



TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING

Monday, April 25, 2022 @ 6:00 p.m.

The Kure Beach Town Council held its regular meeting on Monday, April 25, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. The Town Attorney was present and there was a quorum of Council members present.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT

Mayor Craig Bloszinsky
MPT Allen Oliver
Commissioner John Ellen
Commissioner David Heglar
Commissioner Dennis Panicali

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT

STAFF PRESENT

Police Chief – Mike Bowden
Fire Chief – Ed Kennedy
Recreation Director – Nikki Keely
Building Inspector – John Batson
Town Clerk – Mandy Sanders
Deputy Town Clerk – Beth Chase

Mayor Bloszinsky called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and Commissioner Ellen gave the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

1. Accept Edward White resignation from the Shoreline Access and Beach Protection Committee
2. Accept Garner Von Cannon resignation from the Bike/Ped Committee
3. Appoint Don Campbell to the Shoreline Access and Beach Protection Committee
4. Approve Budget Amendment 22-10 totaling \$13,389 for an increase to the hourly pay rate for lifeguards
5. Minutes:
 - March 21, 2022 Regular
 - March 28, 2022 Budget #1
 - March 28, 2022 Closed Session
 - April 8, 2022 Budget #2

MOTION- Commissioner Heglar made a motion approve the consent agenda as presented

SECOND- MPT Oliver

VOTE- Unanimous



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ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

MOTION- MPT Oliver made a motion to approve the agenda as presented

SECOND- Commissioner Heglar

VOTE- Unanimous

PUBLIC COMMENTS

1. Mark Dirks, resident at 341 Fort Fisher Boulevard read his comments regarding dogs on the beach and the letter is hereby incorporated into the minutes.
2. Retha Deaton, resident at 749 Settlers Lane, commented she is here tonight to also speak about dogs on the beach and was wondering what made the Town a non-friendly dog beach? What were the concerns from the Town? She would like the Town to consider following the rules Carolina Beach currently has in place for dogs on the beach.
3. Dawn Valois, resident at 437 Fourth Ave S, read her comments regarding dogs on the beach and the letter is hereby incorporated into the minutes.
4. Jill Milloy, resident at 301 Atlantic Avenue, read her comments regarding dogs on the beach and the letter is hereby incorporated into the minutes.
5. Charles Newell, resident at 301 Atlantic Avenue, stated he supports all the thoughts and ideas that were presented tonight. He moved to Kure Beach because he loves the community. He has met so many new friends through the walks on the beach with his dog and it use to be the highlight of his day. He has not been to the beach since March 31st because it is unfair to his dog and he thinks it is reasonable for the Town to allow early morning and evening hours for dogs on the beach. He asks the Town Council to consider a change.
6. Brian Platt, resident at 813 Catch Court, stated dogs on the beach are good for business, public health, and good for the community as he has met so many new people through his dog. He has not been to the beach since March.



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PRESENTATIONS

1. Gerald Hall, Safety Officer - Cape Fear Sail & Power Squadron

- Proclamation 22-02 National Safe Boating Week

Gerald Hall stated:

- Thank you to Kure Beach for doing this proclamation and bringing attention to boat safety for the citizens
- 80% of boating related accidents are caused by drownings with 86% of those individuals not wearing a life jacket
- There are plenty of resources for safe boating in New Hanover County and organizations willing to help citizens understand the safety precautions

MOTION- Commissioner Ellen made a motion to approve Proclamation 22-02 National Safe Boating Week

SECOND- Commissioner Heglar

VOTE- Unanimous

DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF COMMITTEE BUSINESS

1. Bike Ped Committee

MPT Oliver stated:

- Since the last Council meeting, the Committee held the Traffic Garden event for bicyclists and had a good turnout with 28 kids and 30 volunteers
- The Committee received a lot of donations for the event this year and are looking at ways to improve the event for next year
- This past week the NC Representative for the East Coast Greenway came to Kure Beach and was very impressed with the Town

2. Board of Adjustment

- Interview John McMains as an alternate member of Board of Adjustment

Commissioner Heglar asked Applicant McMains what is his understanding of the Boards job?

Applicant John McMains answered if there is an issue with a zoning situation or a permit issue it would come before the board before being taken to court. He has lived here for 7 years now and loves Kure Beach the way it is. He is okay with certain changes but wants to preserve the feel of Kure Beach.



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MOTION- Commissioner Heglar made a motion to appoint John McMains as a full member as an alternate member of the Board of Adjustment

SECOND- Commissioner Ellen

VOTE- Unanimous

3. Shoreline Access and Beach Protection

Commissioner Panicali commented he has stepped down as the Chairperson for this Committee and the new Chair is Ann Hughes and the Co-Chair is Pat Triplett.

4. Stormwater Oversight Committee

Commissioner Heglar commented the Committee did not meet last month. The Committee is working with the Town Attorney regarding permits transfers for HOAs.

DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF DEPARTMENT HEAD BUSINESS

1. Administration

- Continued Discussion of Remote Participation

Town Clerk Sanders stated:

- Requesting to eliminate remote participation for Public Information Sessions, Workshops and Legislative/Public Hearing
- She spends the majority of the meeting trying to get everyone to speak into the microphone or responding to text and email messages for those that cannot hear that are on the Teams meeting link or call
- To conform with the ADA requirements, Staff would add a statement to meeting notices if a special accommodation is needed
- Last month Mayor Pro Tem Oliver brought up Committee meetings which the Committees currently use Zoom for their meetings
- There have been issues with the Zoom meetings as sometimes the meeting do not get started or it is not monitored, and the citizens don't get admitted

Attorney Eldridge stated remote participation is only allowed under the State of Emergency otherwise it will not be authorized. PZC and HPC do have remote participation polices and the meeting is more tightly controlled under this policy. He will bring forward a remote participation policy to the May Town Council meeting for Committees and Town Council.

- Kure Beach First Baptist Church Open House Parking Request



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Town Clerk Sanders stated Kure Beach First Baptist is having an Open House on May 1st from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. Their 10:30 a.m. service will be celebrating the Town's 75th anniversary. Afterwards they are inviting Town officials, residents, and guests to their Welcome Center for refreshments and snacks. They are having a book signing by the author of the book about Kure Beach and hope to display Kure Beach historical memorabilia provided by the Federal Point Historical Center. They are requesting an extension of free parking that day until 3:00 p.m.

MOTION- MPT Oliver made a motion to approve the Kure Beach First Baptist Church parking request to approve extending the free parking till 3:00 p.m. in front of the church

SECOND- Commissioner Heglar

VOTE- Unanimous

2. Building Inspections Department

Building Inspector Batson commented:

- The Completion date for beach nourishment is currently May 15th and the contractor has applied for an extension with Fish and Wildlife
- It will take 7-10 working days after the completion date for the removal equipment from the beach strand and the beach planting will happen afterwards
- The lifeguard station slab has been poured today and the framers will start on the walls tomorrow
- The roofer is being scheduled and hopefully the lifeguards will be moved in by next month
- The Beach mat variance request has been submitted and the Town Attorney will be attending the hearing

3. Public Works Department

Commissioner Heglar commented the final permit has been received for the sewer lagoon at the end of H Avenue.

4. Recreation Department

Recreation Director Keely commented

- The 75th Anniversary Celebration will conclude this weekend with the Big Band Bash on Friday night, the Street Festival will be held on Saturday and the Boogie in the Park starts Sunday
- She has not received the official request but did hear about a film project with the proposed date being before the next Council meeting on May 18th



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- It is Hightown Season 3 and both the scenes will be on private property but will have public property impacts
- She will send Town Council the information as soon as she receives the formal request

DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF OLD BUSINESS

None.

DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF NEW BUSINESS

1. Schedule the Public Hurricane Information Sessions

Commissioner Heglar stated does Friday, May 20, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. and Saturday, May 21, 2022 at 12:00 p.m. work for Staff?

Town Clerk Sanders commented the Town Hall is having the carpet cleaned that weekend, so Town Hall is unavailable.

Commissioner Heglar stated he will hold the sessions at the Fire Department.

CONSENSUS- Commissioner Heglar will hold the Hurricane Information Sessions on Friday, May 20, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. and Saturday, May 21, 2022 at 12:00 p.m. at the Fire Department

2. Carolina Beach/Kure Beach Sewer Authority update and adoption of rates for fiscal year 2023

Commissioner Heglar stated MPT Oliver and himself met with the Regional Sewer Authority for the plant on Dow Road. The plant services both Kure Beach and Carolina Beach and the Town owns 26% of it. The Town will be receiving a refund from Carolina Beach in the amount of \$45,577.37.

