

**TOWN OF SOUTH BETHANY
LEADERSHIP AND COMMITTEE REPORTS
FOR MAY 11, 2018, TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING**

LEADERSHIP REPORTS

- **Mayor's Report**—Submitted by Mayor Voveris:

Here is an update since my last report early April.

April 25 Attended an evening function sponsored by the Inland Bays Foundation (IBF) to honor Chris Bason of the Center for Inland Bays (CIB). Chris has worked tirelessly with diligence on environmental issues, and it was an honor for me and Mayor Pro Tem Tim Shaw to be included in this acknowledgement of Chris. Our Town has benefitted from the advice and partnering with Chris and the CIB to improve water quality with projects to reduce nutrients coming into our canals such as retrofits and Floating wetland/oyster islands.

April 27 Met with fellow Mayors from Lewes, Rehoboth and Bethany Beach, the Town Manager from Henlopen Acres, and retired DNREC Administrator Tony Pratt to discuss retaining Tony to help the Association of Coastal Towns (ACT) in pursuit of initiatives for coastal towns from Lewes to Fenwick Island. Currently dredging our coastal recreational waterways is at the forefront of discussion.

Met with Town Manager Maureen Hartman and Verizon representative Bonnie Metz to better understand the proposed small cell installation to enhance reception in our Town and on our beach. There is much misinformation floating around regarding this equipment and from pictures I have seen the installation appears to not be visibly intrusive.

April 30 Attended a meeting on Beach Replenishment at the DNREC center in Lewes with Town Manager Maureen Hartman and Mayor Pro Tem Tim Shaw to stay informed on the upcoming schedule and planned activity. Weekly meetings will be held until the Beach Replenishment reaches completion. South Bethany is scheduled for mid-June through early July. Beach grass is scheduled to be planted between October 2018 and March 2019.

May 03 A celebration for the National Day of Prayer was held at Town Hall. This year marked the 67th observance of National Day of Prayer, and the theme was “unity,” which we certainly need to achieve the best in any endeavor and working together. Our own Carolyn Marcello has organized this annual event for the last 6 years. She is an inspiration to all with her dedication to faith and devotion to Town. Thank you, Carolyn for your steadfast prayers for our Town, our staff, our Council to focus on unity and betterment of South Bethany.

May 7 The bid opening for the repurposing project for our Police Department building was held at Town Hall at 2:00 pm. The opening was attended by Town Manager Hartman, Chief Crowson, and Administrative Assistant Pam Smith. One bid was received for \$63,500 with three different alternates at additional costs. Alternate 1, \$3,464 for all new kitchen cabinets; Alternate 2, \$2,510 for new carpet in various areas; and Alternate 3, \$4,783 for new vinyl flooring in various areas. Chief Crowson and Town Manager Hartman will provide the recommendation from the architect at the May 11 Council Meeting.

May 11 This Council meeting is an important one. There will be an Executive Session with Attorney Pete Fratarelli to determine release of reports by consultants CPSM and Dr. Warren that evaluated our Police Department operation, structure, and policies. There also will be an opportunity for candidates running in our May 26 Election to introduce themselves. In addition, there will be an opportunity to hear retired DNREC Administrator Tony Pratt who is seeking to help the towns from Lewes to Fenwick Island in efforts through ACT (Association

of Coastal Towns) to pursue initiatives for coastal town betterment. The critical topic now is dredging of our recreational waterways. Tony believes that he can help South Bethany in our pursuit of canal dredging.

May 18 The next meeting of ACT is scheduled for 10:00 am.

I am sorry to report the sudden passing of fellow Mayor Dave Lyons from Henlopen Acres. Dave was dedicated to betterment of Henlopen Acres and a staunch supporter of ACT. He will be missed by many.

Thank you.

During Leadership reporting Mayor Voveris announced our Chief Crowson recently received an award from the FBI-LEEDA (Law Enforcement Executive Association) for completing a program of 3 leadership courses: supervisory class, command class, and executive class. Chief Crowson is the first Chief in the history of South Bethany to do so. All applauded the Chief and the Mayor congratulated him.

- **Town Manager's Report**—Submitted by Maureen Hartman:
 - April 6, I attended an ACT meeting with Mayor Voveris and Councilman Shaw.
 - Attended a BBVFC meeting with Mayor Voveris at Town Hall.
 - Participated in the contractors pre-bid meeting on April 10 for the renovations to the police building.
 - Job interviews for the part-time admin position in the police department with Mayor Voveris and Chief Crowson on April 10 and April 12.
 - Attended a DFIT board of trustees meeting for workers comp on April 11.
 - Attended a Women in Local Government (WLG) meeting on April 11.
 - Along with Mayor Voveris and Councilman Shaw, I attended the SCAT Legislative meeting at the Cheer Center on April 13.
 - Met with Councilwoman Callaway and Don Chrobot on April 16 to discuss the new exercise station area adjacent to Town Hall.
 - Councilwoman Stevenson and I met with Dave Daharsh and Jim Costello, partners with Jay Vending. Jay Vending is the new concessionaire for South Bethany this year. They are looking forward to their relationship with the Town.
 - On April 19, I spent the day with other managers and elected officials at Legislative Hall. We had a personal meeting with the Lieutenant Governor and a brief meeting with the Governor. We then went to session with the Senate and Representatives.
 - Met with the maintenance department for a pre-season meeting on April 24.
 - On April 24, Renee McDorman and I met with the Town's liability insurance representative to go over the renewal of insurance. A memo was provided to the mayor and council regarding our meeting.
 - Staff meeting on April 26 to discuss election procedures and miscellaneous pre-season preparations. Janet and I continue to prepare for election day.

MAY REMINDER

Town Council Regular Meeting	May 11, 2018
Town Council Workshop	May 24, 2018
Election Day, 9 am to 3 pm	May 26, 2018
Town Hall Offices Closed	May 28, 2018

- **Police Department Report**—Submitted by Chief Troy Crowson:

New Administrative Assistant

The South Bethany Police Department welcomed Mrs. Coleen Meyer on April 29, 2018. She came to Delaware last summer from New Jersey. She was previously employed at Rutgers University for 20 years. Mrs. Meyer will be in the office Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday from 9 am to 3 pm and Wednesday from 8 am to 2 pm. If you see her be sure to say hello and give her a warm welcome!

Seasonal Officer

The department also hired our Seasonal Parking Officer, Taylor Bare. He will be joining us on May 15, 2018.

Farewell

The department is sorry to see Cpl. Mark Burton leave. Cpl. Burton accepted a position with the Ocean View Police Department. His last official day with us was April 26, 2018. Cpl. Burton exceeded the expectations of the South Bethany Police Department during his 6 years with us. He was dedicated to helping those not only in the community but his colleagues as well. Cpl. Burton will be sorely missed.

Office of Highway Safety Click It or Ticket Enforcement

Office of Highway Safety, the South Bethany Police Department will be participating in the “Click It or Ticket Enforcement Mobilization” from May 14th through May 28th. The 2018 performance target regarding occupant protection as stated in the Office of Highway Safety’s Highway Safety Plan includes: decreasing calendar year unrestrained crashes so that the unrestrained passenger vehicle occupant fatalities has a five year (2014-2018) average of 28, increase five year seat belt use rate from 90% to 91%.

Office of Highway Safety Pedestrian/Enforcement

Office of Highway Safety, the South Bethany Police Department will be participating in the “Pedestrian Outreach Enforcement” from June 5th through June 19th. Delaware has had the highest pedestrian fatality rate in the country 4 out of the last 5 years, totaling 150. Pedestrian fatal crashes tend to occur at night, on high speed multi-lane roadways. Pedestrians are often under the influence and determined to be at fault of the crash. The most common ages hit are 10-24 years old.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- **Charter and Code Committee** – Submitted by John Fields, Chair:

The Charter and Code Committee has drafted two ordinances, 191-18 and 192-18. These ordinances amend Chapter 104 and Chapter 114 to remove the requirement that annual notices sent to property owners are sent only by first class mail and to modify notification procedures.

These ordinances had a first reading on April 13, 2018. No changes were made at the first reading. A second reading was made at a workshop on April 26, 2018. There were no changes at this reading. A third and final reading is scheduled on May 11, 2018, at a regular Council meeting.

- **Communications and Public Relations Committee** – Submitted by Councilmember Stevenson:

The Committee will meet next on Friday, May 11 at 2pm to discuss final plans for summer activities. The Subcommittee for the Independence Day Float met on Tuesday May 8th at 10am in the Town Hall. Plans for the float were made and duties assigned. The next float meeting will be held on May 22 at 10 am. All are welcome to attend.

Margaret Oliver and Linda Whitney attended the SCAOR (Sussex County Association of Realtors) kick off meeting in Lewes on May 8th. They will report to the Committee on Friday, May 11th. They will present the group with our current Materials for Real Estate Outreach to both Realtors and the Community.

Summer activities have been added to a South Bethany Summer Fun Calendar. The SBPOA will host a Decorated Boat Parade on Sunday, July 2nd. The Annual Band Concert at Town Hall on July 3rd. Our Town Beach Vendor will set up a stand for refreshments at the performance. Two movies will be held, one on July 11, and the last one on Saturday August 11th. The August 11th event will feature a hot dog picnic and games prior to the movie. An entry in the Bethany Beach Independence Day Parade will also be part of the summer activities. All activities will be posted on the Town Bulletin Boards, on the Website and Facebook page as well as a Summer Fun Calendar which Residents may pick up at Town Hall.

The Committee will continue our very popular summer boot camp program and yoga offerings on the beach. Yoga will be held Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday at 8am and Wednesday at 6pm. Boot Camp will continue on Tuesday and Saturday mornings at 7:30am. Both volunteers who teach these classes are South Bethany Residents. Sites of all activities on the beach will be adjusted to accommodate the upcoming beach replenishment project. Signage directing participants to alternate sites has been developed. Email updates advertising the Summer Programs will begin on May 15th.

- **Community Enhancement Committee** – Submitted by Councilmember Callaway:

Earth Day Clean-Up Project

The 2018 CEC's annual Earth Day recognition project focused on cleaning up the area surrounding the forthcoming South Bethany Fitness Area. Members present included: Sue Callaway, Chair; Donna Farrow; Bobbe Stephan; Kent Stephan; Carol Stevenson; Garnet Timbario; Pat Weisgerber; and Don Chrobot and Jon Stiffler, Public Works. The group worked for nearly 2 hours on clearing out the wooded area and its efforts successfully led to a remarkable change. Carol Stevenson organized a lunch for the group prior to beginning the CEC meeting. Thanks to all for making it such a great team effort.



Update from Department of Public Works

Public Works is busy landscaping throughout town including planting new plants, trimming and laying mulch. Lantana and other plants have been planted in the Welcome Areas. In preparation for the summer season, Public Works is working on Ocean Drive, York Beach Mall, the median and walkway beds. The CEC continues to focus on encouraging positive property maintenance via Community Enhancement flyers such as the new *Power Wash* flyer and understanding and discussing, in collaboration with Code Enforcement, how to best address property maintenance.

Update on the Proposed South Bethany Fitness Area

The ground has been prepped and appropriate environmental mulch has been ordered as planned; the 5 pieces of equipment and corresponding signs and frames have been ordered; the Welcome Sign is being developed by Signarama that includes language used per the town's insurance company; as noted before the town has received a "Certificate of Investment" from the DE Parks Department that will allow us to use FY18 and FY19 Fitness expenses as a match for a future grant; Sue Callaway and Maureen Hartman are preparing a Letter of Intent to apply for a future grant for additional fitness equipment by May 18; a "SB Fitness Area Coming Soon" article appears in the May *Zephyr*; and Mel and Kim Royster, our resident boot camp instructors, have agreed to attend the Grand Opening of the Fitness Area to encourage proper use of the equipment (*DATE TBD*).

Discussion of Photography Exhibit Details and Logistics

The congratulations letter has been sent to selected photographers and 20 will appear in the Exhibit. Participants have expressed enthusiasm about exhibiting. The Exhibit flyer is in the *Zephyr* and a weekly Email News Update will be sent out during May and June. The Indoor and Outdoor Exhibit signs that will be hung during the Exhibit are prepared. Reminder: Opening Night is Saturday, June 9, 2018 from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm.

Update on Adopt-A-Canal Program

Our 35th adopted canal end is the New Castle Road End and the CEC met with the new adopters in April to discuss a potential design plan. The dates have been set for the Adopt Contest beginning Friday, June 29 to Friday, July 20th. An announcement about the forthcoming Adopt Contest is in the *Zephyr*.

Next Meeting

The CEC will be involved with activities and logistics for the Photography Exhibit and the opening of the Fitness area in May and June.