

**Hampton Beach Area Commission  
100 Winnacunnet Road  
Hampton, New Hampshire 03842  
Hampton Police Station – 2nd Floor Training Room  
7:00 PM**

**In Attendance:**

John Nyhan, Chairman, Town of Hampton  
Brian Warburton, Vice Chairman, DRED (Seacoast Parks/Recreation)  
Bill Watson, Secretary/Treasurer- NH Department of Transportation  
Richard Griffin, Town of Hampton  
Geannina Guzman-Scanlan- Hampton Beach Village District  
Fran McMahon- Rockingham Planning Commission  
Bob Preston- Hampton Chamber of Commerce  
Richard Sawyer, Citizen at Large  
Lenny Paul – Hampton Beach Village Precinct

Jamie Steffen- Hampton Town Planner (Administration)  
Candice Sicard- Secretary

**1. Public Comment Session – related to agenda items**

Robert Preston- 63 Ocean Blvd. noted he read in the paper that the Village District wanted to have there own planning and zoning boards. He referenced the history of Seabrook’s zoning and planning boards and expressed that the separate boards would be a bad idea and if this bill passes it may have negative effect on town.

Charlie Preston – 47 Glade Path, thanked the commission for allowing the public comment session. Also, Mr. Preston spoke about reduction in metered parking for school season and work days.

Carol McCean- Owner of the Surf Hotel at 275 Ocean Blvd- said that she was there with family because they are in support of the changes happening to the NH State Parks and the Redevelopment Project. She mentioned her concern about the size and placement of the north bath house and the impact of businesses across the street. They were there to restate their concerns.

**2. Review & approval of 11/19/09 Minutes**

Page 5: Added “Each person speaking during the public session has three to five minutes to state their concerns, and anyone who wishes to speak longer than that may ask the Chairman for an appointment at a future meeting”.

**MOVED** by Mr. Warburton to approve the minutes of 11/19/09 with the above listed amendments

**SECOND** by Mr. McMahon

**VOTE: 7-0-2 Mr. Sawyer & Mr. Paul Abstained MOTION PASSED**

Legislative Update – Hampton Beach Area – presented by Hampton’s State Legislative Members

Representative Susan Kepner- 105 Mill Road appeared and noted that this was her second term as State Representative for the Town of Hampton. Spoke about each of her upcoming bill proposals. She said that she is hoping, with the help of Warren Brambury, and House Bill 2117, to investigate how to have Hampton become exempt from the urban compact.

Representative Kepner said that the second bill, HB 2116 proposes to prohibit smoking by parks and historic sites. There was discussion about enforcement. Representative Kepner spoke about HB 2362 regarding separate planning and zoning boards at the beach, noting that this might not be the perfect answer to everything, and if it passes it will be in effect forever, unless the legislature is changed back.

Mr. Sawyer asked about the smoking bill and the enforcement issue. He said that if there is a fine involved for an offence, then they should investigate how to keep the money within the community as this will be a drain on local law enforcement.

Mr. Griffin said as a former ZBA Member he agrees with Senator Preston’s comments about not supporting HB 2362. There was further discussion about HB 2362 and its possible implications for the beach.

Representative Stiles appeared and noted that she will be also be co-sponsoring HB 2117. She also spoke about other bills she will be sponsoring including HB 1461 which are aimed at helping regulate the sales of martial arts weapons. She also spoke about HB 1520 regarding littering and trash at the beach. There was extensive discussion regarding regulation and enforcement of this issue.

Mr. Paul said he believed Representative Stiles’ bills were good and wanted to maintain that Hampton was a family beach. Chairman Nyhan said he also supported the bills. After Representative Stiles presentation there was a short discussion between her and the Commissioners regarding the need to conduct an engineering study of the Neil Underwood Bridge. This study could provide alternatives to the present bridge and Representative Stiles requested that the Commission get involved in this discussion. There was further discussion about avenues to fund this study. Mr. McMahon said that he has mentioned it before, but he feels that Ocean Boulevard needs to be reconstructed prior to a new bridge being put in. There was discussion about the ten year transportation plan and what were the Town’s transportation priorities.

**MOVED** by Mr. McMahon to direct Chairman Nyhan to more forward in working with the DOT in order to obtain a feasibility study for the Neil Underwood Bridge.

**SECOND** by Mr. Paul

**VOTE: 8-0-1 Mr. Watson Abstained MOTION PASSED**

(Mr. Sawyer said he can help spearhead this study project)

Representative Chris Nevins – 36 Ashbrook Drive noted that he has cosigned Representative Stiles garbage / littering related bill. Mr. Nevins also spoke about NH airports, noting out of the one hundred in the state, twenty four are for public use; only twelve of those receive any federal funding for maintenance. He said that there is a plan for integrated airport systems which hopes to use 95% federal funding and 5% state. Mr. Nevins also discussed a pharmaceutical take back program, as pharmaceutical abuse is becoming more prevalent. They hope to model the program after the one being conducted currently in Seabrook. Mr. Griffin and Mr. Sawyer were impressed and support the pharmaceutical take back program.

## Old Business

### 1. Beach Project Update

Chairman Nyhan said as part of the discussion going back to September about the size of the bathhouses they had asked the architect to see what he could do to redesign something to help with concerns about height. Chairman Nyhan read part of a memo forwarded to him from Mr. Austin. The memo said they looked into design to reduce height of building and was able to reduce the height slightly. However, the architectural style could not be changed because it would have a negative impact on the overall design of the entire project. It was noted that they will no longer be calling the bath house north of the sea shell the Marine Memorial Bath House. The new name will be North Bath House. Chairman Nyhan said that the beach project is moving forward as planned and the construction firms have been narrowed down to three companies. The contract will be awarded to the lowest bid on 01/14/10 and shortly after that a construction manager will be chosen. Mr. Warburton said that the three finalists will need to include the visitor center in the bid, even though it may not be fully funded for years. It was noted that the bathroom facilities will be first to be constructed and they are hoping for that to commence in late March 2010 and continue through the summer months. After the Seafood Festival takes place, the seashell stage will be taken down. It was mentioned that they are hoping to name each building, and the only one which has been decided to date is the James W. Donahue Lifeguard Tower.

### 2. Beach Infrastructure Project Update

Chairman Nyhan said that they were able to get a cost estimate to finish the seven incomplete streets at the beach, with the possibility of adding Kings Highway and the Seawall. There was discussion about other funding requirements. Also, discussed, was an upcoming meeting with Senator's Gregg's office to look at possible funding sources.

### 3. Ocean Blvd Road Project Update

Mr. Watson said that when the capital budget beach project funding was approved, Commissioner Campbell pledge his support in seeing how DOT could be involved in the overall project. Mr. Watson reported that a proposal was being considered for DOT to fund a project that would redo parts of Ocean Blvd (new street, new drainage system and new sidewalks on the west side). This project would compliment the work being done across the street within the State Park area. Mr. Watson reported that a meeting was being scheduled with some key regional and state leaders to discuss this project and would report back to the Commission in January with updates. Chairman Nyhan hoped that Executive Counselor Hollingworth, Senator Hassan and Cliff Sinnott with the RPC and House Public Works Chair Candice Bouchard would support Commissioner's Campbell's plan.

**MOVED** by Mr. Griffin to direct Chairman Nyhan to draft a formal letter to Commissioner Campbell and other leadership in Concord indicating strong support for this effort.

**SECOND** by Ms. Guzman-Scanlan

**VOTE:** ` 9-0-0

**MOTION PASSED**

4. Parking Study Update

Mr. Warburton said that although they have been talking about parking study for months, it was time to continue the effort that Mr. Rice and others had started this year. In January, he would like set up meeting with RPC and have Mr. Sawyer and Mr. Watson assist in moving this study forward.

5. Planning Board – Warrant Article Update

Mr. McMahon said the Planning Board had met the night before and will be submitting in a warrant article for town residents to consider at the March election. This warrant will include zoning changes that will have a direct impact on properties at the beach. Mr. McMahon indicated that he would report back next month with a further update.

Other Old Business

Mr. Griffin said that he had met with Ms. Kent and Mr. Wellenburger this week about the space, land and sea museum. Chairman Nyhan hoped to see more design and location details before the commission were to get directly involved in this project.

New Business

No new business

Chairman Nyhan thanked the commissioners and Channel 22

Adjourn

**MOVED** by Mr. McMahon to adjourn

**SECOND** by Mr. Sawyer

**VOTE:** 9-0-0

**MOTION PASSED**

Meeting Adjourned at 9:17pm