**Carolina Dunes Association**

**2021 Annual Meeting**

**April 1, 2021**

**Virtual Meeting**

**Minutes**

* Attendees: 35
* Town of Duck:
  + Representatives Present:
    - Drew Havens, Town Manager
  + Topics Discussed:
    - Trash Collection Survey
      * The town conducted a survey to solicit feedback from the public regarding splitting the town in half and having Waste Management cover smaller portions of the Town on a more frequent basis.
      * Survey Results
        + 367 Responses
        + 57% in favor
        + 22% neutral
        + 14% opposed
        + 69% in favor of trying for at least one year
      * Town has decided to try it out, and can revert back to the old schedule if things do not work out.
      * OPEN QUESTIONS:
        + Will new stickers for the cans be issued?

No – the town will not be putting new stickers on the recycling cans because that collection will remain on Mondays.

* + - * + With trash collection occurring more frequently, will the Town be enforcing the rules concerning moving trash cans back under the houses?

That ordinance is complaint-driven, not proactively enforced.

* + - * + There have been concerns regarding more rodent / pest problems. In summer when renters leave, it is common for trash to be left next to containers that winds up blowing in the wind. Possibly contributes to rodent issues. What can be done?

Trash needs to be in containers. If you see a problem, let the Town know & they can reach out to the owner / rental agency.

* + - * + With the Town being split up into different zones serviced on different days, would Carolina Dunes get its trash collected on one, common, day?

Yes, Carolina Dunes will be treated as a single, contiguous, block that would be serviced on the same day.

* + - COVID-19
      * The Town is attempting to maintain as normal a posture as they can, from a government services perspective.
      * The Town Hall is a small space with quite a number of people working out of it, so many are working remotely.
      * The Town actively monitors the statistics published by Dare County. If the numbers look good, the Town will recommend to the Town Council that changes can be made to the Towns services.
      * Town Council meetings remain open to the public, especially with meetings now broadcast via Zoom for remote attendees.
        + Social Distancing and Face Masks are still required for in-person attendance.
      * Vaccinations are proceeding well within the County, and there are, currently, only 50 active cases.
    - Lifeguard Stations
      * The Town does not plan to make any changes this year in the deployment for Lifeguards. For CDA, the Town intends to have the Widgeon and Sprigtail stations manned.
      * The Sprigtail station will be manned for the full fixed schedule (Memorial Day to Labor Day)
      * The Widgeon station will be manned mid June through mid August
      * The Town has the option to extend patrol service beyond October 15, if sufficient demand exists
    - Beach Nourishment
      * The Town plans to conduct another renourishment project during the summer of 2022.
      * Current plan is:
        + The placement of 425,000 cubic yards of sand.
        + The majority of the sand is planned maintenance of the nourishment conducted back in 2017.
        + 170,000 cubic yards is a replacement for sand lost during Hurricane Dorian in 2019.
        + The project is estimated to cost $8 million, with the Town covering $2.5 million, the State of North Carolina covering $1.4 million, Dare County covering $1 million, and FEMA covering $4 million.
        + The Town has elected to use Coastal Planning as the planning vendor.
        + The Town plans to go to market in June / July 2021 to solicit bids, with construction to occur in summer 2022.
        + Best case scenario, the construction vendor would begin in late May, and be complete by July 4, assuming everything goes to plan
      * OPEN QUESTIONS:
        + How will the construction affect the availability of the beach?

Construction will take place in sections of 100 yards at a time. Within the zone where construction is active, beach usage is prohibited for safety reasons. You can expect noise & construction equipment (bulldozers, etc) operating 24 hours a day.

In 2017, the vendor was very communicative with the Town regarding which sections it was working on, and preparing to move to next.

* + - * + Why conduct the construction during the rental season? Can it not be done during a different part of the year?

There are CAMA restrictions on the times of year when sand can be moved around.

Additionally, during the offseason is when winds are typically stronger and wave action is worse. This would limit the number of days when construction could occur, and increase the amount of sand lost back from heavy seas – both would increase the cost of the project.

* + - * + Will oceanfront owners have to sign easement agreements again, like they did in 2017?

Sandi Cross is working on where the Town will need to obtain easement agreements. The previous easement agreements \*may\* still be valid.

