

214 Garfield Parkway
P.O. Box 109
Bethany Beach, DE 19930



A special thank you is offered to all of those individuals who contributed to this issue of the Bethany Beach Newsletter!



Town of
Bethany Beach

One of the
Quiet Resorts

We welcome your comments and suggestions. Feel free to contact us either by telephone (539-8011) or email (admin@townofbethanybeach.com).

John "Jack" Walsh, Mayor

Carol A. Olmstead, Vice-Mayor

Tony McClenny, Secretary/Treasurer

Wayne A. Fuller, Council member

Lew Killmer, Council member

Harold A. Steele, Council member

Jerry Dorfman, Council member

Clifford M. Graviet, Town Manager

Ralph J. Mitchell, Public Safety Director



TOWN OF BETHANY BEACH

BETHANY BEACH NEWS - JULY 2006

Special points of interest:

Hurricane Preparedness Information — See Page 2

Hurricane Workshop Scheduled — See Page 3

Recent Building Height Changes — See Page 8



From the Mayor's Office

Hello! Hope all of you are having a great summer and enjoying all that Bethany Beach has to offer during the summer season!

I'm glad we have delayed our newsletter until the summer months because that makes our feature in this newsletter, Hurricane Readiness, much more relevant. Our Public Safety Director, Ralph Mitchell, has put together a great narrative on storm preparedness for Bethany Beach and has also arranged to have a public workshop on storm preparedness on August 12th at 1pm in Town Hall. This Workshop will feature presenters from the Delaware Emergency Management Agency, the National Weather Service and Town Officials. Please plan on attending and learning what you can do to prepare for the upcoming hurricane season!

As many of you know the completion of our bandstand was delayed because of construction problems, but we have been able to have performances on the bandstand even though it is not entirely complete since late June. There are still a few minor touches that need to be done to complete the bandstand and we hope the majority of these will be done by August 1st.

Fourth of July this year saw another great Parade and a special thanks to Phil Rossi and his hearty band of volunteers for another job well done!!! Unfortunately the Fourth saw our fireworks display rained out. The lack of width on our beach forces us to have the fireworks shot from a barge and any number of weather events can result in the show being canceled. The expense of keeping the barge and tug available for a later date is extremely expensive so we are forced to cancel our show and do not schedule a rain date. Our fireworks displays are entirely funded at tax payer expense.

Please don't forget to mark Saturday, September 2nd on your calendar and visit our open house here at Town Hall. Town Hall will be open between 11Am and 3PM. All of our Town offices and our Police Department will be open and staffed and we will be serving light refreshments throughout the day. Come meet our staff and tour our facility.

I hope you all can agree our beautification efforts have reached new heights. The recent addition of Melinda Linde to our staff as Horticulture Supervisor has seen a dramatic change in our plantings and the condition of our open space. I hope you all agree with me,

Bethany Beach has never looked better!

Hats off to Melinda!

Please take some time to read our newsletter. There is much new about Bethany Beach and it will help all enjoy a better understanding of what is happening in our beautiful community. Of some note in this news letter is a detailed explanation about recent changes in roof height in our R 1 building area. This is a complicated issue and I think this article and the attached diagram clearly explains what the new changes entail.

Hope you all enjoy the rest of your summer and I look forward to seeing you at our open house in the fall.

Sincerely,

Jack Walsh
Mayor of Bethany Beach

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PRSRST STD
U.S. Postage
PAID
MAIL MOVERS

“HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS”



A more active than normal hurricane season has once again been predicted for the 2006 Hurricane Season, which runs from June 1 through November 30. At least (2) major storms have been predicted to strike the Delmarva Peninsula.

Hurricane preparedness and readiness is not only the responsibility of local government and officials but for homeowners, residents and tourists as well. Being prepared, aware, planning, and ready for an approaching hurricane are the keys to survival.

Several years have passed without our local area having suffered a major blow from a hurricane or even our typical north-east (Nor'easter) storms, the last major event occurring in March, 1962.

Unfortunately, this has created a degree of complacency. As Katrina approached the Gulf Coast complacency and the lack of being prepared cost hundreds of lives. Mother Nature has been kind to us, we have been very fortunate, but laws of average tell us that some day, some time, our luck will run out.

A common sense approach should be followed in order to become "Hurricane Ready". Every home should have a "Hurricane Survival Kit" and enough bottled water (1 gallon per day per person) for 14 days. (You should never ignore an evacuation order because you have a Hurricane Survival Kit)

The list of contents for a good quality Hurricane Survival Kit is basic, but extensive. A battery powered radio and flashlights with extra batteries, a First Aid Kit, enough non-perishable foods for 3 days per person, both prescription and non-prescription drugs, cash, tools and supplies, sanitation supplies, clothing and bedding, baby necessities, entertainment, and important family documents. There are several websites on-line where Hurricane Survival Kits can also be purchased.