MOTION- Commissioner Heglar made a motion to adopt the Carolina Beach/Kure Beach Sewer Authority rates for Fiscal year 2023 as presented

SECOND- MPT Oliver

VOTE- Unanimous

3. Request to Apply for Encroachment Agreements

MPT Oliver commented a few members of the Bike/Ped Committee, Adrienne Harrington, and himself met with members of NCDOT to discuss the process of moving forward with our plans identified in the Bicycle Pedestrian Master Plan and the CRRSAA Grant. The Committee found



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out that Encroachment agreements for any improvements and the Town is responsible for any improvements made. He is requesting Council approve the following areas for Encroachment Agreements for the following areas at Highway 421 and M Avenue for a Flashing Cross Walk Signal. Highway 421 and K Avenue for improvement to the intersection and Highway 421 and Surfrider Court/Circle for a painted crosswalk. He met with Jeff Hawkins of Ocean Dunes HOA about a request for a crosswalk in the area of Ocean Dunes. After looking at the Crosswalk Guidelines the best place to request a crossing would be at Surfrider Court/Circle.

CONSENSUS- Town Council agreed for the Bike/Ped Committee to proceed with the Encroachment Agreements for Highway 421 and M Avenue for a Flashing Cross Walk Signal. Highway 421 and K Avenue for improvement to the intersection and Highway 421 and Surfrider Court/Circle for a painted crosswalk.

4. Discussion of the Fire Department joining the HGAC (Houston Galveston Area Council)

Fire Chief Kennedy stated he has sent Town Council the information on joining the HGAC organization. The process is simple but would need to designate an individual identified as the Authorized Official. He spoke with Finance Officer Copenhaver and he said he would be the designee for the Town. There is no cost or obligation to the Town. He would have Attorney Eldridge review the contract before signing.

MOTION- Commissioner Heglar made a motion to authorize Finance Officer Copenhaver as the designee and approve the Fire Department joining the HGAC once the Town Attorney has reviewed the contract

SECOND- Commissioner Ellen

VOTE- Unanimous

5. Purchase of Shirts for Bike Pedestrian Committee

MPT Oliver stated the Bike/Ped Committee has been doing a lot of public engagement and discussed the Town buying t-shirts with the Town logo. He was hoping to have an estimate, but the Committee has not picked the exact shirts yet. He is looking for Town Council approval to purchase since the Committee has the funds in the budget.

Town Clerk Sanders commented once the Town does this for one Committee then Staff will receive the request from other Committees. If it is approved tonight would like a guideline for how much each Committee can spend.

Commissioner Panicali commented the members change frequently.



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Commissioner Ellen asked would the Committee members purchase their own shirt?

MPT Oliver commented the Committee has not discussed them purchasing the shirts.

Mayor Bloszinsky commented he is concerned that 50 t-shirts for all Committee members would be expensive.

Town Clerk Sanders commented she would like to create a process for ordering the shirts, so everyone is taken care of without spending too much. The Town could possibly buy shirts that have volunteer on the t-shirt with the committee name and that would cut down on the cost.

Commissioner Heglar stated the Town Council has to approve the use of the logo. Town Council currently controls the logo so need to give Staff guidance.

MPT Oliver commented he will take this information back to the Committee and will speak with the members.

MAYOR UPDATES

None.

COMMISSIONER ITEMS

Commissioner Ellen commented the WMPO will be meeting at the airport this Wednesday to receive a tour at the new facilities. He was also appointed late last week to the NC League of Municipalities Executive Board.

Commissioner Heglar commented it is now April and storm season is approaching. Citizens should review their insurance policy and finalize storm plans.

CLOSED SESSION

None.



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ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Bloszinsky adjourned the meeting at 7:35 p.m.

ATTEST: Mandy Sanders, Town Clerk

Craig Bloszinsky, Mayor

NOTE: These are action minutes reflecting items considered and actions taken by Council. These minutes are not a transcript of the meeting. A recording of the meeting is available on the town's website under [government>agendas&minutes](#)

Dogs on the Beach (Long Version w/ recommendations)

Hello, My name is Mark Dirks and I am a resident of Kure Beach.

I'm here to make a formal request that you consider modifying Kure Beach ordinance 9.04.030 to allow dogs on the beach after 5pm and before 9am between April 1 and Sept 30. The current ordinance looks like it has been in place in the "Kure Beach Code of Ordinances" since 1998. The penalty 9.04.050 states a fine of \$150 for the first offense, with the second offense being a misdemeanor citation, but I believe this may have been reduced.

