



# City of Corpus Christi

1201 Leopard Street  
Corpus Christi, TX 78401  
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## Meeting Minutes - Final

### Watershore and Beach Advisory Committee

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Thursday, January 4, 2024

5:30 PM

6th Floor Conference Room, City Hall

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#### A. Call To Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:33 pm.

#### B. Roll Call

**Present:** 7 - Armon D. Alex, David Zill, Larisa A. Ford, Scott Lawson, Kathryn Hyatt, Harrison A. McNeil, and Philip Blackmar

**Excused:** 1 - Ruben Macias

#### C. Public Comment

There was no one from the public that wanted to speak. There were several City people in attendance and so each person in attendance introduced themselves, including the WBAC members.

Cliff Schlabach, the representative from BMAC did want to speak. Cliff wanted to relay that several visitors to the beach are upset with the Kite board surfers. The kite boarders are being reckless, they are endangering other visitors. Cliff wants to bring this problem back to WBAC, it has been discussed in the past, but it needs to be revisited before something happens.

#### D. Approval of Minutes and Action on Absences

The minutes from the December 7, 2023 were approved. Scott made the first motion and Larisa made the second. The minutes were unanimously approved.

#### E. Committee Reports

##### 1. [23-2039](#) PRAC Report - Howard Schauer

Howard reported that at the last PRAC meeting they discussed, in detail, the Holly Trail

project. Scott asked if there was anymore discussion regarding the smoking ban and Howard reported that City Council did not want to address the issue.

2. [23-2040](#) BMAC Report - Cliff Schlabach

Cliff reported that there is not much going on at BMAC. They did get an application from the City for an additional beach access road just south of Port Royal. Cliff discussed the issue of the sand dune with regards to this access road, he is looking forward to more on this application. Philip wanted to know if WBAC members could look at the application. Cliff didn't think that through BMAC he could, but since it's a City application (public work project) we should be able to get a copy.

3. [23-1761](#) ISAC Report

Harrison reported that ISAC did not meet; they didn't have quorum. He did relay that the lifeguard resolution was presented to City Council with the backing of ISAC & WBAC. Harrison noted that there will be some issues that ISAC will be looking at that we will be interested in, like the mobility study, the shoreline erosion plan and Commodore master park plan.

**F. Staff Reports**

Darren started his report by giving the committee the numbers from Beach Rescue for 2023, regarding general contacts, preventables, drownings, and welfare checks. The major increases was in general contacts, they went up by 13,000, and the preventables were also up by 13,000. There was 1 drowning in 2023 and welfare checks were 121. Darren talked about jellyfish stings, how they come in waves, every other year there seems to be an abundance of them.

Darren explained that the philosophy has changed at Beach Rescue; they are now proactive instead of reactive! Armon wanted to know if there was some way to acknowledge the guards and Darren said he is planning to during Beach Safety week. Darren reported that permits sales were up this year by 14,000 (this includes Port A and the County) and that the 2024 permits have been distributed to the vendors. Howard wanted an update regarding the disable veteran's permits and he was told that Beach Operations has given some permit to the Park and Recreation department located on the second floor of the Bayview Towers building and working on participating in the Veteran's round table. Darren passed out photos of the work being done on the beach, the dredging, it's working!

**G. Unfinished Business**

4. [23-1599](#) Sand and Shorelines

The subcommittee did not meet and had decided that they would wait for the new members of WBAC to be appointed, in particular the candidate from the Blucher Institute. That position did not get filled.

**H. New Business for Discussion and Possible Action**

5. [23-2038](#) Update from Tyler Florence and/or Sergio Gonzalez regarding the CEPRA grant

Tyler reported that the study application for the Bayfront Erosion Control project has been selected for priority consideration by the GLO. The award amount would be about 1.3 million for phase 1. Tyler will be meeting with the GLO in January with the initial scoping of the project. Once this is completed, it would be 3 to 6 months before contract execution. This project will focus on Oleander Point, Ropes Park and Poenisch Park. Harrison asked that WBAC be updated periodically about this project.

**I. Future Agenda Items**

Review the 2024 goals.

**J. Adjournment**

As there was no further business the meeting was adjourned at 6:11 PM.