Before the storm, plan and prepare. Listen to local radio, TV, or NOAA Weather Radio Stations and know the location and predicted track of a storm. Clear your yard of all loose objects, move boats to safe harbor. Know the potential for flooding where you live. Remember, the greatest loss of life involving a hurricane is a result of storm surge and flooding, not winds. Much of the incorporated area of Bethany Beach can potentially flood.

Fill your vehicle with gas, know designated evacuation routes and where shelters are located. Once the Sussex County Emergency Operations Center is activated you can obtain a list of open shelters by calling 302-856-7366 or the Bethany Beach Police Department at 302-539-1000. If you plan or are ordered to evacuate inform family and friends where you will be sheltered. At the time of this release there are no "pet friendly" shelters in Sussex County. Call local kennels or veterinarians to learn where you can shelter your pets during an evacuation.

From the Bethany Beach area there are (2) evacuation routes, RT. 1 north-bound and RT. 26 west-bound. Both routes are subject to flooding and possible closure. Evacuees should leave early, well before the on-set of the storm.

Once officials make a decision to evacuate the Town of Bethany Beach Hurricane Emergency Plan will be activated. The plan has the Town divided into sectors. The Bethany Beach Police Department, and if needed assisted by the Bethany Beach Fire Department, will make door to door notifications within those sectors. Residents will be provided with written information ordering the evacuation as well as shelter and evacuation route information. The Town's automated phone system "City Watch" will also be used to call every resident within our limits.

It is important to know the difference between a Hurricane "Watch" and a Hurricane "Warning". A "Watch" means our area could experience a storm or hurricane within 36 hours. A "Watch" should trigger your family's disaster plan and protective measures should be initiated. Sussex County's PRIMARY EMERGENCY ALERTING SYSTEM (EAS) STATION is WZBH, 93.5 FM. Delaware's TRAFFIC ADVISORY RADIO STATION is WTMC 1380 AM.

A Hurricane "Warning" is issued when sustained winds of at least 74 MPH are expected within 24 hours. Once this warning has been issued, your family should be in the process of completing your family disaster plan and decide the safest location to be during the storm. Rule of Thumb,avoid procrastination, take action, do not wait until the last minute. If you are ordered to evacuate, obey immediately! Turn off water, gas, and electricity prior to leaving. Also, take proper identification with you as it may be necessary to produce identification in order to re-enter the area following the emergency.

It is important to know that if you are urged to evacuate and you fail to do so there will potentially be several hours during the

Beach Patrol Report *(Continued)*

the beach. Lifeguards are trained to recognize rip currents and will come into the water to assist those in need. Of our 181 water rescues this summer 143 have been rip current related (79%). Rips range in size and strength and can suck out even the strongest swimmers. For your safety, be aware of the conditions that day and pay attention to the directions of the lifeguards.

The Bethany Beach lifeguards look forward to seeing you and serving you throughout the rest of the summer. If you ever need assistance on the beach just look to one of our outstanding lifeguards.

Enjoy!



Beach Replenishment Report

Following a pattern that has been established over the past several years, the proposed federal budget for FY 2007 did not include adequate funding to restore and protect beaches across the country. The \$46 million proposed for shore protection projects in FY 2007 is 64% lower than what Congress enacted for the current fiscal year.

The recently-passed House Energy and Water Appropriations bill did not fund the Bethany-South Bethany shore protection project. However, the Senate Appropriations Committee passed its version of the bill two weeks ago and proposed \$3 million for the Bethany-South Bethany project.

A final version of the bill will need to be negotiated between the House and Senate over the next several months. During this time, lawmakers will be making critical decisions about the funding level for the Bethany-South Bethany project. Differences between the House and the Senate will need to be resolved before the bill can be sent to the President and signed into law.

This project was authorized for construction by Congress in 1999. Since that time, federal and state officials have been obtaining necessary easements, preparing the project's designs, and finalizing other necessary engineering components in advance of construction. The remaining obstacle is the availability of federal funds. Once officials have the required amount of funding, a contract will be awarded to place sand on the beach and enhance the level of storm protection for the area.

It is important that residents and visitors continue to voice their support for this shore protection project to their members of Congress. Visit <http://capviz.com/mandcmp/go/Delaware07> to send a message to your Senators and Representatives today!

Update from the Cultural and Historic Affairs Committee

Submitted by:

Carol Olmstead, Chair of Committee

On June 3rd, the Cultural and Historic Affairs Committee hosted the 2nd Seaside Craft Show on the boardwalk which this year included a hundred crafters. Although spirits were bright, the day started off cloudy and by early afternoon brought rain which just wouldn't quit. However, the vast majority of both crafters and shoppers were undaunted and the day was counted a success regardless.

The evening events held in Town Hall earlier this year were again very well attended. In January we jammed to "A Night of New Orleans Jazz" with Don Sharp and the Jazz Pioneers.

In February, Russ McCabe, our Delaware State Archivist spoke on the early history of Sussex County, followed in March by Gordon Wood filling us in on the early days of the Bethany Beach area. For season finale the Nanticoke Indians delighted us with traditional dancing in full dress.

We continue to work on several projects to add to and improve our Bethany Beach Museum. Lynch Industries has completed the installation of the kiosk that in time will make available a file of historical pictures as well as an oral history presentation. Historical documents and pictures will also be able to be viewed in albums that are being prepared by committee members. Historic locations in our town have been identified and plans are in the making for installing bronze markers with the appropriate historic information for each. Our walking trail map will also be updated to include all of these locations.

We bid farewell to Dot White this June as she decided to relocate to Florida to be closer to family. Dot has contributed much during her years in Bethany and will be missed for sure. We are seeking a replacement for her on the committee. If you are interested in helping with our work, please call Town Hall at 537-3771.

Changes to Parking Regulations



Changes in the 2006 parking regulations were established by the Parking Commission and Police Department earlier this year. A few noteworthy modifications deserve mention:

- **Handicap Parking:** drivers of vehicles with handicap tags must pay parking meters. All Handicap spaces have eight-hour meters and are located in strategic spots throughout the downtown area and beach lots. An additional 12 spaces were added to the existing 21 spaces. First time offenders of an Expired Meter will receive a Warning Ticket. Succeeding tickets will be issued as a standard Expired Meter summons with a \$20 fine.
- **Residential Handicap Parking:** an additional 12 spaces (beyond the three existing spots) were created for Bethany Beach Residents (or Renters), which requires **both the Handicap tag and the Bethany Beach Resident Permit...displayed.** The new spaces are located on the east/west Residential Permit streets...first spot on the 100 block, north side of streets beginning at 4th Street and extending south to Maplewood Street (except Garfield). *A total of 48 Handicap parking spaces are now available in Bethany Beach.*
- Ticketing for "No Permits" has been an issue in the past (\$30 fine). In order to protect the residential parking areas, the Bethany Beach Police Department strictly enforces this regu-

lation. However, many drivers "forget" their permit, which then causes administrative problems to accommodate each ticket. The new procedure: if a "No Permit" ticket is issued (\$30 fine), in which the driver is then able to produce a valid Residential Permit, that ticket will be voided, BUT a new ticket will be issued for "No Visible Permit" that carries a fine of \$15.

Post Office and Bank Lot parking: no change, but a restatement of the policy is appropriate, especially for residents. The free spaces at the Post Office are for **Post Office Parking Only**. The Bank Lot has bags on the meters signifying **Bank Lot Parking Only**. Many people, in addition to visiting the Post Office or Bank, decide to complete another errand while parked in these areas and are surprised to find a Parking Ticket. Both Post Office and Bank management are attentive to this situation and may call for an officer, along with the normal patrolling by Parking Enforcement Officers.

The remainder of our regulations is standard law. The most frequent abuses are Expired Meters, parking in prohibited spaces, and blocking the bike lane. Questions or the need for clarification may be addressed via e-mail or telephone call to Bethany Beach Police Department...Parking, or ask any Parking Enforcement Officer on the street.



Report from the Beach Patrol



By: Joe Donnelly
Beach Patrol Captain

Happy summer! So far the summer has gotten off to a safe and enjoyable start. It's great to see all of the familiar faces out on the beach again this year. As you, your family, and your friends look to enjoy the sand and the water throughout the remainder of the summer, please keep in mind some of our safety tips.

Drink plenty of water before and during your visits to the beach.

Use at least SPF 15 sunscreen.

When coming to the beach, stop and look at the rules/regulation signs located at all of the beach entrances.

Swim between the orange flags in front of the lifeguards.

Keep off the rock jetties as they tend to be slippery and full of sharp shells & other debris.

Know the water conditions by viewing the information boards on the back of the lifeguard stands or by asking your nearest lifeguard.

Please be courteous of those around you.

Please keep our beaches clean by throwing out your trash in the cans placed at the beach entrances.

