

Town of Beverly Shores
Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee
Minutes of the Meeting
Monday, July 8, 2024, 7pm CT

1. Call to Order

Susan Loeb, Chair, called the meeting of the Town of Beverly Shores Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee to order at 7:00pm CT.

2. Roll Call:

Committee members present: Susan Loeb, Tom Abrahamson, Steve Coughlin, Andre Daugavietis, and Paula Tillman.

Also present were Ellen Hundt, Town Clerk/Treasurer, and Candice Peterson-Smith, Town Council Liaison to the Parks Committee.

3. Title VI Community Involvement Survey

Susan Loeb announced that the Title VI public involvement survey is available via the Town's website.

4. Minutes of Meeting of May 13, 2024

Tom Abrahamson motioned to approve the Minutes of Meeting of May 13, 2024; seconded by Andre Daugavietis. Approved 5-0.

Minutes of Meeting of June 10, 2024

Tom Abrahamson motioned to approve the Minutes of Meeting of June 10, 2024; seconded by Andre Daugavietis. Approved 5-0.

5. Maintenance update reports

Steve Coughlin reported that tree removal at Lituanica and bike rack installation at Reborra were completed.

6. Old Business

Steve Coughlin advised that the new contractor deck rebuild quote including benches, ada stairs, and Building Commissioner recommendations was \$13,331.34. Additional contractor quotes were pending. No action taken.

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Tom Abrahamson reported that the pickle ball and shuffleboard courts were completed with the help of Larry Stanton. Thank you, Larry.

Susan Loeb advised that an EZ Beach Steps adjustable aluminum beach access stair quote was in process. A site visit was pending.

Steve Coughlin advised that playground improvement quotes were still pending from additional contractors.

Susan Loeb led a discussion on the Parks Committee 2025 Budget recommending a 2025 gross budget request in the amount of \$25,000 not including mowing expenses.

Steve Coughlin motioned to approve a 2025 gross budget request in the amount of \$25,000 not including mowing expenses; seconded by Tom Abrahamson. Approved 4-0-1 with Paula Tillman abstaining.

7. New Business

Susan Loeb advised that the warming hut entry door locks were broken and that after receiving two quotes a locksmith could repair or replace for \$250 or less. Steve Coughlin motioned to approve spending up to \$250 to repair or replace the warming hut entry door locks; seconded by Paula Tillman. Approved 5-0.

Susan Loeb led a discussion on kayak storage at town beach(es) with opening remarks that according to The Smith Group Study Derby has a more viable beach than Reborna and that a conversation with the public is needed about size of watercraft, beach locations, racks.

Tom Abrahamson said that he was in favor of a solution, and that demand was great.

Andre Daugavietis said that permits are used to control watercraft storage.

Steve Coughlin said that due to high demand a permit lottery may be needed instead of first-come, first-serve.

Ellen Hundt advised that current permit prices were \$30 per kayak, \$50 per boat, but not for sale at this time.

8. Written Comments – no written comments received.

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9. Public Comment

Using ppt slides and a hand-out, Nancy Natow-Cassidy presented possible kayak rack designs and locations, plus beach access options.

Scott Vliek suggested Rebora was safer than Derby for kayak storage.

Fay Stokes advised that Long Beach has kayak storage made out of pipe.

John Nekus requested the Town address larger watercraft beach access and storage. not just kayaks and stand-up paddle boards.

Darius Bartkus requested the Town work out an agreement with the National Park to allow beach access at Kemil on Beverly Shores property for resident's trailers to unload larger watercraft like his 25ft boat.

Scott Vliek said the National Park should know their boundaries.

Sally Bagnall commented that the Rebora dunes were in a very fragile state, and not suitable for beach access.

Ellen Hundt advised that boat storage locations need signage according to the existing ordinance.

Sam Olins said a permit lottery was a good idea and raising permit prices should be considered.

John Maklin agreed with John Nekus said, and that the stairs at Rebora are not ada compliant.

10. Committee Comments

Susan Loeb said we have two challenges ahead – boat storage and long-term beach access.

Paula Tillman reminded everyone that The Smith Group Study said Derby beach is most viable.

Andre Daugavietis liked Kemil as a possible towable access point but not a storage area.

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Tom Abrahamson asked if there were other viable beaches.

Steve Coughlin suggested that even though details were lacking, the Committee should support the Natow-Cassidy initiative now and let the Town Council decide at their Aug 16, 2024, meeting whether to move forward in 2024 using the Parks Donation Fund under Twon Council control.

Steve Coughlin motioned that the Parks Committee advise the Town Council to approve the Natow-Cassidy initiative using the Parks Donation Fund up to \$6,000; Tom Abrahamson seconded. Approved 5-0.

Tom Abrahamson motioned that the Committee approve the purchase of a storage box, some pickle ball paddles and balls for free public use and Lituania Park; seconded by Steve Coughlin. Approved 4-1 with Paula Tillman voting no.

Sam Olins thanked the Committee for the parks looking very good.

John Nekus with American Lithuanian Club thanked the Committee for Lituania Park looking very good for their June 22 Jonines Picnic Celebration.

11. Adjournment

At 9:08 pm CT, Tom Abrahamson motioned to adjourn the Meeting; seconded by Steve Coughlin. Approved 5-0.

Respectively submitted:

Stephen Coughlin
Secretary
Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee

Approved:

Susan Loeb
Chair
Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee