

**SEABROOK BEACH VILLAGE DISTRICT
MEETING MINUTES
June 11, 2018**

PRESENT Dick Maguire, Joe Giuffre, Don Hawkins, Steve Keaney, Mike Rurak

ABSENT None

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM. Dick Maguire led the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance.

MEETING WITH MS. JULIE LABRANCHE, SENIOR PLANNER ROCKINGHAM PLANNING COMMISSION:

Julie LaBranche made a presentation about High Water Mark (HWM) Initiative in Portsmouth, Rye, Hampton and Seabrook.

- The project is federally funded and will enable the Rockingham Planning Commission to design, coordinate and implement community-based High Water Mark (HWM) initiatives and identify local flooding mitigation actions.
- New Hampshire is the first state in New England to install high water markers in its coastal towns.
- The goals of the HWM project are: To provide permanent markers and signs in strategic locations showing the elevation and cause of flooding from current storms and future projected sea level rise and climate related conditions. To display the signs in highly visible locations to convey the flood risk and to raise awareness of residents and visitors to the area. To engage municipal decision makers in discussions about flood risk in their community and to talk about what the community is doing to address the risk.
- The project will provide communities with case studies about actions other communities are taking to addressing flood risks. It will also provide a climate ready check list of adaptation actions that will create community resilience.
- The HWM signs will be installed in late June at the town boat launch off River Street and at Brown's Lobster Pound back parking lot.
- The sea level on the NH coast has risen 5.3 inches since 1927 which has created an increase in the number and level of flooding events.
- Launch events for the HWM project are tentatively scheduled June 25, 2018.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Minutes of the May 14, 2018 meeting were distributed and reviewed.

**Motion to accept Secretary's Report:
Motion seconded:
Motion passed by voice vote.**

**Joe Giuffre
Dick Maguire**

TREASURER'S REPORT

Mike Rurak reported the May 2018 current period, YTD and PY financial figures.

2018	May	YTD	Prior YTD
Total Income	\$ 6,540	\$ 31,797	\$ 27,989
Total Expenses	5,027	18,616	19,673
Net Ordinary Income	1,513	13,181	8,316
Total Interest Income	362	1,390	246
Other Expense	10,000	10,000	
Net Income	(8,125)	4,571	8,562

Total cash in the SBVD checking and saving accounts was \$321,634 at the end of May 2018 vs. \$266,942 at the end of May 2017.

- April revenues were \$6,540 with expenses of \$5,027 and interest income of \$362. There was one extraordinary expense listed in Other Expenses. It was \$10,000 paid to the Town of Seabrook for a donation by the SBVD to the Town's 250th Anniversary Celebration in August. This expenditure was approved by the SBVD voters at the annual meeting. The resulting net income was \$4,468.
- April YTD income was \$31,979 with expenses of \$18,616 interest income of \$1,390 and Other Expenses of \$10,000 resulting in a net income of \$4,571. For the year permit fees are down \$2,400, rental income is up \$6,200, ordinary expenses are down \$1,000 and other expenses for the donation to the 250th celebration are up \$10,000. NI is down about \$4,000 for the year.
- The commissioners were given the monthly disbursement approval forms and bank statements for their review and approval.
- Dick Maguire told the audience the financial reports were available for review after the meeting.

Motion to accept Treasurer's Report:
Motion seconded:
Motion passed unanimously by voice vote

Don Hawkins
Joe Giuffre

BUILDING INSPECTOR'S REPORT

Steve Keaney reported:

- Some of the construction started last fall is beginning to wind down as people are trying to get into their new homes before July 4th.
- Steve has issued 27 rental occupancy permits in 2018 and over 120 since the inception of the program in 2016. He reports there are a total of 741 housing units in the village district. Some units may be flying under the radar if the owners are using Air B&B to attract renters. Bob Preston told Steve he thinks the total number of available rental units

at the beach is down because people are using their new homes themselves. Some may be renting on their own but all should be paying NH meals and room tax of 9%.

