
Newsletter

HOLDEN BEACH PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION

May 2009

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

IMPORTANT DATES FOR 2009

May 23rd – Memorial Day Weekend Meeting
September 5th – Labor Day Weekend Meeting
November 28th – Thanksgiving Weekend Meeting

HBPOA meetings start at **10 AM** and are held in the **new Holden Beach Town Hall Building** – please join us!

MESSAGE FROM THE HBPOA PRESIDENT

Dear Members,

The association continues to take actions to support the concerns of our members – including trash cans, cabanas on the beach, property taxes and insurance costs. As a result of the vote at our last meeting, we sent a check to support the Dare County litigation fund against the insurance rate increase for the Beach Plan.

It appears our membership drive is working, since we have exceeded the 1,000 member threshold once again. There is strength in numbers, so the more members we have, the more attention we will receive when we voice our views.

Please don't hesitate to let us know if there are additional actions you wish us to take, since our mission is to support our common interests.

I missed our last meeting due to a combined business / family trip to Hawaii. Although Waikiki Beach is world famous, our strand is wider and our beach has fewer rocks. All we need is the crystal clear water!

I look forward to seeing everyone at the Memorial Day meeting.

Best regards,

Tom Myers
HBPOA President



MESSAGE FROM THE TOWN MANAGER

Summer is Here and You Should Be Too
David W. Hewett, Town Manager

Believe it or not it looks like we have turned the corner on the Seasons. Yes its early May, the temperature is an unbelievable 85 degrees and unlike the April mini-gales we encountered during our FEMA nourishment project, the wind is but a gentle breeze out of the southwest at 15 mph.

Speaking of the FEMA nourishment project – it is complete and on time before the 30 April deadline! I realize that the truck traffic and heavy equipment on the beach was an inconvenience for many through the Easter week but hopefully everyone will step back, take the long term view and understand the necessity of placing the additional sand on the beach prior to hurricane season. Many of you have voiced concerns over the color of the sand; its orange/red/gold appearance is alarming at first glance. Our on scene consulting engineers; the Army Corps of Engineers, The North Carolina Department of Natural Resources, The US Department of Fish and Wildlife and our own Turtle Patrol all worked closely together to ensure we were getting acceptable sand for the beach. "But it's still red" you say and yes it is (today) but believe it or not there is a photochemical process that will occur over the course of the next several weeks wherein the saltwater and sun will actually bleach the material out and you won't be able to tell the difference from the original sand. I didn't believe it myself until witnessing it first hand during the Spring 08 nourishment project. That project seemed (to me anyway) to have a far greater degree of "redness" but lo and behold after a few weeks it too bleached out. The geologist that coordinated the project from FEMA explained the bleaching phenomena to me in greatly detailed chemistry terms when we were developing the project (I was a business major); it had something to do with hydrochlorides in the

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seawater reacting with the sand's quartz molecules utilizing the sun's ultraviolet light as a catalyst. Our public works director, Chris Clemmons explained it far better for me by saying "The tide will cover it over a time or two and after it lays in the sun for a couple/three weeks you won't be able to tell the difference." Since he's been the project manager on about five of the projects he's probably the most knowledgeable person around regarding building our beach. So there it is; the beach is ready for your enjoyment. Forget about the economy and all of the dire predictions; Holden Beach is your family's oasis, come on down and spend some time with us!

MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

Spring is here! Birds are singing, fish are biting, canal dredging is complete, beach nourishment is complete, police and town business is being conducted in the new town hall, the new emergency center and maintenance building on the mainland is now being used, the "olden Holden" bike path is being enjoyed, a new restaurant will be opening soon at the island end of the bridge, the turtle patrol is ready for the turtles, and the summer is almost here.

Now, the town's emergency program needs to be updated to include the new facilities, the anti-sandspur program needs to be put into place, and next year's budget needs to be prepared. Today's economic times cause business strategy to be a little more challenging.

It will soon be known whether the rentals will be able to provide occupancy tax funds as in the past. Reservations are slow coming overall. Sales activity has increased in recent weeks!

The island over all is in good shape and ready to welcome everyone back to the beach.

Mayor Alan Holden

NEWS FROM OUR LAST MEETING

The Easter membership meeting was called to order at 10:01 AM. 62 members were present thus constituting a quorum. The minutes of the November 29, 2008 were approved. The financial report had a balance of \$32,825.51. Membership was 1018 with 115 new members in 2009.

