

TOWN OF EDISTO BEACH
April 13, 2023
BEACHFRONT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
10:00 a.m.

MINUTES

Call to Order

Chairman Dallas Lovelace called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

Present

Chairman Dallas Lovelace; Paul Oakley, Committee Member (**NO QUORUM PRESENT**)

Absent

David Blauch, Pat Deloach, Bob Ringer, Stanley Hergott, Matthew Kizer

Others Present

Town Administrator Mark Aakhus, Municipal Clerk Dee Stalvey

Approval of Minutes – March 9, 2023

Due to lack of a quorum, the approval of minutes will be deferred to the next meeting.

Since a Quorum of Committee Members was not present, no formal business was conducted; only informational items were presented.

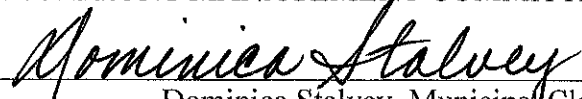
- USACE Project Update
 - Mayor Moore and Mr. Aakhus met with USACE regarding easement lines. Once we have this information, we will work on an introductory letter to the homeowners.
 - What happens if we need nourishment in September before it is completed? It will still be covered under FEMA until this work with USACE is completed.
- Groin Discussion with Steven Traynum, Coastal Science & Engineering
 - No other groin work to be completed in the Army Corps project but the Town has an obligation to maintain the dunes and the groins. We need to keep them properly functioning and conduct minor maintenance and repair. Any major groin work identified would go back through the Army Corps extensive process.
 - Steven Traynum participated via conference call. Mr. Aakhus noted there were questions about the condition of our groins at the last meeting and how all this relates to the Army Corps project. Mr. Aakhus noted that no major groin improvement is contemplated at this time.
 - Mr. Traynum discussed the current condition of the groins, which he notes are pretty good right now. Twenty-six (26) groins were extended in 2017, and all these seem to be holding up, except for Groin 2, which was fixed recently. Most of the middle and southern groins, about the 1200 block to the Point are pretty buried; doing a good job of trapping sand. Mr. Traynum noted he would be hesitant to make too many changes because any changes affect other groins, and the point is a challenging place. Some small modifications can be made; technically cannot be completed under maintenance agreement because we cannot give the groin height,

but perhaps close enough that we could possibly still do it under maintenance. At the North end, the beach is narrower here; the beach is still 40-50 wider than in 2017 before the project. During the first 2-3 years we lost a good bit of sand, but it has been pretty stable the last couple years. The groin extensions helped maintain a shallower beach slope. This helps break up wave energy over a wider area which helps the dunes, etc. From the mid- to southern end, the extensions are working very well.

- Mr. Aakhus asked about the Beach Access 1 area, and whether the recent Groin 2 work helps with the issues caused during king tides etc? Mr. Traynum reported that it will not; the work was done to keep the groin from deteriorating further.
- Regarding the “big picture” in terms of improving conditions over time, Mr. Traynum noted the first 4-5 groins do not need further extensions but small scale modifications to take existing profile we have and shift it further seaward, and this may help sand trapping etc., but a significant analysis of this has not been done. Mr. Traynum noted the groins will not improve sand trapping capability by adding height so doing so is not much of a benefit.
- Dr. Lovelace asked if there is any way to determine the original heights of the groins. Mr. Traynum noted he needs to look at the surveys of the earliest groin, which may be available from approximately the mid-2000s and perhaps some data, but there is no data from the time the groins were first constructed. The groins were started first with timber, then rock, then grout, then concrete caps, etc., so there is a long history of modification to the original timber. Regarding the timber ones, several have enough remaining that we could see where they were built; but cannot do so with the ones covered with rocks, and cannot say how those were built, etc. Mr. Traynum noted if we are making minor modifications or general repair to groins, as we did with 28, 29, 30, we wouldn't go higher with the groins. It would be general repair and maintenance.
- Mr. Oakley asked about the 26 groins which were improved in 2017, and Mr. Traynum noted those groins have held up well, except Groin 2. What is the cause of these problems there? Do we potentially have a problem with other groins such as what happened with Groin 2? Mr. Traynum noted the mattresses under the groin may not be as deep as some of the other groins, and the sand pumped there was finer than in other areas so it is harder to plate the mattresses. This might be one cause. As well, this area has been hit harder by storms.

The meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

APPROVED BY BEACHFRONT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE


Dominica Stalvey, Municipal Clerk
May 24, 2023