

Beaches Working Group
Conference Room A, Kittery Town Hall
4 pm Wednesday, July 21, 2021

Minutes

- I. Present: Michael Blackman, Ed Golden, Mike Murphy, Drika Overton, Melissa Paly (Kittery Land Trust), Denise Payne (Parks Commission), Judy Spiller, Todd Thayer, Town Manager Amaral, Fire Chief O'Brien, Police Chief Richter, ACO Walsh
- II. Introductions
- III. Discussion about Town Council Charge to address fires and propose a policy at Seapoint/Crescent Beach. It was noted that there is a tradition of campfires/bonfires there though in the last year or so the number has increased significantly and with it, late hours noise, trash and private property trespass.
- IV. Chief O'Brien explained that State law allows campfires without permit, and Chief Richter mentioned some of the challenges of enforcement at Seapoint/Crescent: time to walk the beach, late at night with limited police staffing, etc.
- V. The committee discussed how to approach the issue and concluded that collecting information on how surrounding communities regulate, if at all, fires on public properties was the first step. It was agreed that we should also look at Duxbury and Plymouth and other locations such as lakes as well as have the Town Manager reach out to her network. Todd, Mike, and Denise volunteered.
- VI. It was agreed to try to meet again in two weeks, and the Town Manager will end out a poll to determine availability