Enjoy the sand and the surf but keep in mind that ocean conditions change regularly and learn to recognize potential dangers. For example, rip currents are currents of water that move away from shore. If you feel that you are caught in a "Rip" swim parallel to the

storm that your calls for assistance will not be answered. **YOU WILL BE ON YOUR OWN!** During the height of the storm rescue crews will take shelter and will not venture out until safe to do so.

The re-entry and recovery phase following a hurricane or major storm is also vitally important and potentially dangerous. Have your identification readily available for re-entering your area. Listen to local radio and TV for public service announcements and wait until your area is declared safe before entering. Confirm re-entry is being allowed by calling the Bethany Beach Police Department. If in a shelter, do not leave until authorities announce it is safe.

Upon returning to your home, avoid loose or dangling wires and report them immediately to the Bethany Beach Police Department. Do not re-enter your home if there is an odor of gas, report broken water or sewer lines to local authorities. Do not drink or prepare food with local tap water until you are certain it is safe to do so.

If your power has been off check refrigerated food for spoilage, do not walk or drive through standing water. Standing water may be electrically charged from underground or downed power lines. Also remember, moving water only 6 inches deep can sweep you off your feet, stay on firm ground. Use common sense in all situations and follow the directions of local authorities. Remember, the key to your survival is to plan, prepare, be aware, and listen to the advice of local authorities.

A listing of local shelters can be found on page 4.

An evacuation map is located on page 5.

The Town of Bethany Beach will conduct a Hurricane Workshop on Saturday, August 12, 2006, at 1:00PM. The Workshop will take place in the Town Council Meeting room in the Municipal Building located at 214 Garfield Parkway, Bethany Beach. Representatives from the National Weather Bureau, Delaware Emergency Management Agency, and the Town of Bethany Beach will conduct the Workshop.

The public is urged to attend.

THE TOWN OF BETHANY BEACH WILL BE HOSTING A HURRICANE WORKSHOP ON SATURDAY, AUGUST 12, 2006, AT 1:00 P.M. IN THE TOWN MEETING ROOM, 214 GARFIELD PARKWAY, BETHANY BEACH, DE.

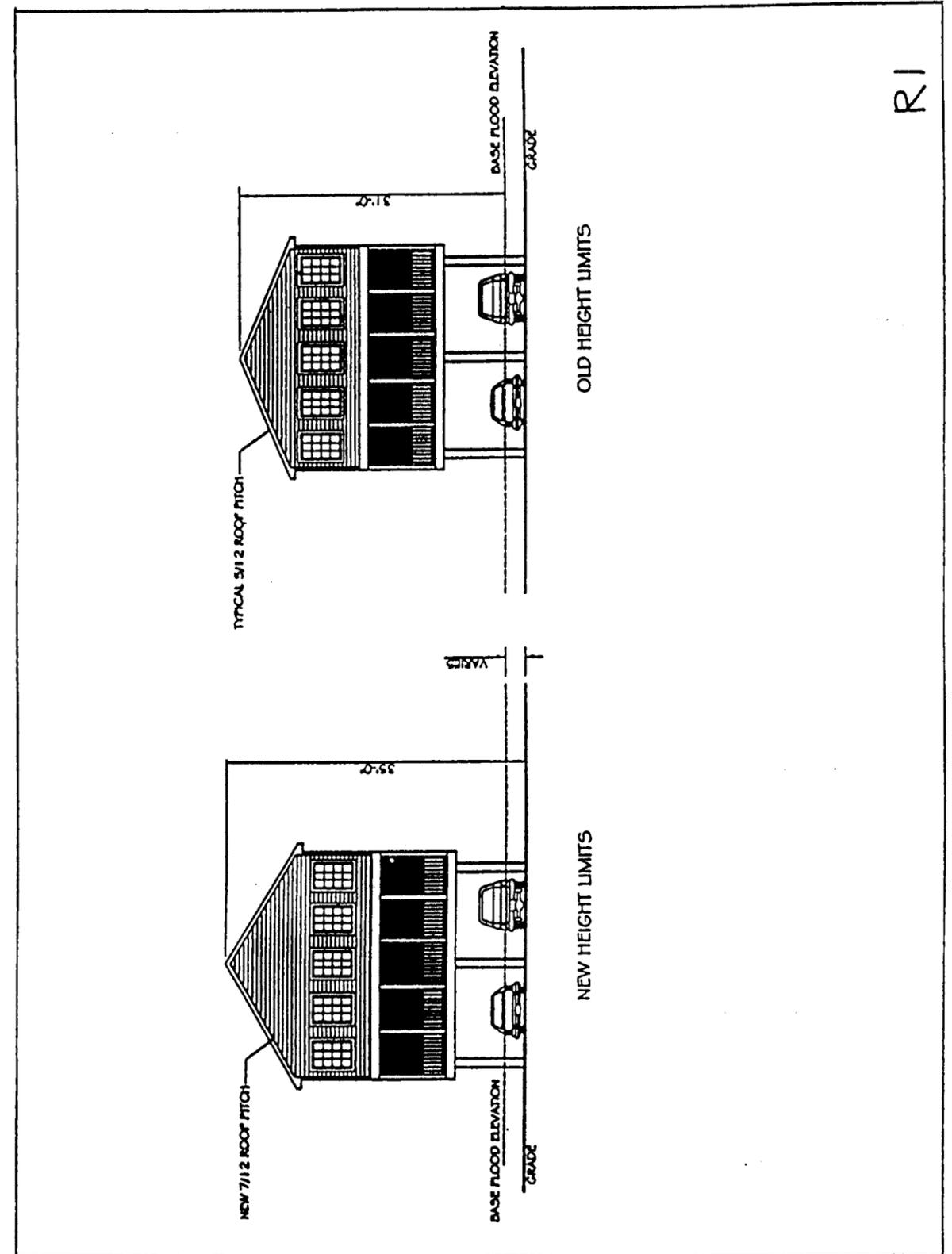
Representatives from the National Weather Bureau, Delaware Emergency Management Agency, and the Town of Bethany Beach will conduct the Workshop.

