

**HAMPTON BEACH VILLAGE DISTRICT
MEETING
October 9, 2013**

Present

Chuck Rage, Chairman & Commissioner
Maureen Buckley, Commissioner
Robert Ladd, Commissioner
Stephen LaBranche, Treasurer

Chairman Rage called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Old Business

Commissioner Ladd said there will be a meeting on October 23rd at the Great Bay Discovery Center in Stratham. This is a meeting to talk about coastal risks. A study has been done predicting that the sea level will rise two to three feet by 2050 and three to six feet by 2100. If this does happen, it is estimated that it could cause \$400,000,000 worth of damage.

Commissioner Ladd said it is important that the community be pro-active on this issue. By doing so, huge insurance increases could be offset. The Village District should approach the Board of Selectmen. This should not be avoided.

Mr. LaBranche said if a resident obtains a Certificate of Elevation, insurance premiums could be reduced significantly. Commissioner Ladd noted that it is necessary to have an official surveyor to obtain this Certificate.

Commissioner Ladd said that he felt it important that the beach have an evacuation plan distributed to residents.

New Business

Chairman Rage said he has received many calls on parking issues on family-oriented streets. People working on the beach are parking on these streets. Chairman Rage said he would like to hear from people in the neighborhood as to how this problem can be solved. Perhaps there is some type of warrant article that could be done to address this.

Chairman Rage said he is working on the possibility of having some type of shuttle system for the beach with an area with free parking. At the present time beach employees are using the beach parking lots which at times precludes visitors from parking there or they are parking on private streets. Commissioner Buckley asked who would pay for this service. Chairman Rage said it could possibly be put in a warrant article. Commissioner Buckley asked if there would be a way to encourage businesses to urge their employees to use the shuttle. Chairman Rage said he had spoken to Kevin at the Sea Ketch and he said he

would make this a requirement for his employees. Other businesses could do the same. Advertising space on the shuttle could also be sold and sponsors can be obtained. Commissioner Ladd said the businesses should be involved in this effort. The shuttle would help the businesses as well as residents on private streets.

Cathy Silver, Blue Ocean, said their business has volunteers who pay to park so this would be a great help.

Chairman Rage said plans are being made for the Sand Sculpture event next year. Sand will be dropped on June 13th. The actual competition will be June 19th, 20th and 21st and sculptures will remain for viewing until July 6th.

Commissioner Ladd said there will be a Planning Board meeting on October 23rd to discuss the issue of zoning regulations in regards to building height. He encouraged everyone to attend.

Michael Pierce, Selectman, said the trash issue is still being discussed and different options are being examined. He said the Village District should keep a close eye on this issue.

Approval of Minutes

Moved by Commissioner Ladd, seconded by Commissioner Buckley, to approve the Minutes of September 11, 2013.

Vote: 3 yes, 0 no. Motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment

Ed St. Pierre discussed his bench project. He said he was at the meeting to obtain permission to proceed on the bench for the beach station. He will go to the Board of Selectmen for approval of the bench for the Winnacunnet station. Mr. St. Pierre showed options for the artwork. He said Chief Silver liked the artwork and verbiage.

Moved by Chairman Rage, seconded by Commissioner Buckley, to give Ed St. Pierre funds to proceed on the beach bench project working with Chief Silver on the finalization of the artwork.

Vote: 3 yes, 0 no. Motion passed unanimously.

Cathy Silver, 3 Ocean Blvd., said that Mr. St. Pierre had made a bench for her with a dedication to members of her family. It is situated on the median strip by the harbor. She is very pleased with it.

Ms. Silver said that the Blue Ocean Society greatly appreciates the funds given to them by the Village District. Blue Ocean had a very successful season. There will be a Thank You event on Tuesday, October 29th, from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. in the Discovery Center.

Mr. Pierce said he would recommend that everyone go to the Zoning Board meeting on the building on A Block. There are very strong feelings on both sides of the issue.

Linda Gebhart, Beautification Committee, thanked all the volunteers who worked so hard on the beautification of the beach. They did a wonderful job.

Ms. Gebhart said there will be a meeting Thursday, October 10th, at 6:00 p.m. at the Shell where the revamping by the State of rules and regulations related to State parks will be discussed.

John Kane, Marketing Director, said there are still some restaurants open on the beach. Parking rates are down to \$1.00. Mr. Kane said it is not necessary to pay for parking after 5:00 p.m.. Parking must be paid for until 5:00 p.m. until October 31st.

Commissioner Ladd said the flowers this year were fantastic. The statue and the planters on Ashworth Avenue were wonderful. It was like "a little bit of Disney World".

Closing Comments

Chairman Rage said plans have not been made for a Halloween party due to the construction.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Rice
Secretary