

**TOWN OF JUPITER  
BEACH COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY JUNE 27, 2016**

The Beach Committee met in the Council Chambers on Monday, June 27, 2016  
Denise Nieman called the meeting to order at approximately 6:00 p.m.

**ATTENDANCE** (✓ Present \* Absent)

Louis "Coke" Coakley	✓	Gail Whipple	✓	Carol Watson	✓
Mark Zisk	✓	Bob Hamilton	✓	Lynne Gibbons	✓
John O'Connor	*	Troy Holloway	✓	Rick Opton	✓
Denise Nieman, Chair	✓	David Uhlfelder	✓	Russell Ruskay, Staff liaison	✓
				Sandra Lazo de la Vega	✓

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**MINUTES** – Troy Holloway made a motion to approve the Minutes from the April 25, 2016 meeting. Bob Hamilton seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

**CORRESPONDENCE – None**

**PUBLIC BUSINESS** – Representatives from the Reef Club were in attendance and stated their support for Beach Nourishment.

Russ Ruskay gave a brief review of Robert's Rules and Sunshine Law.

**I. New Business**

- a. Public Safety Radio Replacement- Russ Ruskay shared information regarding the PD tower that was being discussed for the Bluffs. Russ has been advised by Maj. David England of the Jupiter PD that the Police are looking for a new location for the 100' pole. Carol suggested that the pole should be decorated to make it more visually appealing.
- b. Dubois Park- Closing of Swimming Area – Russ Ruskay stated that the County has been meeting on the issue and a report is forthcoming for the committee to review.

Bob Hamilton stated that the County had partnered with the Loxahatchee River District to investigate the issue. Normally, water testing takes place once per week (on Monday) and when bacteria counts are high, that triggers a swim area closure. The goal is to be better able to predict when the counts will be high so that the closures can take place proactively in the interest of public safety.

The Loxahatchee River District has been conducting more testing. Counts are usually high during low tide after a rain event. There are some water quality issues upstream of Dubois, and when the water level is higher than the weir, bacteria flows downstream. It is therefore likely that they will recommend proactive closures of the swim area during low tide following rain events.

Gail Whipple asked where the bacteria was coming from.

Bob said that they had done some testing in the past that indicated that it was likely not from a human source, but likely due to animal waste.

Mark asked how they would monitor for closure compliance.

Bob stated that they would rely on lifeguards.

Lynne recommended they also consider signage.

## II. Old Business

### a. Beach Nourishment Projects – Presentation by PBC ERM

Mike Stahl from ERM presented on the North County Comprehensive Shore Protection Project.

The project manager is Andy Studt, who was also present.

The comprehensive project consolidates the Jupiter/Carlin and Juno projects and it now also includes the previously excluded Segment 2. This segment was previously excluded due to Federal Funding Guidelines. The current project length is 4.9 miles, the volume is expected to be ~1.9million cubic yards, and the anticipated start date is November 2018.

Russ advised the committee that while Town Council had not taken any official action on Beach Nourishment, the issue had risen to the level of a strategic initiative for the first time.

All the beaches in PBC are considered critically eroded. Most coastal municipalities contribute funding, but Juno and Jupiter have never contributed.

The County has requested a contribution from both municipalities. The request is for 4 projects over 30 years. The projects are projected to cost \$136 million, or approximately \$34million per project. They have asked Jupiter to contribute \$12.9million or approximately \$3.2million per project (this number is contingent on the continued availability of federal funding).

Carol and Denise remarked that the Beach was a regional attraction and asked if inland municipalities were asked to contribute.

Russ stated that Town Council has directed staff to discuss the issue with other regional stakeholders, such as Juno Beach and JID.

Dennis, from the Board of Directors of the Reef Club was in attendance and updated the committee on the efforts of his community. They have hired an engineer to evaluate their seawall and recommend repairs or replacement. They are now working on raising the money that may be necessary. They will have more information forthcoming in 3-6 months.

### III. Remarks

#### a. Committee Members-

Gail- has heard from the Council Member who appointed her that several residents have contacted him regarding dogs on the beach. Gail shared several emails constituents have sent Ron Delaney on this matter.

Russ explained that Council has already directed staff to work on this issue. Staff has met with the FOJB to establish a better strategy for monitoring and education. The current policy on dogs on the beach is on the comprehensive plan and changes to it are policy changes.

Mark stated that as long as the parking is free and the beach is dog friendly, people will come from all over the County.

Russ stated that free parking was also a policy issue.

Bob stated that there were 6 dog parks county-wide.

Mark- asked if anyone had heard of algae blooms in Jupiter.

Lynne- shared information regarding a balloon ban to protect sea turtles.

Russ stated that Jupiter was already working on this initiative by recommending that balloons not be used in the Civic Center. The Town is also placing signage at the Civic Center to advise the public.

Denise asked about a lost-and-found mechanism for items found at the Beach.

Russ recommended that found items could be left at the lifeguard stations.

Carol inquired about shade at benches at Jupiter Beach Park. Bob stated that he would look into it with the county.

Gail asked committee members to take pictures when they see people parked on Beach road so that she could send them to the BOCC.

DeeDee Halpburn from the Old Florida Preservation Society said that Martin County has passed an ordinance banning shark-fishing and asked if the Committee would look into it.

Russ said the Town would follow the discussions that the Town of Palm Beach is having on this issue.

#### IV. **Next Meeting** – Monday, October 24, 2016

#### V. **Adjourn-** The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:50pm.