President Tom Myers was away on business. Vice-President Jack Smith presided. He distributed brochures for the bicycle tour. The executive secretary will withdraw money from the saving account to purchase a new CD. Ron Skubic explained where some of the money from the BPART fund is allocated—second trash pickup and Beach Patrol. Ed Brannock reported that the cabana magnets have been placed in rental homes.

A discussion was held on allowing home owners who only rent several weeks not to have to purchase the extra trashcans and to allow all rental homes to be charged for the extra cans only during the rental season. The Town Manager will check with Waste Industries about the yearly payments and the Board of Commissioners will have to review the ordinance on the number of cans. A motion was passed unanimously to donate \$1,000 to the Dare County litigation fund against the insurance rate increase for the Beach Plan.

Community service donations were discussed. Suggestions included money for Brunswick Family Assistance, Second Helping, Coastal Rescue, Holden Beach Chapel, HBRA and Concerts on the Coast. Final decisions will be made at the Memorial Day meeting on May 23.

Town Manager David Hewett reported that the new town hall is open for business from 9-5 and the police department 24/7. Dredging is almost complete. He apologized for the sand trucks on the beach but FEMA will not them to place sand on the beach after April 30. Everyone should contact their legislators to approve Senate bill 832 to allow the placement of some terminal groins in the inlets. The budget for next year will be extremely tight.

Police Chief Wally Layne said the winter was very quiet so the state of the beach is good. The speed limit west of Greensboro has been reduced from 45 to 35 mph.

The meeting adjourned at 11:40 AM.

HAVE YOU BEEN GETTING OUR EMAIL?

We are concerned that our email messages might be getting caught in your spam filters or viewed as junk mail. Please check your spam filter and mark the Holden Beach POA (HBPOA@hotmail.com) as a safe sender.

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HBRA UPDATE

The Holden Beach Renourishment Association, HBRA, has again asked for members and donations to the Association to support beach renourishment for Holden Beach. A brochure was sent to all Holden Beach property owners asking for their support. Beach Renourishment is a many tiered program involving not just sand placement but vegetation and other proven stabilizing methods which will actually allow the beach to grow to a healthy beach. A healthy beach is a beach with fifty to seventy five feet of dry sand at high tide.

In February and March, HBRA funded planting vegetation in the 700, 600 blocks of OBW and other properties on ocean front that had at least fifty feet of dry sand at high tide. This means that many lots east of the 600 block of OBW did not receive vegetation. Some of that area is in the FEMA project and will receive sand, sand fence and vegetation under that project.

For properties not in the FEMA project and that do not have fifty feet of dry sand at high tide, HBRA would like to fund a vegetation project after sand is placed on those properties. Most of these properties are from 311OBW to 585OBW. HBRA is also funding the fertilizing of existing vegetation. Some of the vegetation was damaged by Hanna and needs fertilizing at this time. Another fertilization project is needed in the Fall.

The Holden Beach Renourishment Association **thanks** the property owners that have already donated to HBRA for the protection of the beach strand and ask the other property owners to please do so. Donations have ranged from \$25.00 to \$1,000.00.

DECAL DEADLINE: MAY 31st

The deadline to obtain your vehicle identification decals at no cost is May 31st. Applications received after this date will be charged \$10.00 per sticker. The vehicle identification decals are required for access to the island by property owners after a hurricane if the bridge is closed. Each property owner can obtain decals for up to four vehicles. The application form is available at:

<http://www.hbtownhall.com/pdf/decalapp09.pdf>

CONCERTS BY THE COAST SCHEDULE

Jun 7th	Monkey Junction Band	Acoustic Bluerockgrass
Jun 14th	Northern Border	Bluegrass Beach, Oldies, Country
Jun 21st	Gold Rush	
Jun 28th	Harbour Towne Festival Band El Combo	Good Times Band
July 5th	Grande	Beach & rock n' roll
July 12th	Craig Wollard Band	Beach Music
July 19th	Barn Jazz	Swing, Jazz Blues New Orleans Flavor
July 26th	Govt. Plant Band	80's Blues Rock
Aug 2nd	GB-4 Band	Classic Rock & Blues Variety (Carolina Beach Music Award)
Aug 9th	Sea Cruz	
Aug 16th	De Howlies	Hawaiian
Aug 23rd	Use To Be's	Aurhentic 50's
Aug 30th	Captain Cook & the Coconutz	Best of Buffet & Parrry Rock
Sept 6th	The Imitations	Beach & Motown

SENATE BILL 832

The Town requests your support for Senate Bill 832 titled "CRC May Permit Terminal Structures." Please contact your hometown legislators and let them know you support terminal structures as a viable inlet stabilization mechanism. Check the Town's website fo relevant information and talking points you can use in your discussions with your regulators.