

BONNET SHORES DISTRICT MANAGER

MONTHLY REPORT

January 2021

I am pleased to provide the following report for your review.

1. Administration –

- A. Trash “Issues” – As I believe you are aware there have been ongoing issues relative to trash removal in Bonnet. I continue to routinely get complaints from residents about missed pick-ups of trash and/or recycling totes. I have also had to contact Patriot on more than one occasion because the CC dumpster had not been emptied weekly as scheduled. Patriot merged with “Mega Disposal” and I was advised that the issues we have experienced were a result of this merger combined with staffing issues related to the pandemic. While management has been apologetic and cooperative, I share this because we may need to take further action as this is becoming a weekly issue that I need to address.

- B. Little Beach Grant Application - I wanted to advise the council that I have been working on a grant application from the Rhode Island Interlocal for a “safety grant”. I am planning to apply for funding to have the stairs/ramp at Little Beach repaired. If successful, we would receive \$1,000 to go toward the repair of the existing stairs/ramp. The plan would be to have the area graded and stairs and/or a ramp built at the end of the existing stairs. (see photo attached).

- C. Billing/Payments – I’m happy to report that at the recommendation of Paul, I recently purchased a scanner for the office which is already proving to be very effective in helping to process bill payments. I am now able to scan bills as soon as they are received and forward them to Rose for payment. Not only does this speed up the time it was taking to physically get the bills and then bring them to Rose’s office but it also makes it more efficient in how bills are electronically stored for future reference. Rose has indicated this new “system” works well for her so it seems as though we have taken a big step forward!

- D. Misc. “Complaints” – There seems to be an increase in the number and frequency of complaints I have received over the last few months. Everything from trash (both non pick-up as well as broken/damaged totes), noise, vandalism, overgrown trees, alarms, parking, etc. it seems that there are more complaints than there have been in the past. I don’t know if this is related to the fact that more people are home due to the pandemic or due to “other” factors within Bonnet, but I wanted to bring this to your attention in the event we need to increase security patrols. I have spoken to Janice about these matters (as “Security” council liaison). I will of course continue to handle the complaints and issues as they arise and will keep you advised of any significant issues accordingly.

- E. Zoom “Issues” – We have had some problems with the Zoom account recently. The password for the account would not work and had to be changed. In addition, we were unable to share recordings of past meetings for some reason. I believe both issues have been resolved but should have any problems or questions please let me know and I will look into it further for you.
- F. District Manager Reports – I just wanted to advise those who may not be aware that I have begun sending copies of my monthly reports to Joe and have asked him to place them on the website under the “District Manager” tab (thanks Joe!). I decided to do this in an effort to better keep residents informed as to the “goings on” in the district. If you have any concerns relative to my doing so, please feel free to let me know.

2. Programs –

- A. Summer Camp – I know it’s only January and there are still a lot of unknowns relative to the pandemic, but I wanted to “plant the seed” that we will need to start thinking about summer soon and in particular, the Summer Camp program. I usually start planning, ordering, scheduling, hiring etc. for the program in the next month or so but with the current situation I’m not sure if we will be able to safely have the program or not this summer. As I said, I know there are still a lot of unknowns right now but I would just ask that you start to think about it as it takes time to make all arrangements so we will need to think about it in the near future.

3. Facilities –

- A. Kelly Beach – As you are probably aware, we have had a few storms and rough surf over the past several months which have closed the “channel” and resulted in flooding of the causeway. Bob Barber and Phil Smith have both been brought in to open the channel when necessary, including as recently as **last night** when Phil opened the channel after it closed on Monday. I continue to monitor the situation on a daily basis and have done all that can be done to deal with the flooding but unless a more long term, BIG dollar situation can be achieved, this will be a constant issue.
- B. Little Beach – At Janice’s request, I assisted with the drafting of the information to be sent to local landscapers to obtain prices for seaweed removal at Little Beach. Upon finalizing of the document, I was asked to contact all landscapers in the South County area to obtain their contact info and forward the request for quotes. I obtained the contact info and subsequently sent the document out to 19 potential vendors. As of today (Wednesday 1/20) I have not received any responses. The deadline to submit quotes is Friday (1/22) so this could change. I will advise accordingly.

C. Community Center

1. Field Damage – We had an “incident” whereby a young man decided to drive onto the field at the Community Center and do “donuts” resulting in damage to the field. I am happy to report that the NEW SECURITY CAMERA system worked perfectly and I was able to obtain video footage of the vehicle as it was doing the damage! I contacted the police who were able to locate the young man who subsequently admitted to doing the damage. I have since spoken to him and has indicated he will take responsibility for all costs related to repair. We agreed that nothing can be done until the spring. I will stay on top of this and advise accordingly. So it looks like the security system has already paid for itself!

2. Rentals/Usage - I have been asked about a couple of dates for rental of the Community Center for the coming summer. I have advised all that we are not taking reservations at this time due to the pandemic and that they should check back in the coming weeks. I believe until things get better and more is known with regard to the pandemic that it would not be safe to allow the building to be used for rentals. I have also been asked about use by some of the “Bonnet regulars” (i.e. Card groups, etc.) and have advised them of the same. I think we have to continue to observe “social distancing” and also keep in mind that the building would need to be cleaned and sanitized after every use which would not be practical right now. If any council members have concerns or questions relative to this, please let me know.

I think this report covers the more pertinent matters of the district. Should you have any questions or concerns, please let me know. Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa DiBello, District Manager
Bonnet Shores Fire District

