

City knocks down scarp, requests broader area

By JACK FICHTER
Cape May Star and Wave

toward Poverty Beach.

During a meeting of the Beach Safety Committee on July 23, Public Works Superintendent Joe Picard reported a scarp, or cliff of sand, developed on the beach. On Monday, workers back-

passed Baltimore Avenue to Philadelphia Avenue with machinery. He said about 2,700 feet of beach was addressed involving 900 cubic yards of sand. Additional back-passing was scheduled Tuesday for Queen, Howard and Grant street beaches and Broadway Beach.

Picard said he contacted the state Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) concerning scarping between Baltimore and Wilmington avenues but left the area untouched. That section of beach has been host to nesting piping plovers in the past. He said he did not receive a return phone call from the DEP.

In March, the city received a letter from the state Division of Fish and Wildlife indicating the restriction could be waived if it were determined

the identified areas do not represent suitable nesting habitat for endangered shorebirds.

In other business, Dr. Andrea McCoy, chief medical officer at Cape Regional Medical Center, reported 16 victims of surf zone injuries have visited the emergency room from Cape May since Memorial Day. The injuries included fractures, lacerations and dislocations. She said there were no spinal injuries among the 16 people treated in the emergency room.

McCoy said she was working with Cape Regional's urgent care centers for an easy method for them to report surf zone injuries.

Deputy City Manager Jerry Inderwies Jr. said he monitored Cape May Beach Patrol activity July 22 when there were multiple rescues. He said two of the rescues utilized 11 lifeguards and another nine lifeguards involved.

"It was a tough day and they handled it well," Inderwies said.

Committee Chairman Dennis DeSatnick suggested investigating the Sea Grant program for funding assistance to compile data on how Cape May's beaches change year to year. The Sea Grant program is operated by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and 33 university-based programs in every coastal and Great Lakes state.

He said sand migrates from the Coast Guard beach and Poverty Beach to the Cove Beach.

"I think it is probably the largest buildup we've ever seen," DeSatnick said. "By

the end of the season, if we have a storm coming from the southwest or southeast, that could change again."

Students from Lower Cape May Regional High School could assist in measuring the beach, he said. The information would be presented to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers at a future meeting.

Cape May is scheduled for beach replenishment beginning in January. DeSatnick said he had hoped to get the beach template changed before the next sand replenishment.

"I don't think we've reached that point where we are able to present information we feel is valid to go ahead with what we think should be done," DeSatnick said.

According to DeSatnick, the Joint Insurance Fund, which covers Cape May, is requiring the city to post signs with international symbols. He said during the winter, the city would determine where the signs would be placed on the beach.

"We'll have to separate the ordinance signs and the

safety signs, he said.

Cape May Fire Department Lt. Ed Zebrowski said the U.S. Lifesaving Association has a sign committee that has produced sign designs that meet international standards.

Committee member Kate Wyatt said beach safety signs should be placed at the very last point of departure onto the sand. Inderwies said the most strategic location is where beach tag inspectors have their chairs.

"People wait in line, they have to be stopped by the beach tag inspector and it will give them pause," he said.

The committee discussed recent news stories of beachgoers impaled by umbrellas blowing down the beach. An umbrella post impaled a woman in the chest in Ocean City, Md., over the weekend. Earlier in the month, a woman in Seaside Heights had her ankle impaled by an umbrella post.

Zebrowski said lifeguards are aware of the dangers of umbrellas on the beach and the issue would need to be addressed by Beach Patrol Capt. Geoff Rife.

TIDES : July 25-Aug. 1, 2018

DATE	HIGH		LOW	
	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.
25	7:13	7:33	1:04	12:56
26	7:56	8:13	1:47	1:37
27	8:36	8:51	2:27	2:16
28	9:15	9:28	3:04	2:54
29	9:52	10:04	3:40	3:32
30	10:29	10:39	4:15	4:09
31	11:05	11:14	4:49	4:47
1	11:41	11:51	5:23	5:29

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Prosecutor's Office warns of countywide check scam

CAPE MAY COURT HOUSE — Cape May County Prosecutor Jeffrey H. Sutherland is advising the public of a recent fraudulent check scam in the area.

In July, Prosecutor's Office detectives and members of municipal police departments received complaints of people attempting to cash

fraudulent checks from legitimate business accounts.

Multiple vendors have received fraudulent checks from unknown individuals in an attempt to purchase items they are selling. These checks are written for a sum larger than the amount requested for the item and tend to be written from a large business or municipal account.

Sutherland advises extreme caution when conducting all business transactions. He suggests businesses routinely check their operating accounts for any transactions that appear to be fraudulent. Furthermore, he would like to warn vendors to practice caution when receiving checks from sources who would not normally purchase an item they are selling.

He urges anyone who has information concerning this investigation or any illegal activity within the community to contact the Prosecutor's Office at (609) 465-1135.

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