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# Newsletter

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## HOLDEN BEACH PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION November 2007

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**Our Mission:** To represent the property owners of Holden Beach as a unified voice regarding issues that affect their common interests and concerns

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### **IMPORTANT DATES FOR 2007 - 2008**

**Nov 24<sup>th</sup> – Thanksgiving Weekend Meeting**  
**Mar 22<sup>nd</sup> – Easter Weekend Meeting**  
**Apr 26/27 – Day at the Docks**  
**May 24<sup>th</sup> – Memorial Day Weekend Meeting**  
**Aug 30<sup>th</sup> – Labor Day Weekend Meeting**  
**Oct 25/26 – Festival by the Sea**

All HBPOA meetings start at **10AM** and are now held in the **Holden Beach Chapel Fellowship Hall**, due to construction in the Town Hall meeting room – please join us!

### **MESSAGE FROM THE HBPOA PRESIDENT**

At the last Directors' meeting, I was honored to be selected as the new President of the association.

I am glad to report the association is very strong from a variety of different perspectives (e.g., active director and member participation, sufficient financial funds, high profile in the community, etc.). My goal is to keep the organization healthy and aligned with the needs of the membership.

A change in leadership provides an opportunity for reflection - on what has worked well in the past, and what could be improved in the future. I welcome any input or feedback on how we can improve the association to better meet your needs. Please feel free to email me at [tmmyers@alltel.net](mailto:tmmyers@alltel.net) with your comments and suggestions.

A couple of areas for improvement have been identified regarding communications with our membership. Several members have suggested increased use of email for distributing information such as this newsletter. Printing and postage costs are a significant portion of our budget, and many members prefer to receive electronic communications – so I see email as a way to communicate with our members in a more timely and cost-efficient manner.



The big questions associated with email are: what do we communicate and who do we send it to? Our liaison committee has developed a survey to help us answer these questions. This survey is attached to the newsletter and will be distributed at our next meeting. Please let us know your preferences.

I look forward to serving you as your new President, and I appreciate the outstanding job that Alan Holden has done in preceding me.

I hope to see you on November 24<sup>th</sup>.

Tom Myers  
HBPOA President

### **MESSAGE FROM THE TOWN MANAGER**

Dear Holden Beach Property Owners,

Fall is in the air and numerous projects have already started or will start during the off-season. The Jordan Boulevard project is well on its way, with the pier on the waterway complete, and the gazebo / stage just weeks from being completed as well. We have already seen many using the pier for fishing, and the stage was used for the concerts during the Festival in October.

Construction of the off-island maintenance / operations building should begin in the next few weeks. This building will be used for public works offices and record keeping, as well as be available for temporary Town Hall facilities during evacuations from the island.

We are also scheduled to complete the Holden Beach Harbor dredging, and are awaiting permits for the Heritage Harbor dredging project. Schedules for the Holden Beach Harbor dredging should be available soon.

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It appears we have been fortunate enough to make it thru another hurricane season without any storm occurrences. The shoreline has held up well so far, though we have had some erosion as a result of some of the storms and high winds we have had over the past few weeks. We have all permits in place to put sand on the beach this fall, and are working on final sand quality approval from the Corps of Engineers.

Also, we have officially moved Town Hall facilities to an interim off-island location at 2869 Holden Beach Road (adjacent to the car wash) due to mold issues in the existing Town Hall. Administration, Tax Administration, Inspections Department, and Water Billing are all housed in this building. The Police Department has moved to 140 Ocean Boulevard West.

I hope everyone has a safe and happy holiday season.

Steve Wheeler  
Town of Holden Beach

### **NEWS FROM OUR LAST MEETING**

Seventy-four people attended the Labor Day weekend meeting.

The minutes of May 26, 2007 were approved. The financial report showed a balance of \$25,330.40. The membership report showed 892 members with 39 new members in 2007.

Alan Holden reported that the beach strand was in good shape and that a majority of the homeowners were connected to the sewer. He thanked the membership for allowing him to be their president but stated he was stepping down after the meeting.

Sandy Miller was reappointed as Executive Secretary during the director's meeting the preceded the membership meeting

The 2008 budget will be presented in November.

Sandy Miller reported that 144 people had signed up for the BBQ dinner later that day.

Plans for Meet the Candidates Night were described, and a committee consisting of Charlie Boyle, Dennis Harrington, Ron Veenker and Fetzter Mills was created to compose the written questions for the event. Members were advised to contact one of these committee members to submit questions to be included on the list.

Director elections were held, and Jan Fleagle, John Lytvinenko, Ron Skubic and Sheila Young were elected as HBPOA Directors for 2007-2010. Fetzter Mills and Charlie Stokes stepped down as Directors as their terms expired in 2007.

