

North Hampton State Beach Redevelopment
December 21, 2011
North Hampton Town Hall
Work Session Notes

Presenters:

Philip Bryce, Director of Parks and Recreation
Tom Mansfield, DRED Architect
Johanna Lyons, State Park Planning and Development Specialist
John Otte, Project Architect,

Other North Hampton Beach Project Working Group Attendees

Senator Nancy Stiles
Councilor Chris Sununu
Representative Patrick Abrami

- Will there be rinse off showers? Where will it drain to?
 - It is in the list of desired amenities, but there may not be funding available. Once better cost estimates are available we will be looking at the list of desired amenities. The engineers will find a solution to drain on site.
- What happens if Hampton votes it down? What happens to the funding?
 - The funding was directly appropriated to North Hampton State Beach. We would go back to other much less desirable design options.
- Will there be a loss of parking spots? Will the town lose parking spots? Is the parking lot going to be paved?
 - Yes there will be a loss of 2-3 parking spots and the handicapped spots will be upgraded to meet current standards. The town leases will be accommodated. Repaving/parking lot improvements will be confined to the area that is disturbed for construction.
- Where is the leach field, what will happen to it and where is the pump station going?
 - The leach field is in the parking lot just in front of the bathhouse where the yellow bollards are. The leach field will be retired and when the footings of the building are put in place the septic tank will be dug up. The pump station will be located in the parking lot adjacent to the building, engineering is still being developed.
- Who owns the property behind the bathhouse?
 - Directly behind the bathhouse is a small 6' wide strip of privately owned land running from Route 1A to the beach and then south of that is another parcel that it is owned by parks. The owner of the strip has been approached and does not want to sell but would consider a swap. Swapping land takes 2 years so it is not being considered as part of this project.

- How tall is the current building and how tall will the new building be?
 - The new building will be slightly taller than the existing building because of changes in the roof pitch, approximately 20' to the roof line plus the cupola.
- What is the timeline & schedule?
 - This winter our staff will be replacing the Microphor plumbing system with conventional plumbing. Design continues and bid documents will be released in late January contingent on the approval of Hampton voters. If the warrant article passes, construction of the pump station and hook up to the sewer with the existing building will begin as soon as possible in April for the 2012 summer season. Construction will suspend for the summer and resume as soon as possible after Labor Day with the demolition of the existing bathhouse and construction of the new facility. It is expected that the new facility will be complete in mid-June 2013.
- Will there be more trash receptacles?
 - That is not in this project, but park operations can add more trash cans.
- Will there be a water fountain?
 - We will ask the architect to add.
- What color will the building be?
 - The exterior of the building will be the same color palette & materials as the buildings in Hampton; two shades of grey with white trim.
- Will there be new signage? Will the signage fit into the new building? Will the gallows sign remain?
 - There is a spot on the building for park signage. The rest of the site is out of the project area but we can look at it and assist park operations to achieve greater consistency. It was recommended that signage be added at the north end of the parking lot and could be incorporated on the pay stations. The gallows sign will be moved to a better spot near the entrance driveway.
- Will there be lockers?
 - We considered them but since most people who are at the beach have their cars nearby we didn't plan on them. The consensus of the group is that they weren't needed.
- What is the usage of Town residents vs general visitors?
 - We don't have that data.
- Will there be mechanical ventilation?
 - Yes, however, no heat or air conditioning.
- What about beach access?
 - The project is limited to the west side of the seawall, once the bidding is done we will see if we have the budget to improve access to the beach.
- How far is the building from high tide?
 - Many feet. The water almost never comes to the seawall and the building is located at a high point. The buildings are designed to with stand some flooding.
- Is the seawall in good condition?
 - It seems to be. It is out of the scope of this project.

- Will family bathroom have a changing station? How big is the family bathroom?
 - Yes. The room is approximately 7'x9'.
- Is a shade pavilion desired?
 - The consensus of the attendees is no due to the limitation on space
- Will there be art incorporated?
 - The project budget is less than the threshold that triggers the Percent for Arts Program, so not specifically as part of this project.
- Can we minimize the impact of the commercial venture across the street to the park?
 - That is a local permit issue. We hope to reach out to the Beach Plum as we go through redevelopment and develop a partnership to deal with issues such as trash management.
- Will there be exterior lights for safety? What time will the doors be locked?
 - Yes there will be exterior lighting for safety. The building is generally open daylight hours only.
- Will there be an appropriate time to discuss park maintenance?
 - As we complete projects we work closely with park operations staff to develop operations and maintenance manuals. As we develop those we can work with partners & interested citizens (Blue Ocean Society) to receive user input.
- What are the revenues generated at the park and where do they go?
 - There is an accounting for the area. The parks are not broken out separately.
- Are there plans to promote the project locally?
 - Usually when we have projects in progress we put up a “coming soon” sign at the location. Once we know what the outcome of the vote is on the warrant article, we will put up the project info on the bathhouse. There is also information on the Parks website. We encourage everyone to sign up for project updates on the North Hampton State Beach webpage, www.nhstateparks.org. We will link our page to others and encourage sending our newsletters to your organizational contact lists.
- There is confusion between North Beach in Hampton and North Hampton State Beach, how can we give the park a better identity?
 - There was discussion on changing the name of the park (legislative action needed), however, the consensus is that the community likes the name.
- Any plans on cleaning up the Little River?
 - It is not a responsibility of the Division of Parks and Recreation. Town representatives spoke about working with DES to pinpoint the pollution; UNH is looking at “natural” sources from animals.

The working session concluded at 8:00 pm.