to become involved in this project. Mr. St. Pierre presented artwork to the Commissioners.

Mr. St. Pierre said there are grants available for the bench work and other work that he does at the beach. He would need someone to sponsor him as a non-profit to obtain such grants.

State Parks

Brian Warburton, State Parks Supervisor, said there will be a wall of plaques honoring various people at the Sea Shell Complex when it is completed.

Mr. Warburton said regrading was completed a week ago. Raking will start on a regular basis beginning next weekend. Mr. Warburton said some people have made comments that the State has not spent much at the beach. This is not true. The State has put more resources at the beach in the last five years than in previous history. Lifeguards will be present beginning Memorial Day weekend. Commissioner Rage asked if there was still a problem finding help in this area. Mr. Warburton replied that they are now in pretty good shape.

Mr. Warburton discussed the pay stations. They will be in effect May 1st through October 1st. North Beach and North Hampton Beach will use the old meters for the foreseeable

future. Fifty new recycling bins will go out on Memorial Day weekend for the stairwells and bathrooms.

Mr. Warburton said a hotline has been established for the Hampton Beach project. The construction of the outlying bathrooms has been started. Work on the bathrooms will continue through the summer. The Sea Shell complex will be torn down after the Seafood Festival and full completion is expected in October or November of 2011.

Mr. Warburton said he would like to request that residents direct their questions to the Commissioners and the Beautification Committee rather than contacting him directly.

Mr. Warburton said bathrooms at the beach will be open at 5:30 a.m. beginning May 28th through September 12th.

Events

Maureen Buckley said she would like to thank everyone she has worked with as a Precinct Commissioner and Events Coordinator. Ms. Buckley said there is a need for volunteers for the sand sculpture competition. If anyone wishes to volunteer they should call Maureen at 603-396-6225.

Entertainment

Glen French, Entertainment Coordinator for the Sea Shell Stage, said June 2nd is a very important date. It is the date of the Precinct Special Meeting and also of the Jack Knox Remembrance at the Ashworth. Mr. Knox encouraged everyone to attend both events.

Mr. French said the entertainment calendar is complete and has been presented to the Commissioners and John Kane. It is posted on the website. The Continentals will continue as a 4-piece band. Many acts are returning and there is also new talent. Idol is on its way. There are now two applicants. The Veterans Appreciation event is problematical as it has not been possible to book military bands.

Mr. French said he would like to get Traveling Tribute for American Veterans. This could be a week long event. However 380 feet would be needed and Mr. Warburton is concerned about losing parking. Mr. French said he would suggest doing it in front of the Casino. Another alternative would be to utilize a vacant lot in the area of A Street. Mr. French said he felt the Traveling Tribute would be a wonderful way to honor Jack Knox's dream. The main concern is cost. Mr. French said he would like to have the event this year if the necessary money can be obtained or it could be held off until next year and the event used to dedicate the new stage and complex. Commissioner Rage suggested finding sponsors for the event. Selectman Rick Griffin suggested talking to Ralph Fatello of the American Legion because Mr. Fatello is very familiar with this type of event. Mr. Warburton said the length of time to obtain approvals could be a problem.

Marketing

John Kane, Marketing Director, said he wanted to thank Ed St. Pierre for his work on the benches and also Glen French for his efforts on Entertainment.

Mr. Kane passed out the calendar of events. He said the sand sculpture event is very important because it is a qualifier for worlds competition.

Mr. Kane complimented Mr. Warburton on the great job being done on the trash. For information on the beach project, go to HamptonBeach.org.

Beautification

Linda Gebhart said she wanted to thank the Winnacunnet students who helped out at Bicentennial Park and also many adults who worked very hard pruning, mulching, etc. She said this is about building community. Two planters have been added in front of the Sea Shell Stage in honor of Jack Knox. Day Lilies have been added next to the Welcome to Hampton Beach sign in the State Park.

Ms. Gebhart discussed Crime Watch and presented a flier outlining “do’s and don’t’s” which will be distributed to beach visitors. Crime Watch signs will go on the lettered streets.

Ms. Gebhart said she would like to offer her services to coordinate bringing art to the beach. She would like to do an event during Children’s Week. There are also other artists who would be willing to participate.

Geannina Scanlan said there is \$47,000 seed money for art.

Old Business

Commissioner Rage said there is a new climbing apparatus at the playground and many other items have been repaired.

Chairman Kubik said the Special Meeting to vote on warrant articles will be held Wednesday, June 2nd, at 7:00 p.m. at the Community Church at Ashworth Avenue and D Street. The warrant articles have been posted on the website.

New Business

Richard Reniere, Moderator, discussed the Special Meeting. He said the purpose of this meeting is to get the opinions of as many people as possible before a vote is taken. He asked if Chief Silver and the Selectmen will be represented. Chief Silver said he would be there and Selectman Griffin said there would be Selectmen representation.

Chairman Kubik said it would be necessary for the Supervisor of the Checklist to be present from 5:00 p.m. Mr. Warburton questioned the legality of voting after 8:00 p.m. Mr. Reniere said he would check on this. There was a question from the audience about people voting who go to Florida in the winter. Commissioner Rage said the Supervisor of the Checklist is responsible for monitoring this area. Ms. Gebhart said people left the Annual Meeting in March and gave their green voting cards to others. This needs to be monitored. She said a secret ballot would make it much easier to get an accurate count of the vote.

Limitations on how long residents can speak at the meeting was discussed. It was decided to address this at the beginning of the Special Meeting.

Ms. Scanlan asked how voters could obtain more information. Mr. Kane said he would put everything on the website including Chief Silver's questions and answers.

Public Comment

Chris Silver, Fire Chief, said representatives from Economic Development and the Small Business Administration would be at the Fire Station on Saturday, May 22, and Monday, May 24, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. to discuss funding for any interested businesses.

Jim Duhamel said he felt information has not been sent out in time on the Special Meeting. Commissioner White said information is being sent out in a timely manner.

Ms. Scanlan discussed the Memorandum of Understanding signed by the Commissioners and Selectmen. She said she was concerned that residents might not realize that no matter what happens with the vote at the Special Meeting, the Town will still be required to provide fire protection for the Precinct. The Selectmen should make this clear before the meeting. Chairman Kubik said the Precinct Attorney is obtaining this from the Selectmen. Jerry Znoj, Selectman, said the Board of Selectmen is doing everything possible to get a fire station at the beach.

Approval of Minutes

Moved by Commissioner Rage, seconded by Commissioner White, to approve the Minutes of April 14, 2010.

Vote: 3-0-0. Motion passed unanimously.

Closing Comments

There were no closing comments.

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Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Rice
Secretary