

Shore Protection Manager

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CARTERET COUNTY BEACH COMMISSION MEETING

Minutes

Pine Knoll Shores Town Hall

July 23, 2007, 2 pm

Acronyms:

None

Attendance.

Commission Chair Buck Fugate, Commission Members Pete Allen, Eddie Dawkins, Jack Goldstein, Joan Lamson, Ted Lindblad, Stewart Pickett, secretary Greg Rudolph, and the general public. Members William Donnelly, Tom Hoover, Jim Stephenson, and Jim Willis were absent.

- (1) **Call to Order.** – Chairman Fugate called the meeting to order.
- (2) **Approval of Minutes (Regular Beach Commission Meeting – June 25, 2007).** – Chairman Fugate asked the Commission if there were any corrections, additions, or comments regarding the minutes presented in the agenda packet. With no comments forthcoming from the Commission, member Pickett motioned the minutes be approved as presented. The motion was seconded by member Lindblad and unanimously approved.
- (3) **Occupancy Tax and “Beach Fund” Update.** – Secretary Rudolph mentioned the June occupancy tax report constitutes the final report for the 2006-07 fiscal year, and was up by almost 9% compared to the June 2006 report. This is a favorable number considering the Tall Ships event was last year and may have caused an artificial spike in the 2006 collection. Overall, the June 2007 receipt pushed the total FY 2006-07 return to a +4% mark compared to the total reported for FY 2005-06. Interestingly, the occupancy tax's annual growth rate has been +7% in FY 2003-04, +7% in FY 2004-05, +17% in FY 2005-06, and now +4% in FY 2006-07, which demonstrates how anomalous FY 2005-06 was – especially considering that FY 2006-07 was the first year the abbreviated school calendar was in effect. The secretary continued that the hotel/motel input to the occupancy tax was down by 4% compared to last year while the condo/cottage sector was up by 9% in FY 2006-07. The net 14% difference in the hotel/motel sector and the condo/cottage difference, equates to a hypothetical loss to the occupancy tax totaling approximately \$200,000, i.e., if the hotel/motel sector was up by 9% compared to down by 4%. The “Beach Fund” reserve is estimated be at \$3.8 million with FY 2006-07 being the first year that all the municipal allocations to the Bogue Banks communities via the occupancy tax have started to be funneled into the “Beach Fund”.

Member Goldstein mentioned that July 4th fell on a Wednesday this year and quite possibly, some of the July 4th associated occupancy tax receipts may be credited towards the

preceding weekend, which was in June. This could have helped the June receipt and correspondingly may diminish the July total.

- (4) **Public Comment.** – None.
- (5) **Other Business.** – None.
- (6) **August 2007 Meeting Date (August 27, 2007 – proposed).** – It was agreed upon that the next Beach Commission meeting scheduled for August 2007 would be held on the 27th of the month at 2:00 pm, PKS Town Hall.
- (7) **Adjourn.** – Chairman Fugate asked for any additional comments and with no additional comments forthcoming, the meeting was adjourned.