

## Park Board Meeting Thursday May 12, 2022

### Beverly Shores Park Board Meeting Minutes

May 12, 2022

6:00PM CT Hybrid: In Person 500 S Broadway, and via Microsoft Teams

1. **Meeting Called to Order** (6:07pm)
2. **Roll Call:** Board Members present in person: President Frank Hardwick, Paula Tillman, Kevin Fitzgerald (arrived during the meeting due to exigent circumstances regarding transportation), and Secretary Andre Daugavietis. Also present in person: Clerk Treasurer Ellen Hundt. Participating via Teams: Town Council Representative Matrona Malik.
2. **Administrative Business**
  - Title VI Community Involvement Survey
  - Approval of Minutes for April 2022 meeting – Approved unanimously
3. **New & Updated Business**
  - Lituanica Park reservation request: Lithuanian Club annual picnic Saturday August 15 11am-late – approved unanimously with the understanding that the Club will clean up the Park afterward.
  - Rebora reservation request: ABSR Summerfest 10am-late – approved unanimously with the understanding that parking will be allowed in unused area(s) of Rebora, if space is available.

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  - Rebora Update: Stakes have been placed for supports. Rain-delayed installation pending re-scheduled dates
  - Derby Update: Surveyed. Staked. Need to determine best path for stairs. NPS has indicated willingness to allow use of its property, if needed. Stairs may be completed this summer, if funding can be lined up.
  - Beach Access Update: The Board is receiving good public input/feedback. Board is developing way to show all of the input. A goal of the project is to limit damage from foot traffic to fewer areas. Resident Peter Turek suggested being open to creating new access paths where old paths no longer allow access. The Board expressed a goal of having a system of paths that makes sense. The National Park has expressed a desire to cooperate on this project. (more on Beach Access under Old Business)
  - Boat Permits and Storage: In the past, boat storage had been allowed at times at Derby, Rebora and Shore. After discussion, the Board unanimously approved continued suspension of the sale of boat permits until there is sufficient beach area to support boat storage. Residents are free to petition for boat permit program reinstatement when they believe that beach conditions could adequately support it.

- Lituanica Park
  - Public Meeting held after monthly Board meeting (described below)
  - “Lituanica Park Exploration” Park Day scheduled for Monday May 30 (Memorial Day) at 10am – following the Memorial Day coffee event at Rebora. Board members and the public will have an opportunity to walk around and look at the Park and its features and discuss. The Park Day is for thinking and planning about the future of the Park. The Board unanimously approved Lituanica Park Exploration for May 30. It will constitute a non-routine Board meeting and public notice is to be provided.
- Pickle Ball is open for business: markers are hung on the side of the shed. Proposal to keep shed unlocked for gear storage.
- Rebora Bike Rack Replacement: half of the existing bike rack was stolen when it was disassembled for the Winter. The Board unanimously approved expenditure of up to \$400 for purchase of a new bike rack for Rebora. The Board is considering a bike repair station and the best location for it.

#### **1. Old Business**

2. Beach Access information gathering: Member Kevin Fitzgerald has researched paths for beach access. His research included: 1) viability of access route; 2) size of beach at area; and 3) obstacles from the erosion-prevention boulders. His initial recommendations for areas for potential beach access paths are: Greatwater; Crestlane; Shore; between Shore and Underwood; across from 511, and across from 527. Greatwater and Crestlane seem to be the most ready for the project.

This information will be correlated with input and information from the public and the National Park.

Discussion of beach path construction: Mobi-Mat is an available material for paths. It is available in 3.5 by 50 foot panels at a cost of \$1400 each. The Board discussed looking into other viable path materials, especially at lower cost.

The Board agreed that developing the most promising paths need not await decision on the scope of the entire project.

The Board discussed looking into a beach access path at or near Derby if stairs there are not built promptly.

#### **Lituanica Park Public Meeting**

- The Lituanica Park Public Meeting convened at shortly after 7pm. All public comment was via online. Summaries of the comments received:
- Comment emailed from resident Arlene Beglin; (need summary or transcription)
- Comment from resident Ed Cleese: Reported that a survey of town residents regarding a picnic shelter in the Park had 96 responses: 71% in favor of a shelter; 41% want the

shelter to be close to the lake; 81% favor wood (vs. metal) roof construction; 53% would be willing to fund such project. There was discussion of ABSR potentially funding construction of such shelter.

- Comment from resident Geof Benson: He enjoys Beverly Shores for its nature and its proximity to the National Park. Park buildings and shelters don't get used much and maintenance costs are substantial, even if citizens fund construction. Notes that Park is public and use of shelter cannot be limited to Town residents. Potential repercussions from building a public shelter in a public park with limited parking should be considered. Prefers open space and objects to developing more of the Park.
- Comment from resident Donna Norkus: Stresses open space as the essence of the Park. Wonders about a "total plan" for the Park as opposed to developing bits piecemeal.
- Comment from resident Susan Loeb: Not in favor of "ad hoc" development of Park and endorses comment (below) from her husband Larry Stanton.
- Comment from Paula Nelson: Lives across from the Park. Prefers less additions to the Park. Notes that shelter may invite unwanted activity. Notes cost as an issue.
- Comment emailed from resident Larry Stanton: (need summary or transcript) Submits a list of questions for consideration in weighing the future of the Park.
- Comment from resident Mary Fulghum: Prefers open space. Expansion of Park facilities could lead to the need for a septic system at the Park. The Park is located in a special natural place in the Dunes. Does not want to see a new structure built.
- Comment from resident Matrona Malek: Believes that making a picnic area on the warming hut porch makes more sense than building one. Concern for neighbors of the Park. Concern for womens' safety from structures, unlocked hut and unlocked shed.
- Comment from resident Ed Cleese: Adding picnic facilities to the warming hut is an option. Notes that demographics of Town are changing – more families with children are moving in.

Board discussion of shelter maintenance. Park budget for labor is \$2,000 for the year.

Portable toilet ("PortaPotty") for Park: Resident Ed Cleese comments that ABSR has funded these for the Park in the past and may do so again. The Board unanimously approved obtaining a portable toilet for the Park this summer and will look into the cost.

#### **1. Other Comment**

- Resident Mary Fughum comments that the "wooded" end of the Park contains special natural areas. The Board agrees to have the natural features of that end of the Park evaluated by experts prior to any decisions about developing Park features there. The Board discussed removal of invasive species there in order to enhance the natural features.

#### **2. Adjourn: 8:00 pm**