

VILLAGE OF OCEAN BEACH ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

_Meeting Minutes
February 18, 2025, 6:30 p.m.
Via Zoom

Present: Beth Jacobwitz, Camille Guigliano, David Lipsky, Emily Wicks, Sage Block, Lisa Lowe, and Joe DiFrancisco

Absent: Dylan Fried

1. **Minutes.** Update January 28, 2025 minutes per email from BJ received on February 18, 2025.
2. **Budget.** Briefly discussed putting snow fencing as a line item under VOBEC budget or Public Works budget

Action: JD to talk to Linda about a separate line item within public works budget.

3. **Membership.** Agreed that DL and LL will share responsibility of Secretary as outlined in the December 22, 2024 meeting minutes.

3. **Membership Requirements.** Dylan has not attended meetings or responded to the various documents. BJ to send email to Dylan asking him to resign. EW indicated that Griffen Pollock had expressed interest in being a member.

Action: EW to reach out to Griffen to see if he is still interested.

4. **Website Transition.** SB and EW indicated that the new website was registered under the wrong address.

Action: EW to reach out to WIX to determine how to correct.

5. **Newsletter.** Agreed that the next topic would cover “things to keep in mind for spring opening” and that the newsletter could include the upcoming plant swap and chipping.

Action: Articles:

- EW/BJ – things to keep in mind when opening your home
- DJ/LL – lights out for spring migration / don't touch baby deer/avian flu

6. **LWRP.** No response received yet from the Board of Trustees (BOT) to letter sent by VOBEC in 2024 on status of LWRP update. Indicated to JD that the requirement to update is no longer part of the regulation but that the plan is out of date.

7. **Beach Management.** DL has been working and has a list of questions for JD to send to Kevin Schelling (KS). Discussed whether dune fencing should be part of the VOBEC budget. Agreed that it needs to be a line item as it is important that sufficient funding is available to repair, even in the off seasons.

8. **Natural Resource Inventory.** Status – same.

Action: SW to continue exploring with the Sierra Club.

9. **Climate Smart Community.** BJ download information to assist in preparing presentation to the BOT. If the VOB agrees to pass a resolution and to register, it can help the VOB to obtain grants.

10. **Community Composting.** CG indicated that we still need to know best location and how to buy in from the BOT. JD suggested looking at areas near the water tower. DL to check on whether there are any regulatory requirements for a small community composting site/facility.

Actions: Meet with KS in the spring to look at locations.

11. **Recycling Containers.**

Actions: Agreed on draft email provided by SG. SG to send memo to Chamber of Commerce (CoC)

12. **Instagram Account.** Those who reviewed stated that it looked good, but that we need to provide content. Initial content could include information about the plant swap and the potential brush chipping event, as well as some of our existing content. Discussed whether other content would need to be approved.

Action: EW and SG to upload content.

13. **Plant Swap/Brush Day:** Agreed to hold on May 18, 2025 and to try to hold the brush chipping event at the same time. Agreed to order the Long Island package of trees/scrubs from NYSDEC. Check with Ian Levine to see if he can bring plants to sell and also if he can bring the trees that we gave him last year (he hasn't sold any).

Action: DL will order the plants, which will be sent to BJ.

JD to check with KS on how the Village rents chippers.

14. **Oyster Shell Recycling Program Kick Off.** CG will liaise with Maureen Dunn for the kick off with the restaurants. CG and SG discussed meeting with the restaurants and maybe asking Maureen to come over and do a presentation for them.

15. **Banners:** EW and SG provided several examples.

Actions: EW to order three banners (3 at approximately \$100 each).

16. **Tabled items:** 1) Enforcement of tree legislation, 2) Dune Day, and 3) NYSACC email.

17. **Next Meeting.** March 20, 2025, 7:00 PM via Zoom.

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa Lowe & David Lipsky