Please plan on attending this very informative event.



List of Shelters Located in Sussex County, Delaware

Number	Facility Name	Address	Listed Evacuation Capacity
1	Delaware Technical & Community College	Route 18 & 113	350
2	Delmar Jr-Sr High School	300 N 8 th Street	560
3	Douglass Intermediate School	1 Swain Road	315
4	East Millsboro Elementary School	500 E State Street	280
5	Georgetown Elementary School	301 W Market Street	350
6	H.O. Brittingham Elementary School	400 Mulberry Street	280
7	Howard T. Ennis School	Ennis Street (off Route 113)	280
8	Laurel Central Middle School	801 S. Central Avenue	350
9	Mariner Middle School	16391 Harbeson Road Milton, DE 19968	400 estimated
10	Milford High School (Kent County)	1019 N. Walnut Street	500
11	Milton Elementary School	512 federal Street	420
12	North Laurel Elementary School	300 Wilson Street	150
13	Seaford Central Elementary School	1 Delaware Place	350
14	Seaford High School	399 N. Market Street	500
15	Seaford Middle School	500 E. Stein Highway	350
16	Selbyville Middle School	Bethany Road	175
17	Sussex Central High School	301 W Market Street	560
18	Sussex Central Middle School	302 E. State St.,	560
19	Sussex County Vo-Tech School	Route 9 West	350
20	West Laurel Elementary	499 W. 6 th Street	140
21	West Seaford Elementary School	511 Sussex Avenue	350
22	Woodbridge Elementary School	Governors Avenue	280
23	Woodbridge Middle School	120 Edgewood Street	320



Recent building height changes;

a complicated issue that many don't understand.

As Bethany Beach property owners we are aware there has been an increase in property values throughout Bethany Beach in recent years that can only be described as phenomenal. As much as property values have increased throughout Bethany Beach the increase in property values for homes located between the beach-front and State Route 1 has been off the charts. This area and a small portion of Bethany Beach west of State Route 1 and north of State Route 26 comprise a zoning area that is referred to as R-1 in the Town's zoning code.

Who among us could have believed a beach cottage in the 200 block of Third or Fourth Street that sold 6 or 7 years ago for \$300,000 to \$400,000 would now sell for \$1,300,000? Even more incredible, the new owner immediately tears the existing home down and builds a new home on the property.

The interest of many of these recent real estate buyers and builders has not been to buy a home for retirement and year round living or a summer beach cottage exclusively for family use, but rather as an investment for eventual resale, or investment as a seasonal rental. Many of these owners, when making construction decisions, decided that a home with three floors best suited their needs and enhanced the value of their investment.

It is important to note here that the zoning laws that govern home size and height as they exist today have been "on the books" since 1998. They have not changed! The footprint of a home can only occupy 40% of a building lot and the maximum height of any construction is limited to 31 feet, measured at base flood elevation, not from the existing grade of the building lot.

(FEMA establishes base flood elevations for Bethany Beach.)

Understanding how height is determined for construction is very important for any discussion about building height. Since 1998 it has been possible to build a home in Bethany Beach to a height that equals 31 feet plus the number of feet the building lot is below base flood elevation. This ranges in the R-1 zoning area from 0 to approximately 5 feet. Since 1998 homes have been constructed in the R-1 zoning area that were limited to 31 feet in total height and at the same time many homes were constructed that were limited to 36 feet in height, depending on their location and the base flood elevation. That is what the code has allowed since 1998. Please remember this point, it is important!

