



Hampton Beach Area Commission

Meeting Minutes, October 23, 2008 Training Room, Hampton Police Station

In Attendance:

Fred Rice, Chairman – Town of Hampton
Bill Watson – Vice Chairman, NH Dept. of Transportation
Brian Warburton, Secretary/Treasurer, DRED (Seacoast Parks/Rec)
Fran McMahon – Rockingham Planning Commission
Geannina Guzman-Scanlon – Hampton Beach Village District
Tom McGuirk – Hampton Beach Village District
John Nyhan, Town of Hampton
Chuck Rage – Hampton Chamber of Commerce
Jamie Steffen – Hampton Town Planner (Admin)
Eric Stelzen – OEP Representative

Chairman Rice called the meeting to order at 7 PM. .

Minutes of Sept. 25 were reviewed and accepted.

Committee Reports

Community Development: Tom McGuirk reported the new guide booklet will be ready for November meeting.

Beachscape: Geannina Guzman-Scanlan gave an update on various projects the committee has been working on, i.e. Graffiti removal, town side precinct and monument area. She also thanked the many volunteers who have helped make Hampton Beach area look so wonderful.

Zoning and Redevelopment: Fran McMahon mentioned that the planning board might look at housekeeping warrant articles but nothing to the magnitude of last years warrant. They will also look to develop measures this year regarding vacant lots.

Transportation and Parking: Bill Watson gave an update on the Hampton Bridge. Work has commenced. Temporary rail for traffic control has been installed.

State Park Report

Brian Warburton reported another great season in his region and great successes continue to abound in Hampton. Hampton Beach is one of top three beaches in country and we should all be proud of that accomplishment. There is more work to do, i.e., addressing cigarette butts, and dog waste. Brian will be working with DES coastal program on these issues in the spring to do a PR campaign and educational outreach.

State Park maintenance barn area has been paved and drainage in that area has improved. Still looking for future funding for North Beach seawall. We are also very excited about the Hampton Beach Redevelopment plan (more later on this)

Status of Sea, Air, and Space Museum:

Fred Rice mentioned that we are still moving along on this and the friends of the museum were to have another event on November. 9 in Portsmouth. More information to come at next meeting on next steps.

State Park Redevelopment Project (Funding)

John Nyhan and Fred Rice both spoke of a need for intensive media strategy to get the legislature to approve the approx. \$18 million in the capital budget for 2010/2011. After elections, there will be concerted effort to set up several meetings around the seacoast to include input from state officials and all other stakeholders. This is important project not just for Seacoast but for the whole state, said Chairman Rice. John Nyhan handed out a Project Campaign strategy timeline for us to review.

Route 1 Corridor Study (Parking and Transportation)

Fred Rice had given us Glenn Greenwoods comments from the RPC. We are awaiting estimated cost and funding figures as we move forward.

HBAC Schedule Change

Chairman Rice mentioned that his housekeeping would be brought forth when legislature meets in January. Basically our annual report is due Oct. 1. But since we do not meet in summer months, it is difficult to put this in an appropriate timeframe when we reconvene in September. The dates will now be staggered and it is just a matter of changing the language in the RSA that was enacted in June 2003.

Annual Report

Chairman Rice mentioned he gave the annual report to the Hampton Board of Selectman and will be giving the same report at the Precinct meeting on Nov. 12. Copies were also sent to state officials and other bodies as required by law.

Old Business:

Brian Warburton mentioned that State Parks would continue to tackle the many issues in our beach area over the winter, as we get ready for another great season in 09.

New Business

Election of Officers

Geannina Guzman-Scanlon moved and Chuck Rage seconded the nomination of John Nyhan as our new Chairman. Geannina also thanked Fred Rice for a job well done. Vote was unanimous for with John Nyhan abstaining.

Fred Rice moved and Fran McMahon seconded the nomination of Brian Warburton to be Vice Chairman. Vote was unanimous with Brian Warburton abstaining.

Brian Warburton moved and Fran McMahon seconded the nomination of Bill Watson to be Secretary. Vote was unanimous with Bill Watson abstaining.

New Chairman's Overview of Plans and Programs

John Nyhan briefly outlined some of his goals as new Chairman. We need to facilitate movement of the Hampton Beach Master Plan, continue our efforts on the Earth, Sea, and Space Museum project, coordinate economic development planning and research, new efforts for zoning and redevelopment. He also mentioned wants to establish a new committee to look at public and private sector grants. He also wants to expand input and continue working sessions. Chairman Nyhan also mentioned that he wants to foster and strengthen good relationships with all governmental agencies in Town.

John also spoke of having qualified Secretary for the HBAC and he will supply funding through grants. Fran McMahon moved and Chuck Rage seconded to approve Candace Sicard as new Secretary. John will work out details with Brian Warburton.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:30 P.M.

Brian Warburton, DRED
Acting Secretary