SANDY BEACH COMMISSION
February Minutes
Date: February 19, 2026
6:00 PM
Location: Bantam Annex

In attendance: Ed Ryle, Chair, Terry Connor, Jennifer Parsons, Kathy Van Ormer, Lauren Wheeler, Tom Matthews, Andy Parker. Corinne Houle- via Zoom

- Call to order: Ed R called meeting to order at 6:00p
- Approval of minutes from January 22, 2025 meeting. Motion to approve-Kathy, Second Andy. Minutes from special meeting to be reviewed for next meeting.
- Treasurers report: Kathy shared current financial info. Cash: $3150. Jan/Feb expense: $1795.
- Correspondence: Ed reported that Todd has resigned his position as Beach Manager, but is waiting for official resignation letter. Group to discuss filling position.

  -Ed asked if members would think about ways to get word out

  -Kathy handed out *Sandy Beach Handbook* to all and called attention to particular pages for members to review, re: Job descriptions, suggested committees, monthly schedule, etc.

  -Lauren suggests we break into committees to handle the upcoming tasks which include writing and placing help wanted posts, reviewing and contacting past staff, etc.

  Ed to reach out to Todd to gather SB stuff in his possession including info on website, social media, etc. and to follow up on emptying Cabin.

  -Kathy to begin prep for 2026 season: order stickers/passes. Kathy makes motion to keep prices the same as 2025 for all categories of passes and kayak and canoe rental program. Terry second. All in favor.

  Kathy moves to continue the "free first responders program", Lauren second. All in favor.

  -Corinne suggests the group meets in two weeks for "special meeting" to finalize hiring plans and create committees and sub- committees.
- Old Business
  - Sign approval-Ed to check with Todd on status.
  - Roof repair update-no update.
  - Paddle group update-tabled-will keep on agenda for future action.
  - 2026 events calendar-tabled- will keep on agenda for future action.

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- New Business: Members met with Selectmen Denise (Litchfield) and Tom (Morris) to request additional town funding. We asked for an additional 20 k total (2/3 from Litchfield, 1/3 from Morris). Litchfield will include as budget request 2026. Kathy to create written request to Morris and forward to Tom W. Current funding level is not sustainable. We have not had an increase in municipal funding in -we don't know when. (20 years?)
  Denise recommends we apply to Seherr-Thoss for funding of specific projects (for example- new tractor/mower). Tom M got two quotes for mowers. Will need storage for new mower so will include that in grant app and need new front gate and will use grant app for that too. Corinne has one quote, will need another.

- Beach Manager's Update: none
- Other-date for special meeting set -March 5, 6p at Bantam Annex. Members are asked to review handbook and make suggestions or comments and bring to special meeting. Create lists of what needs to be done in advance of season opening: hire (advertise, outreach) beach manager, staff, facility clean up, etc.

Future Agenda items:

2026 events calendar

Playroom rules -can be hand written poster if necessary.

Shade at beach/Trees at beach-include in grant app?

BLSC Ski Show contract to be done in March.

Ed thanked everyone for attending the meeting and encouraged 100% participation going forward as we look to replace Todd. Kathy thanked Todd for his years of service and the improvements made to the beach. All members support the sentiment. Todd will be missed.

- Adjourn : 7:18 PM (Terry moved, Tom second)

-Jennifer Parsons, co-secretary

Next meeting: Special Meeting, March 5, 6pm, Bantam Annex
Regular March meeting: March 19 Location, TBD