

## Oak Bluffs Park Commissioners Minutes

July 7, 2008

Members present: Richard Combra, JR, Allan deBettencourt and Nancy Phillips

Public hearing opened at 5:00 PM

### Beach Public Hearing

Commissioner Combra read the hearing notice into the record.

Commissioner Phillips gave back ground on the history of committees involved with revitalizing the beach front area; looking for federal & state grants plus private donations to fund projects. She asked for positive suggestions for anything a person might have a problem with. She explained the voting card system (green=yes, orange=not sure, red=no).

Commissioner Phillips explained that there is a survey being done by MVC hired traffic engineer looking at pedestrian/bike travel ways through down island towns. She said George Sourati (with MVC) has done a survey for the Town of Oak Bluffs to come up with the best option for the area.

Board of Health Member Tricia Bergeron advised that the BOH was testing the low wet area in Alley (Waban) Park for mosquitoes.

Commissioner Phillips suggested a "rain garden" for that area filled with native flowering plants and grasses.

Commissioner Combra asked that people save their questions and comments until after Commissioner Phillips finishes her presentation.

Barbara Depasse of 8 Nantucket Ave felt that abutters are not consulted enough and had issues with vehicles parking along the south side of Nantucket Avenue.

Glenn Finley of 14 Pequot Avenue felt the placement of public restrooms at end of Penacook or Tuckernuck was not a good idea due to the odors they generate.

Thea Hansen of 4 Canonicus Ave felt that the over wires should be buried and neighbors should also be consulted on Question 1.

Barbara Peckham of Penacook Ave felt that restrooms should not be on the "inkwell" side of the beach as it is a wider beach area.

Joan Olson of 137 Sea View Avenue felt that more signage directing bicyclists to cross the street was needed.

Someone suggested painting the international bicycle symbol might help. Another woman said that there is glass, rocks and dogs on the beach; she felt that there is no supervision and it is getting worse.

Evelyn Walton commented on the lack of sand on the "inkwell" section due to the jetty and she didn't think adding more sand every year was feasible.

Commissioner Phillips responded that at the STM in December 2007 the Town appropriated \$65,000 to the Conservation Commission to hire engineers to evaluate that "offending" jetty and the sea wall. She thought that Bourne Engineering was hired to do that work but there are complex problems with the area.

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Gail Barmakian felt that if possible any bathrooms should be where they were.

The discussion of the rest of hearing moved along quickly due to time constraints.

Ron Mechur of 5 Nashawena Park said that concerns need to be prioritized (short term, middle and long term); railing, slope, beach clean-up.

Commissioner Phillips said that there is \$1.5 million earmarked for Oak Bluffs but she is not sure what is happening with that; also transportation money may be available so they are trying be ready should it become available.

She continued that the storm water pipe collects water from Canonicus and Penacook; erosion and quality of water, using high part of Alley (Waban) Park as a first filter sight but need to look at the quality of water before going any where near Farm Pond.

Board of Health Member Tricia Bergeron advised that water testing is done twice a month.

Objective voting on the remainder of the questions continued and results will be attached to minutes.

Meeting adjourned.

Sincerely,

Nicole L Morey