Dr. David Tart raised the issue of cabanas on the beach. He made a motion that HBPOA support the use of cabanas for health reasons (i.e., sun exposure) and allow them to remain on the beach at night. After considerable discussion, the motion was defeated by a vote of 41 to 25. Dennis Harrington made a follow-up motion that Dr. Tart's motion being adopted with restrictions on the placement of the cabanas. This motion was also defeated by a vote of 35 to 22,

Bill Spier thanked everyone for their donations to the Second Helping, and reported that he had collected over 7,000 pounds of food this year.

Town Manager Steve Wheeler reported that the Town's attorney was looking at the contract for the Holden Beach Harbor project. The Heritage Harbor dredging project is in the permitting state and is waiting on CAMA approval. The pier and stage should be completed this fall. Bids for the new Town Hall will be available in two weeks. Yard debris pick-up will resume the second and fourth Fridays beginning in October. Less than 100 people are still waiting to hook onto the sewer system.

Police Chief Wally Layne reported a busy but uneventful summer. The number of day trippers increased this year. The police department has moved to a house located at 140 OBW.

Mayor Meares thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:40 AM.

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### **MEET THE CANDIDATES NIGHT**

Meet the Candidates Night was held on Friday, October 26<sup>th</sup> in the Holden Beach Chapel. Approximately 120 people attended the event and all of the candidates were present, except for Pat Sandifer, who was home with her husband who had been in the hospital earlier that day.

Written answers to the following questions were distributed:

1. If we assume that the Federal Government will no longer participate in funding and providing beach renourishment programs that have not yet been authorized, what do you think Holden Beach should do concerning beach renourishment?
2. Should the beach renourishment fund be supplemented by using ad valorem tax funds?
3. How would you develop and implement an aggressive beach renourishment plan?
4. If state law is changed to allow hard structures in the inlets to help control sand movement, what, if anything, should Holden Beach do?
5. How should such structures be paid for?
6. What is your position on changing the terms of Town Commissioners to four years in length, with staggered terms; and having the Mayor's term remain at two years?
7. The Town of Holden Beach has so far been unsuccessful in securing State grants to help build bike paths. What is your position on how Holden Beach should proceed without State funding?
8. What do you think should be the Town's approach to boat trailer parking near the boat landing access under the bridge?
9. What, if anything, do you contend that the Town should do concerning additional day visitor parking spaces?
10. What, if anything, would you do to stabilize or reduce town spending?
11. What are your goals for the Town over the next two years?

12. What do you feel are the most critical issues facing Holden Beach?
13. How do you envision Holden Beach five, ten, and fifteen years from now? What actions do you think will be required for this vision to become a reality?
14. (Mayor candidates only) What would you like to accomplish in your two-year term as Mayor of Holden Beach?
15. (Mayor candidates only) In addition to the statutory duties and responsibilities of Mayor, what do you contend are the duties and obligations of the Mayor of Holden Beach?

Each candidate had four minutes to introduce themselves and discuss their platform. Following these statements, questions were received from the floor regarding transfer taxes, conflicts of interest, capital expenditures, the new town hall and police station, and various other topics.

The session adjourned shortly after 9 p.m.

### **ELECTION RESULTS**

November 6<sup>th</sup> was election day, and voters elected Alan Holden as Mayor and Don Glander, Ken Kyser, Ray Lehr, Sandy Miller and Gary Staley as Commissioners.

The unofficial vote tallies from the county are as follows:

Alan Holden	312	59.43%	
Norman Meares	213	40.57%	
Don Glander	301	12.23%	
John Hancock	195	7.92%	
John Heimlich	206	8.37%	
Ken Kyser	263	10.68%	
Ray Lehr	305	12.39%	
Sandy Miller	307	12.47%	
Pat Sandifer	216	8.77%	
Peggy Schiavone	209	8.49%	
Gary Staley	232	9.42%	
Sheila Young	228	9.26%	

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### **LIAISON COMMITTEE SURVEY REQUEST**

As members of the liaison committee for the HBPOA with Town Hall, we would like to have input from all the members as to what information you would like to have gathered and reported to you, and on what basis (i.e., monthly, quarterly, yearly). Your questions should focus only on items related to Holden Beach or the HBPOA.

Please send us your e-mail address so we can reply to everyone by e-mail (If you like). Please submit your questions at the next meeting or e-mail to: [ronsku@earthlink.net](mailto:ronsku@earthlink.net)

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Thank You for your cooperation,  
Ron Skubic / John Lytvinenko