

**HAMPTON BEACH VILLAGE DISTRICT  
MEETING  
August 12, 2015**

**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.

**Hampton Energy Committee**

Chairman Rage welcomed Richard Desrosiers, Chairman of the Hampton Energy Committee. Mr. Desrosiers discussed his background and the backgrounds of other Committee members.

Mr. Desrosiers said they have brought different people in to give talks and lectures on energy matters. Examples are Peter Egelston of Smuttynose Brewery who gave his views on saving energy and Mark Richie on the wind turbine. There have been talks on nuclear power and solar developers have also spoken with the Committee.

In 2009 the Committee had a project at the Lane Memorial Library which ultimately cut energy costs by 60%. In 2012 they investigated the wholesale electrical supply market. An energy broker was brought in who worked out a 3-year fixed contract for electrical for municipal buildings. This saved the Town \$145,000 over 30 months. This contract is due to expire soon and the Committee has negotiated a new contract for 14 months. The plan is to go to solar once that contract expires. There are two proposals to do this. The site would be the landfill. The developer will own, maintain and operate this system for 20 years free to the Town. The only thing the Town will pay is a utility rate. This is predicted to save the Town \$30,000 per year.

Chairman Rage said he wanted everyone to understand that this is a Town of Hampton project, not a Village District project.

Mr. Desrosiers said as the solar project progresses there will also be assistance to residents who wish to install solar.

Mr. Desrosiers said the next thing the Energy Committee will be looking at is a project to turn waste into energy.

Chairman Rage thanked Mr. Desrosiers for his fine presentation.

### **Chamber of Commerce**

Julie Leonard and Sherrill Ayles of the Hampton Chamber of Commerce thanked the Village District for their underwriting of Children's Week. They discussed the parade which will be held during this event and the wonderful coloring book which will be distributed to the children. Maureen Buckley will be the MC for the parade.

### **Marketing**

John Kane, Marketing Director, discussed the bumper sticker campaign for children. Two winners will receive bicycles as prizes after the parade. The movie next Monday night will be "Charlotte's Web". There have been crowds in excess of 500 people for Movie Night.

The volleyball tournaments will continue this weekend and next weekend the Talent Competition will take place. There will be fall events starting with the Seafood Festival.

Chairman Rage complimented Mr. Kane on all his hard work and the extra things that he does.

### **Entertainment**

Mr. French said they will have a trailer in the Children's parade. It looks terrific. Channel 22 will be filming the Talent Competition. There are presently 96 entries and the Selection Committee will trim that number. The nightly concerts are going well.

### **Old Business**

Commissioner Ladd said they have been working on the flood insurance issue. In July the Town did a mailing to all residents in the flood zones. In September the Town Planner and Conservation Coordinator will be here to discuss the Community Rating System. Half of the cost has been paid to obtain a grant from the Rockingham Planning Commission to get into this program.

### **New Business**

Commissioner Buckley urged everyone to attend upcoming events at Hampton Beach.

Commissioner Ladd said he felt it would be a good idea to purchase a sign which says that the Village District is sponsoring the concerts.

Chairman Rage said a transportation study is being done with the Hampton Beach Area Commission. They want to look at some kind of bus service.

Chairman Rage asked for a Moment of Silence in memory of Bill McGuirk who recently passed away.

### **Approval of Minutes**

**Moved** by Commissioner Ladd, seconded by Commissioner Buckley, to approve the Minutes of June 10, 2015.

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

**Moved** by Commissioner Ladd, seconded by Chairman Rage, to approve the Minutes of July 8, 2015.

**Vote:** 2 yes, 0 no, 1 abstention. Motion passed.

### **Public Comment**

Paul Ritano, 6 Fellows Ave., said the new parking lot area is a mess. He had been promised a fence and that there would be no traffic on Fellows Avenue and it is a raceway. Chairman Rage said a fence will go up right away and all will be taken care of.

Kathy Silva, Blue Ocean Discovery Center, said they had a fund raising cruise last night. She thanked Danielle of Wicked Sweet Boutique for donating cookies, etc. Ms. Silva said she took a school group for a beach clean-up. They cleaned up 170 cigarette butts at the playground. The students felt the signs preventing this were too small. Ms. Silva said she is looking for volunteers as many of them are returning to college. The Discovery Center had a very good summer with more than 10,000 visitors.

Linda Gebhart said the Hampton Arts Network has been offering art classes all summer. She discussed the various classes. Ms. Gebhart said the south end of the beach has been planted with many flowers and volunteers have been watering.

A resident complained about the ramp being closed at 4:30 p.m. on fireworks nights. Chairman Rage explained that the fireworks company has to meet the rules of the State Fire Marshall. Chairman Rage said that perhaps a ramp could be installed elsewhere. Commissioner Ladd noted that the State owns this property, not the Town.

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**Closing Comments**

Chairman Rage said the Commissioners are here to make Hampton Beach the best beach.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Rice  
Secretary