One of the unintended results of setting a maximum building height at 31 feet is seen primarily in the R-1 zoning area where most of the Town's three-story construction has occurred. This unintended result is a home often built with a flat roof, a faux Mansard roofline with little pitch or a home with a gable roof with only a 5/12 pitch. Not only were these homes remarkably similar in appearance, the aesthetic appeal of this type of construction has been questioned by many.

The Town's Planning Commission, in an attempt to create some architectural diversity and aesthetic appeal in new construction, formed an ad hoc committee to develop possible changes to the Town's construction guidelines that would help recapture the appeal of older Bethany Beach architecture.

After one and a half years of development, many public meetings, and a number of public forums, the ad hoc committee developed recommendations that were presented to the Planning Commission. The Planning Commission endorsed these recommendations and passed them on to the Town Council for their consideration. The Town Council adopted these recommendations after a public hearing on April 21, 2006, where the clear majority of public comment overwhelmingly supported the changes.

A change that has been misunderstood and significantly misrepresented was a change to allow a homebuilder to add more pitch to a roofline thus creating a roofline that was more in keeping with the architecture of an older Bethany Beach.

This change was accomplished by allowing a homeowner the opportunity to increase roof height a maximum 48 inches under certain conditions. Those conditions are specific and exacting, they are;

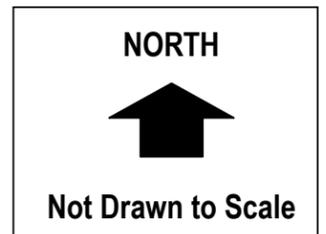
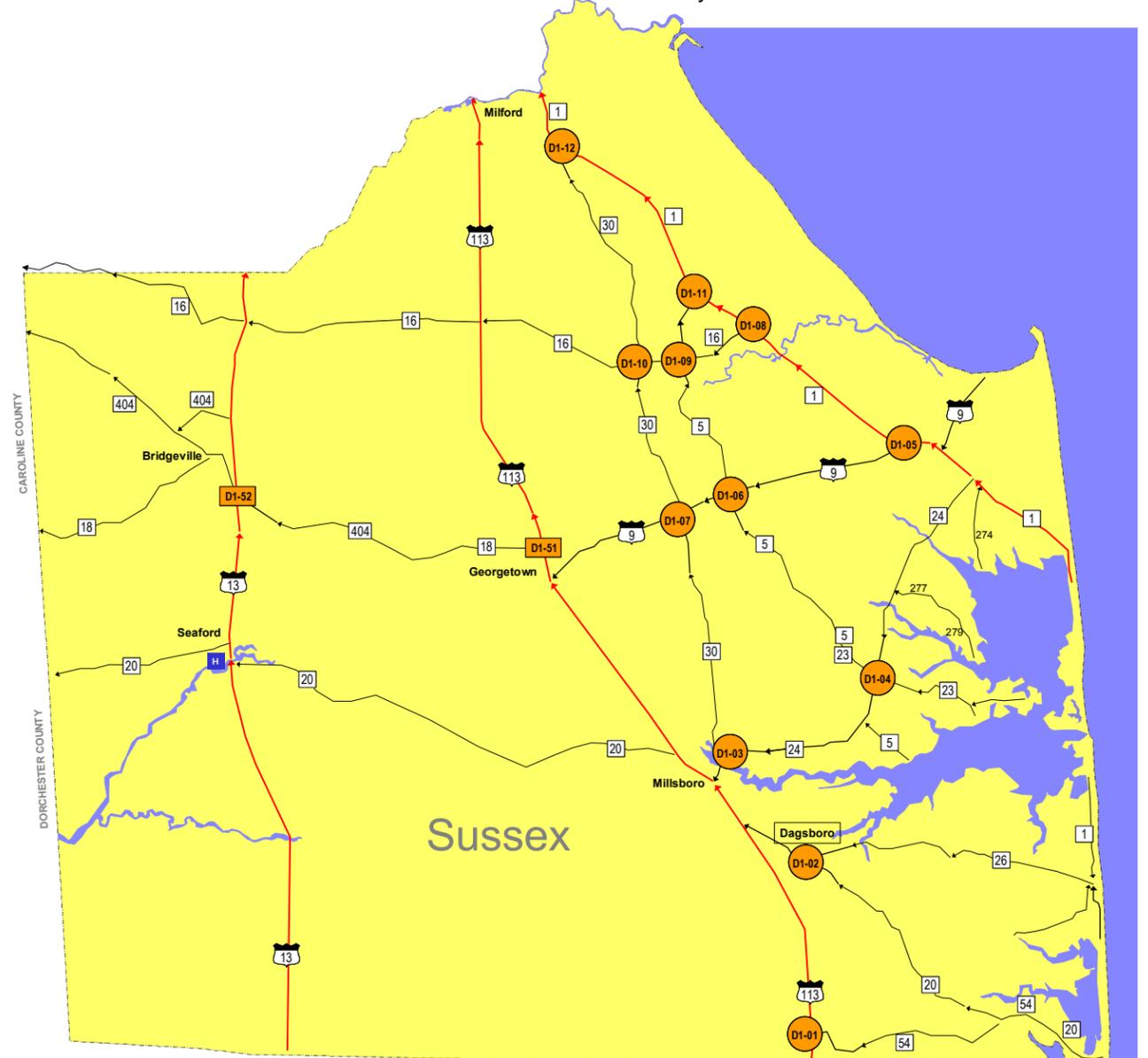
- 60% of any building mass that reaches a height of 35 feet must be a roof with a 7/12 pitch.
- The increase in roof height may not be used to create any additional floored habitable space.
- Any structure that is built in excess of 31 feet under this guideline will be measured from existing grade and **cannot exceed 35 feet in height** regardless of base flood elevation.