I'm not here to complain and put it on you to fix something. I'm just bringing my observations, some logic and some ideas for you to consider, as a full-time resident that cares about Kure Beach.

1. **The world has changed.** ASPCA (American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals) states that about 23 million homes acquired a pet during COVID. There are many other articles regarding this surge. Many people travel with their pets now.
2. **Tourism.** The current rule does not maximize the support of tourism, esp being a family beach, the growth of pet ownership, and also the general acceptance of pets in our everyday activities.
3. **Residents.** More importantly, it doesn't consider the impact on Kure Beach residents that own pets.
4. **Enforcement** of the ordinance is not good at all. The only people who really adhere to the rules seem to be residents. I have heard accounts that when officers do issue citations, they are primarily to residents, while letting visitors go. You really can't have rules that you can't or won't enforce.
5. **Signage** is not good. There are 5 separate signs at the public access next to my house and the larger one is composed of 7 smaller signs. No one reads the signs and the rules regarding dogs on the beach are buried in all the words on the signs. An in fact, the sign is not about being dog-friendly, but a dog with a slash through it.

Rules are created to drive behavior, right? So I believe it would be prudent for the Council to first ask, "what is the purpose of this ordinance?" "What are we trying to accomplish?"

1. Maybe it's to prevent dog waste on the beach or concerns about owners picking up after their dogs?
 - If so, you should know that more people pick up after their dogs than those who don't.
 - I see a lot more litter on the beach, but we don't ban people from using the beach.
2. Maybe it's because some people/children are scared of dogs?
 - If all dogs are on leashes, per the existing ordinance, then this shouldn't be a problem.
3. Maybe it's to protect the dogs and keep them out of the heat?
 - The vast majority of dog owners know not to take their dogs in extreme heat.
4. Maybe it's something else, but these seem to be the big 3 reasons. In all 3 of these cases, the majority do the right thing. So I urge you to address the objectives under this ordinance more directly, rather than penalize the majority.
5. Even with the current ordinance, I can tell you that ...
 - I see a steady stream of dogs going down the public walkway year-round, regardless of the season.
 - I see the vast majority of dog owners picking up after their dogs.
 - I see very little enforcement. In fact, last year, dogs were sitting with their owner right near the lifeguard stand and an officer drove by multiple times. We finally stopped him and pointed it out, but all he did was talk with the owners for a while, then drive off. The dogs stayed. No

citation. They weren't service dogs. So what do I do, as a resident, when I see this... follow the rules, while other seemingly don't have to?

- While the dog areas are good, it's a fallacy to see them as an acceptable alternative for the beach because all of the same issues I stated still exist. In fact, it might be worse because people have no choice but to walk their dogs around neighborhoods.

I brought some recommendations for you to consider.

1. Modify the Restriction.

- Allow dogs on the beach between Apr 1 and Sep 30 at least BEFORE 9am and AFTER 5pm.
- Continue to restrict them from the beach from 9am to 5pm.
- In fact, I would encourage you to be really bold – Set Kure Beach apart by simply allowing dogs year-round on Kure Beach... anytime! It's doable, by focusing on
 - i. Communicating and educating dog owners, setting behavior expectations (rather than restrictions)
 - ii. Identifying the real problem and penalizing the actual offenders directly

2. Change the Mindset and Emphasis.

- Make Kure Beach about being dog-friendly. Make it a positive thing, especially given the family orientation, the growth in dog ownership and the additional revenue it can produce.
- Ask dog owners to help make this work.
- Maybe put together a committee to manage this effort.
- Heck, we talk about being family-friendly, eco-friendly, bike-friendly, pedestrian friendly... well just friendly 😊... we can be dog friendly too!

3. Enforcement.

- "If the lifeguard is in the chair, dogs can't be there." This keeps it simple. If a lifeguard sees a dog between 9 and 5, they notify an officer.
- Or, if you are bold enough to go year-round, patrol more, ask the Adopt-A-Beach program to help and report back.

4. Modify Signage.

- Hire a designer, marketing person and/or content writer to update all the signs to make the various messaging more concise and visible.
- As you know, the internet has made it such that people only digest small bits of information, so at a minimum, signs need to be updated accordingly.
- Better yet, eliminate much of the signage in lieu of natural beauty... and hype a specific web page with all the rules for people to access via their mobile device. This is how parking is done now. Plus the rules will be much easier, and certainly more cost effective, to modify if/when changes are needed.