- Steve met with a NH DOT design engineering company about replacing the bridge between Hampton and Seabrook. Their project is to assess the impact of different bridge types on the community and the environment. Planning will take place between now and the end of 2019. Construction will follow and is tentatively scheduled for 2022. No decision has been made about the type of bridge to be used.

Motion to accept Building Inspector's Report: Joe Giuffre
Motion seconded: Don Hawkins
Motion passed unanimously by voice vote

OLD BUSINESS

A. Donation of \$10,000 from SBVD to Town of Seabrook's 250th Anniversary

Celebration. Dick Maguire and Joe Giuffre attended the recent Selectman's meeting to present the Town with a \$10,000 check as a donation from the SBVD for the Town's 250th Celebration. Dick told the selectmen that the SBVD was vital to the town and that 2016 was the first time taxes from the district exceeded those of the power plant. State law will require a public hearing for the Town to accept the donation. Dick Maguire suggested the commissioners invite Ted Xavier to the July meeting to give an update on the events planned for the celebration.

B. DPW efforts in SBVD for 2018 summer season

Joe Giuffre said the Town Manager has requested a priority list of projects for the DPW to complete at the beach over the next few weeks. Joe said the walkways have been swept to the end of the wood paths to remove up to 6 inches of sand. Plovers nesting on the beach have prevented the use of a backhoe. One resident noted the sand will just blow back onto the walks during future storms. Joe thought the best way to address this problem is to pull back the wood walkways and backfill with sand and leveled. The dunes have grown 2-3 feet in height over the last 20 years leaving steep walls to hold the sand. Theresa Kyle noted the Salisbury walkways are removable plastic which makes maintenance easier. She brought the idea to the Town Manager last year but was told they are too expensive to install.

C. Question where sand from Seabrook Harbor will be deposited.

The Town Manager went to a meeting about dredging the harbor and was asked if there were any conditions related to dumping the dredged sand on Seabrook Beach. Beach residents have asked that the sand be screened to eliminate large rocks. Theresa Kyle noted no money has been approved for the project and that the Army Core of Engineers is looking at 2019 at the earliest. There is a lot of competition for the sand if Seabrook doesn't want it. The towns of Salisbury, Newburyport and Hampton have already expressed an interest in taking the sand.

D. Update on piping plovers 2018

Joe Giuffre reported 4 nest in Seabrook; 4 eggs have hatched and 16 ready to hatch in the next 2-3 weeks. There is one nest on the Hampton side of the harbor. All plovers should be gone by July 1st. There is however a new development. The State is now monitoring one species of tern considered endangered in New Hampshire and now nesting on Seabrook Beach. There are 6 nests built 20 feet out onto the beach that are now roped off. All beach raking has been stopped until the eggs hatch. The fences may be up for several more weeks.

NEW BUSINESS –

A. Request of SBCA for use of the District Building during the 2018 season

The commissioners were given the SBCA meeting schedule for 2018. There appear to be no conflicts for the dates requested.

B. Invitation from the SBCA for the Commissioners to speak at their August 20th meeting. The commissioners were invited to speak at the SBCA meeting on August 20th. All commissioners said they were available.

OTHER BUSINESS –

- There will be a public hearing held by the Selectmen relating to raising (possibly double) water bill rates and removing water expenses for property tax bills. No information was available whether SBVD residents will see the combination of RE tax + water bill go up or down. There is currently \$1.8 million of water cost included as property tax. If the change is made it may affect property tax deductions on property owner's tax returns.
- A resident asked if the town was pursuing FIMA money to help pay for damages from the March 2018 storms. It was unclear if the State declared an emergency and if the state is eligible for any FEMA reimbursement.

The meeting was adjourned at 8PM.

The next SBVD Commissioners meeting will be held on Monday, July 9th at 7 PM in the district building.

Submitted by,

Don Hawkins