We have already mentioned that under existing guidelines, depending on base flood elevation, many homes are built in excess of 31 feet, many to a height of **36 feet**. The Town Council had no interest in creating structures that would be taller than what is already being built in the R-1 zoning area and therefore capped the maximum height of any structure using the new height exception to **35 feet**.

This is not a change that will lead to unbridled development or unchecked height in new construction. This is a change that will allow for some architectural diversity and simple curb appeal in an area where much of recent construction looks remarkably alike.

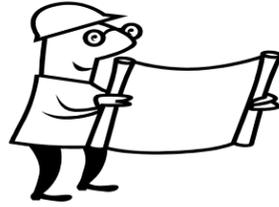
On the following page, there are some visual comparisons for your review. They offer comparisons of homes built with a 5/12 pitch under the old standards and homes constructed with a 7/12 pitch under the new standards.

SHA's Hurricane Evacuation Traffic Control Plan for the Maryland Eastern Shore



Sussex

County Number D1



Planning Commission Update

*Submitted by Kathleen Mink,
Chair of Planning Commission*

The Planning Commission challenged a volunteer group of builders, architects, and homeowners to develop recommendations for giving new homes a more attractive street-side appearance, and to move away from the "big box" look that's become prevalent. Of the many ideas generated by this Zoning Ad-hoc Committee (otherwise known as ZAC), four were recently voted in by Town Council to become part of our Zoning Code. Two of the four are Requirements (perimeter pilings must be covered; the front of a new house must have at least two wall planes), while the other two are Allowances (in R-1, stairs leading directly to a front entrance that is visible from the street may encroach 10 feet into the front set-back; and, with a 7/12 roof pitch, a home in R-1 may have an additional 4 feet in height, with a maximum of 3 floors of living space).

Also coming from ZAC was an idea for requiring that new driveways & walkways be constructed of permeable materials. This proposal has been forward to the Charter & Ordinance Review Committee (CORC) for implementation.

We developed a new Zoning District, within which will be placed all municipally owned building, facilities, and properties. This new Zone, named MORE (short for "Municipal, Open Space, Recreation Facilities and Educational") will be identified on the soon-to-be-released update of our Official Town Map.

The Planning Commission formalized the step-by-step process we'll follow to bring a proposed Land Use or Zoning amendment from initial discussion to final recommendation to the Town Council.

We've reviewed a least a dozen sets of plans for Grandfathered Planned Residential Developments (PRD's), including Sketch Plans, Preliminary Plans, and Final Plans.

For one of those PRD's, it had been 3 years between the approval of the Preliminary Plan and the submission of the Final Plan. There'd been several significant updates in PRD requirements during these three years, such as increasing the R-2 square feet per dwelling unit (DU) from 5,000 to 7,000; the calculation for side-yard setbacks between structures; the requirement of four parking spaces per DU, and a tree & landscaping plan. We put in place a new requirement that if more than 365 days pass between Preliminary Plan Approval and Final Plan submission, then the developer must start from scratch. There is an allowance for a 90 day extension.

The Planning Commission meets at 9:00 a.m. on the third Saturday of every month, with occasional Special Meetings in between. Our agendas are available at least a week in advance. Coffee is served, and we look forward to seeing you there!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!



TOWN HALL — OPEN HOUSE

MEET YOUR
TOWN COUNCIL MEMBERS
AND STAFF

AT AN OPEN-HOUSE
SCHEDULED TO BE HELD
11:00 A.M.—3:00 P.M.