5. Waste bags.

- You provide waste bags at the dog areas and some parking areas, but not at the beach accesses. Why?
- Dogs are on the beach all the time (trust me) and I assume you want it to be as clean as the dog areas, right?
- Most dog owners carry bags with them, but it would be good to reinforce this at public accesses with messaging.
- It's a great place to set expectations and shape desired behavior.

6. Tags/leashes?

- This is more of an idea - a revenue opportunity for the town.
- Just like parking, you could require the purchase of a tag for each dog, with options to buy it for a week, a month, Apr-Sep, or the year. I would recommend using a different fluorescent color each year.
- It would achieve 3 things:
 - i. force dog owners to read and acknowledge the rules before getting the tag for beach access for animals, and
 - ii. make it easy for lifeguards and officers to determine that dogs/owner know the rules as well.
 - iii. Create a line of communication to dog owners (via email, social media, SMS, etc.)

7. Start Now. Why wait?

- This is easy to implement.
- People are coming out of a pandemic, and this will be a nice, easy “give” to residents and visitors.
- Signs can be changed as time permits.

8. Notification.

- Make this a big deal, a huge positive change for KB
- Communicate this to all the property management companies, the CVB and any other travel-related websites/organizations. It will be GREAT PR and positive visibility for Kure Beach, while also driving everyone to update all the outdated information regarding dogs on the beach.
- There is a great opportunity to build a social media campaign around this as well.

9. Other language to add to revised ordinance

- You must have on your person at all times, a plastic or paper container that can be used to clean up and contain dog waste until it can be disposed of in an appropriate container.
- Change the fine to \$100

Let's update this 24-year-old ordinance to 2020 standards and at least bring it current with other beaches that compete for tourists.

Current ordinance:

It shall be unlawful for any person to have or allow their dog to be upon the beach strand of Kure Beach during the period of April 1 through September 30 of each year.

Proposed updated ordinance:

Kure Beach is a dog-friendly community. Special dog areas have been established off the beach for year-round use; while dogs are allowed on the beach year-round, with limited access due to heat and crowds from May thru September (August?). It shall be unlawful for any person to have or allow their dog to be upon the beach strand of Kure Beach during the period of May 1 through September 30 of each year between the hours of 9am and 5pm.

Jill Milloy

First I'll bore you with a few facts that I find pertinent

- Per the most recent info on-line - more than a 1/3 of Kure Beach residents are seniors
- That's a really important point regarding town accessibility and old knees-research shows sand is much easier on the joints and you can walk longer with less pain-true for me!
- Only about 40 of the vacation rental properties allow pets
- Dog ownership correlates with improved mental and physical health. Healthy citizens contribute positively to the community
- And the crux of this conversation – 12 of the 14 nearby beaches allow dogs for some hours in the summer-and none of them have reversed their decision

Now from my heart

- We have loved walking our beloved Holmes for the past 6 months on the beach
- We've made tons of friends while on the beach because of him-dog owners are Kure's best welcoming party to the community
- Suddenly, and we knew it was coming, we can no longer go on our beach for the next 6 months – knowing it was coming and actually experiencing it have turned out to be two very different things as you probably know from your own life experiences
- Corny as it sounds, a cloud has come over the beach
- If you're not a dog lover, I hope you'll be generous in spirit and try to scratch your head and understand
- If you're a dog lover, I hope I'm speaking your language
- We have not stepped foot on the beach in front of our house since 3/31 – of course we can – but it now feels awful, the joy is gone, this is something we did with our family - which includes our dog

- I apologize, it's not a perfect analogy, give me a bit of leeway - it's as if you were suddenly told you could no longer take your kids or grandkids to the beach with you FOR THE NEXT 6 MONTHS
- That's when I scratch **my** head – why not?

So here's what's happening for us – repeatedly over the past month

Last Friday – a gorgeous beach day – we're looking at KB – barely a handful of people out front. But we pack up the car, the dog, the cabana, the chairs, etc. schlep our way to Fort Fisher, climb through the rocks and sit jam packed. It's beautiful, but we have bought and paid to live and beach in KB. Yesterday, same experience. Sitting on the porch, dying to go for a walk and just couldn't once again pack up everything and schlep to FF. I'm too old for this and I CAN'T DO THIS FOR 6 MONTHS! I live in KB.

