



The Town of Fenwick Island

800 Coastal Highway, Fenwick Island, DE 19944-4409

302-539-3011 ~ 302-539-1305 fax

www.fenwickisland.delaware.gov

BEACH COMMITTEE MEETING

August 1, 2025, at 9:30 a.m.

Town Hall

Minutes

Members Present: Jacque Napolitano (Zoom), Kelly Rymer, Jody Hayden (Zoom), Melanie Pauley (Zoom), Anne Hodges (Zoom)

Others Present: Erin Ellinger. Mike Locke

Welcome

1. Approve minutes of June 6, 2025, meeting

Motion: to approve the minutes of the June 6, 2025, meeting.

Moved by: Kelly Rymer

Seconded by: Melanie Pauley

Result: Motion passed unanimously.

2. Bonfire Event: July 5th Review

- The committee and Public Works Department were commended for their outstanding work setting up and constructing the lifeguard stand.
- Appreciation was expressed to the Police Department, lifeguards, Town Council, and Administrative staff for their support and participation.
- The event was well attended and raised approximately \$15,500.

Pros and Cons / Recommendations:

- XL-size t-shirts were the most popular; it was recommended to increase the order of Large and XL shirts by 15 each next year.
- There was a request to include smaller-sized t-shirts for children.
- Melanie suggested incorporating America's 250th anniversary into next year's event.
- It was recommended that the stencil wording be updated to: "*Annual Bonfire Tonight – Bayard Street, 7–10 PM.*"
- Additional supplies were needed; bid sheets were difficult to locate, and some items stored in the Public Works area were missed.
- Two additional tables will be requested from Town Council for future use.
- Fire pit placement and wind direction should be carefully considered.
- Firewood should be covered to keep it dry and reduce smoke.
- Minimum bids should be clearly stated on the bid sheets—in the first line—to ensure visibility.
- Beach Committee funds will be used to purchase a competition board at a cost of \$2,500.



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- A \$6,000 shed was approved and will be installed on Essex Street for Jr. Lifeguard and competition equipment. The smaller existing shed will be transferred to the Police Department, with a \$250 relocation fee. Additionally, funds were approved to run electricity to the Bayard Street shed, at an estimated cost of \$4,000.
- A banner is not needed, as the event already attracts strong attendance.
- A master spreadsheet of business contacts should be created to streamline future donation outreach efforts.
- Jody suggested implementing a minimum bid increment policy.
- It was recommended to photograph auction baskets before wrapping them for promotion on the website and social media.
- Glow sticks ran out; more should be ordered for future events.
- The donation deadline may be moved up by one week, although this may present challenges for some committee members. This will be discussed further in future meetings.
- Sky Brady should be booked early, as he performed well and received positive feedback.
- The 2026 Bonfire is scheduled for **July 3**, with a rain date of **July 5**.
- Some photos were missing tags; attention to this detail was advised.
- Late donations should be stored and used the following year.
- It was suggested to explore offering Venmo as a donation/payment option, pending discussion with the Finance Department.
- An issue with iPads automatically going to sleep was resolved.
- Jacque is actively recruiting new committee members and encouraged everyone to assist in identifying interested individuals. Applications will be available in September.

3. Movie Nights:

- The next scheduled movie night is **August 15**, featuring *Up*.
- A request was made to add a *Classic Movie Night* to the lineup.
- Barton's charges are approximately \$800 per showing, and the licensing fee is \$450—both covered by the Town budget. It was recommended that Council determine how many movie nights should be approved moving forward.
- Due to strong community interest, it was suggested to continue with the three summer family movies and hold the classic movie in early September.

4. Old Business- None

5. New Business-

- Jacque asked if public works could paint over the street names on the animal street signs as the current white tape is peeling off.
- It was decided that lunch will be provided for the guards in August. Jacque will coordinate with Capt. Ryk as to when and where this will be best.



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6. Public participation

None

Next meeting 9/5/25 @ 9:30

Adjourn

Motion: to adjourn the meeting

Moved by: Kelly Rymer

Seconded by: Anne Hodges

Result: Motion passed unanimously.