ON
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 2ND.



Light refreshments will be served.

Budget and Finance Committee Report



*Submitted by Tony McClenny,
Secretary/Treasurer of Council*

The mission of the Budget and Finance Committee is to provide assistance and guidance to the Town Manager and staff leading to the development, drafting and review of the Town's annual budget. The statement describes the committee's scope, membership and procedures.

Our fiscal budget period runs from April 1st through March 31st. While preparing our 2007 Town budget, Cliff Gravier, our Town Manager, and staff identified known and anticipated expenditures and revenues and assembled this information into a proposed budget.

The Budget and Finance Committee reviewed and evaluated the proposed budget, asked questions and offered suggestions.

The Budget discussions indicate the Town is in good financial health. During the past year, revenues exceeded our Operating Budget allowing use of funds for capital projects.

The Town continues to budget with emphasis on beautification, storm water management, and preservation of open space. We believe the budget reflects our commitment to ensure a high quality of life for our residents and visitors.

Property taxes will continue to be extremely low at \$0.08 per \$100 of assessed value.

A public hearing was held on March 17th during which interested members of the community participated in a question and answer session. During our Town Council meeting the same evening, the budget was accepted.

Copies of the 2007 budget are available in our Town Office and on our website located at:
www.townofbethanybeach.com.

Communications Committee Update



*Submitted by:
Jack Walsh,, Chairman*

Website:

The website has matured to a point where the town has a hands-on grasp of what they think is necessary to upgrade the website to be a more effective communication tool. Accordingly, the Town will take a more proactive role in its changes as it relates to the day-to-day issues and its long term role in our community.

The Town Manager is currently involved with a consulting firm that is reviewing the Town's administrative needs in the communication area.

The Communication's Committee will be involved in an ongoing review process.

The Town welcomes your use of its website as your resource to obtain information concerning government affairs, town calendars of events, business transactions and other important and timely community information.

Town Map:

Hey, what do you think of having our own super, professional town map?

Consideration is currently underway for Bethany Beach having its own town map. This map would be available to all property owners and for general distribution by the Town.

The map would be very high quality and would depict our town in living color showing outlying municipalities along with descriptive information about town services, attractions, transportation schedules, etc.

The map publication is completely advertising-supported, at no cost to the town, with the advertisements placed in a border around the map.

The activity will be administered/managed by the Fourth of July Parade Committee.

Open House:

An "Open House" is being planned to take place on Saturday, September 2, 2006. The prime focus will be to "show off" the museum refinements along with the cultural upgrades, (pictures, etc.) that have been made throughout the building.

Skills Inventory: Ongoing efforts have been and are being made to provide a data base of town folks willing to help in town projects ranging from Christmas Decorations to Flood Control.

We expect to have our first upgraded list in September.

Report from the Charter and Ordinance Review Committee

Submitted by:

Lew Killmer, Chairman

Since January 2006, the Charter and Ordinance Review Committee (CORC) has accomplished the following objectives:

1. Working with the Finance Committee and the Town's Finance Director, all of the Fines and Penalties that appear throughout the entire Town Codebook, have been placed into a single ordinance. A comprehensive list of all fines and penalties was also prepared making it much easier to determine the costs of all fines and penalties levied by the Town.

2. CORC working with the General Codebook Company has come up with a plan to divide the Codebook into two volumes, totally reorganizing the Codebook as well as making it more user friendly with a more comprehensive index and an improved searchable website addition.

3. CORC working with the department heads of Water and Storm Water Management, have updated Chapter 238 of the Town Codebook.

This updated section of the Town Code will clearly reflect the "state of the art" practices that are currently employed by the Town of Bethany Beach. This improved version of Chapter 238 of the Town Codebook permits changes to existing procedures and methodologies to meet the ever changing improvements in technology as well as updates required by governmental regulatory agencies.

If you have a unique skill that you feel can help the town or a willingness to help out in the various town projects please let us know. Call Faith Denault at 302-541-4304

We'd like to solicit your suggestions and recommendations toward enhancing communications in our Town. We're your committee—please communicate with us.

You can write us at: P.O. Box 109, Bethany Beach, DE 19930.

Email us at:

admin@townofbethanybeach.com

Traffic and Parking Committee Update



Submitted by:

Jerry Dorfman, Chairman

The Traffic and Parking Committee adopted pay at the meter for handicap parking at its February meeting. It was further agreed that an additional 24 new handicap parking spaces should be made available by the Town. 12 of the new handicap spaces should be free and placed at the beach end streets. We now have a total of 48 available handicap spaces in town.