So we are asking please allow dogs limited access to the beach – morning and late afternoon

Give it a try and here are a few suggestions to make it successful:
More dog clean-up stations at the end of the crossovers on the beach side (you've been very generous with them near the beautiful pavilion)
Fine the heck out of offenders

In closing, I sort of feel like what others MIGHT do, MIGHT DO is impacting my privileges at KB. Here's my best analogy.

In 1st grade I went to Catholic school, with nuns. If one kid broke a rule we all suffered. We all missed RECESS! We sat in our darkened classroom for 20 minutes, not talking, heads on desk.

I'm certainly not saying that we are NOW being punished – but we are impacted by WHAT OTHERS MIGHT DO. It sure doesn't feel good. I DIDN'T UNDERSTAND IT in FIRST GRADE AND I DON'T UNDERSTAND IT NOW. Thank you.

**Proposal for change to municipal code 9.04.030, Dogs on Beach
Address at council meeting of 4/25/2022**

Introduction:

I am asking the council on behalf of a group of petition signers to consider a change to municipal code 9.04.030, Dogs on Beach. I have been warned that this is a "tough sell," so I ask above all for open minds and thorough consideration.

Argument:

I propose a change from the ordinance's six month complete ban of dogs on the beach to allowing limited early and late hours that leashed dogs can be on the beach. For example, dogs could be allowed until 9am and then again at 5pm during the season. I propose this change on the argument that the current ordinance is excessively and unnecessarily restrictive.

Counter-arguments and rebuttal:

Arguments against dogs on the beach center around worries that owners will not pick up after their dogs, dogs will disrupt wildlife, or dogs will be a nuisance to people. The crowded state of the beach is a factor, and how to enforce rules is often brought up.

But the idea is not to allow dogs a day at the beach frolicking among the crowds, but rather to allow dog owners to include the beach in routine walks if done in the morning and/or evening hours when the beach is not crowded. And owners are already required by law to keep their dogs under control on leash and to pick up and dispose of waste when off of their own property. Some people break these rules, just like some drive over the speed limit or sneak alcohol on the beach, but problems are very minimal, and there is no reason to assume dog owners will be less responsible in the summer. In fact, many resident dog walkers on the beach actually leave the beach cleaner by picking up not only after their dog, but any trash seen left about. We care as much as anyone else about keeping the beach pristine.

If we are worried about the added dogs of visitors and the possible increase in problems related to that, maybe make this a resident only privilege

Enforcement of a change would be no more difficult than enforcement of any of the town's existing rules.

Point 1:

Being forbidden from including the beach on daily walks for half of the year feels excessively and unnecessarily restrictive. For comparison: many people enjoy surf fishing. Are their lines a nuisance in crowds? Some say so. Do they ever leave cigarette butts or fishing line - materials that can take decades or centuries to biodegrade? Some do. Do we think a six month fishing ban during the season is warranted then, or is that excessively and unnecessarily restrictive? I think so.

Completely banning dogs on the beach for half of every year rather than just limiting the hours is excessively and unnecessarily restrictive to resident dog owners who value beach walks as much as fishermen value their past-time.

Point 2:

Kure Beach is one of only two beach towns in the region with this level of restriction. Beach towns of Brunswick, Pender, and Carteret counties allow at least limited hours for dogs on the beach during the

season. Carolina Beach allows dogs before 9am and after 5pm during the season. Only Wrightsville Beach has as restrictive of a dog ordinance, but they also ban smoking.

Possible less restrictive options:

Consistency with Carolina Beach (prior to 9 am and after 5 pm) is the simplest solution, but there are many options that Kure Beach could consider that would be less restrictive than the current ordinance:

- limit it to different hours than prior to 9 am and after 5 pm
- make it a residents only privilege requiring registration of resident dogs/owners who would like limited access to the beach. Registration process could include expectations and consequences for not following leash and clean up laws
- sell a permit for residents only with the registration. Use funds for any new signage, doggie bag stations, or other needs.
- offer visitors the opportunity to buy a temporary permit to access the beach during vacation. Sale of the permit could include expectations and consequences for not following leash and clean up laws. Use funds for any new signage, doggie bag stations, or other needs.
- shorten the complete ban to just Memorial Day through Labor Day, with limited morning and evening hours allowed in April, May, and September. It shortens the complete restriction to half of the time it currently is.

Conclusion:

Please give this the careful consideration it deserves. Gauge public opinion as you see fit and whatever the outcome, your service to the town is appreciated.

Thank you for your time.

Dawn Valois
437 Fourth Ave S