* + - Town Budget
      * The Town is still in the preparation phase for this years Budget.
      * The Town has received requests from the different department directors & has begun work on revenue projections.
      * The State of North Carolina mandates a balanced budget
      * It is too early to tell how far out of balance the budget is
      * Several additional positions are being requested. Specifically:
        + Two additional police officers.

This would allow the Town to have two officers on duty 24-7.

* + - * + Two additional fire fighters.

This would allow the Town to have three EMTs on duty 24-7 (currently, the Town only can staff 2 at a time).

* + - Roadway Reinforcement to NC-12 Between Sunset Grill & Tommy’s Market
      * Town is hoping to receive a grant to fund reinforcing this section of NC-12.
      * Reinforcement would consist of:
        + Hardening the shoreline to prevent flooding
        + Elevating NC-12
        + Establishing a natural barrier between the roadway and the Sound
    - Dog Survey
      * The Town will be conducting a survey regarding dogs on the beach with a specific focus on leash law.
      * The Town wants to have an environment that is both dog-friendly, and one where people feel safe.
      * Be on the lookout for the survey.
* CDA Business
  + Election of Officers
    - The Board’s philosophy is to have representation at the Board level from all types of ownership, including:
      * Oceanfront, Soundfront, and in-between Owners
      * Resident and Nonresident Owners
      * Owners of Rental Properties and Non Renters
    - Are there any nominations from the floor?
      * There are none
    - Is there any opposition to the list of Board Members listed for nomination?
      * There is none
    - Existing Board is re-elected.
  + Financial Review
    - See Financial Statements in Agenda
    - Highlights:
      * During 2020, there was $24,000 in revenue and $16,800 in expenses
      * CDA has a $54,000 reserve requirement
      * Notable Improvements:
        + Installed irrigation, electrical service, and pier lights, and a foot shower at the Soundfront Community Lot
        + Installed foot shower at middle ocean access
      * Improvements Planned for 2021:
        + Connect municipal water service & build foot shower at southern ocean access
        + Build foot shower at northern ocean access
        + Install lighting at northern community sign
      * High expenses were incurred during 2020 for repairs / maintenance associated with the improvements made to the Soundfront Community Lot. With the ground open for irrigation, it was an opportune time to install the electrical lines and foot showers. This is expected to continue into 2021, then level back off.
  + Listserv
    - The [owners@carolinadunes.org](mailto:owners@carolinadunes.org) listserv was migrated to Google Groups during 2020.
    - Three changes that accompanied that migration were:
      * A capability for the Board to moderate the postings to the listserv and enforce our usage policy.
      * A capability for members to receive a single daily digest of the communications that occurred in a given day instead of receiving every email.
      * A capability for the messages to be archived & referenced easily via a Web Forum.
    - Upcoming Changes:
      * We will be removing the digest as a notification option. This is in response to the observation that members were responding to the digest emails, instead of the original post.
        + Mitigating email storms will continue to be possible buy the board’s use of moderating postings.
    - Vendor List:
      * Many of the most common requests to the Google Group pertain to soliciting recommendations for vendors.
      * Reminder – there is a list of vendors we curate based upon feedback provided by the community.
      * If you have a good experience with a vendor, tell us.
      * If you have a bad experience with a vendor, tell us.
    - Website
      * We now have a section detailing updates related to the 2022 Beach Nourishment
  + Open Questions:
    - Lake Pintail – What can be done to prevent water pooling at the corner of Pintail and Buffel Head?
      * Previously, Ron has talked with both the Town and NCDOT.
      * It’s fixable, but it’s just too small of a problem to get priority and funding.
    - Status of the Northern Bridge
      * The Northern Bridge is still in the planning stage, and still moving forward.
    - Would it be possible to put boxes containing dog bags at each of the ocean access points near the trash cans?
      * Possibly. CDA would have to contract with someone to refill the boxes.
      * Send Ron an email if you think this is something worth pursuing.
    - What was the context regarding Sandi Cross’s email about Christmas Trees on the beach?
      * Sandi was commenting on the fact that the Christmas Trees were standing erect, as opposed to laying at the toe of the dune. Standing – they do not help trap the sand.
    - Could the zone of 35mph be extended north to include CDA?
      * Street-legal Golf Carts are not allowed on roads where the speed limit exceeds 35mph. Reducing it would allow owners with street legal golf carts to legally use them to drive in to Duck.
      * Email Ron if you have a perspective on this.

Submitted,

Andrew Blunck

CDA Secretary & Webmaster