

National Resources Preservation Advisory Board
Highland Beach (HB)

Meeting of September 28, 2022

Suggested Topics to include in Agenda
by member Barbara Nestle

1. Draft action plan (see attachment 1)
2. Draft example outreach letter to beachfront residents on A1A (see attachment 2)
3. Draft outreach one pager for all HB residents (for events) (see attachment 3)
4. Draft list of resources to add to HB website (attachment 5)
5. Draft detailed plan for food truck event of October 27 (as basis for discussion, see attachment 4)
6. Dune restoration contractors discussion, and whether to publish a list (not as town recommendation, with disclaimers)

Attachment 1

Draft for Board Discussion: Action Plan for Dunes Restorations in Highland Beach

1. Organize Food Truck stand/table for October 27, 2022, with information and outreach/communication (see Attachment 4 for a draft detailed plan) and advertise event
2. Draft outreach letter to residents on A1A (see draft in attachment 2)
3. Draft outreach one pager for all HB residents (see draft in attachment 3)
4. Organize a similar outreach event for HOA on A1A to participate and exchange ideas/plans (location: library)
5. Create a list of resources for our board's website (draft in attachment 5)
6. Create a list of potential dune restoration contractors as source of information for homeowners and HOAs. Decision on whether to publish or not (not as town recommendation, with disclaimers)
7. Research on other towns' regulations on dune restorations (if any) – from Miami to WPB (there are no FDEP regulations on dunes)
8. Climate change mitigation report of the Coastal Resilience Partnership, especially Appendix 4 for HB and funding options Table 3-2 and discussion around implementation of relevant aspects for HB (for dune restoration initiative only)

Attachment 2

Draft for Discussion: EXAMPLE outreach letter to residents on A1A (beach front)

Dear Resident,

We are writing to you as owner/resident of an oceanfront property, a precious piece of land of tremendous value for protection of our Florida shoreline. Given the real threat of climate change, many residents are looking for information about how to properly maintain their dunes and how to find professional guidance.

Attached are Guidelines for Beach and Dune Management by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection FDEP. We also added a one page document with all the high level information you may find helpful. As you see, it does not take much to start restoring a dune. According to FDEP, by adding sea oats as deep-rooted grass and native shrubs (with removal of some non-native invasive pest plants), you could already better protect your property and our county's sea shore from rising sea levels, hurricanes and storms.

Our team is available during the town's food truck event of October 27 (**add details re event**) to answer questions.

Sincerely,

Town of Highland Beach

Attachment 3

Draft for Discussion: Town of Highland Beach One Pager re Coastal Dune Management (based on Robert H Barron and FDEP materials)

1. Remove all invasive exotic plants (such as Hawaiian half flower). They compete with more stable dune plants that are native to Florida and had been here before development happened.
2. Replace cleared area with appropriate native species, details below:
3. Develop a foredune as first line of defense against erosion. Plant dense sea grass such as sea oats and dune panic grass that are deep rooted grasses. The replanting must happen immediately after step 1.
4. Plant native low shrubs such as saw palmettos, some sea grape (not all is good, pls study the information provided in the FDEP Guidelines) and other low shrubs and maintain them at knee height. Do not plant trees or high shrubs. Preexisting trees can be kept.
5. The above dune management needs a field permit by the FDEP. No additional light is allowed to reach the marine turtle nesting beach (contingency for approval).
6. Beach raking: Mix in the seaweed, never remove (important component of ecosystem). Remove all trash before beach raking.
7. No sprinklers near dunes (no overspray into dunes) and do not walk in dunes.
8. TBD with Robert Barron (as did Delray Beach)

Source:

- Leaflet by Robert Barron in: Dune management Delray Beach by Beach Property Owner Association <https://bpoa-drb.com/dune-management/>
- FDEP website

Attachment 4

Draft for Discussion: Food Truck Event of October 27, 2022: Detailed Plan

Discuss plan and define responsibilities:

1. Advertising by HB (truck event invite on website, emails, manager notes, leaflets in library etc.)
2. Two large tables and some chairs
3. Large triangle signs/banners
4. Printed materials (FDEP document, HB one pager, some other printed materials from state and county TBD)
5. 2 or more members at table to communicate with residents
6. TBD Gadgets to distribute (handmade sea turtle bracelets, can be ordered on amazon for approximately 1\$ a piece, Halloween or ocean themed pencils for kids, amazon, 14\$ for 49 pieces etc.)
7. TBD 100 percent fruit organic freezer popsicles (15\$ for 30) – plus ice and cooler
8. TBD Large inflatable sea turtle to attract attention
9. TBD Vases with some dune plants as decoration and demonstration of good plants (i.e. sea grape that is hardy)
10. Other material that the state and county can provide (such as magnets etc).

Attachment 5

Draft for Discussion: List of Resources for Dunes Management

- [The Importance of Dune Restoration Presentation \(August 2018\)](#)
- Dune Management Presentation by Board Member Chappellear (February 2022) – pls add weblink
- Guidelines for beach and dune management by FDEP
https://discover.pbcgov.org/coextension/horticulture/PDF/commercial/urbanforest/ry/beachdunemanagement09_updated.pdf
- Dune Plan Maintenance by FDEP
https://floridadep.gov/sites/default/files/DuneVegetationMaintenanceGuidelines_2022_0.pdf
- Recommended plants by FDEP
<https://floridadep.gov/sites/default/files/Recommended-Beach-and-Dune-Plants-2021.pdf>
- Dune management Delray Beach by Beach Property Owner Association
<https://bpoa-drb.com/dune-management/>
- Native Plants for Coastal Dune Restoration by USDA
https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/nrcs141p2_014913.pdf
- Search for local plants with this tool by IRC
<https://www.regionalconservation.org/beta/nfyn/>

There is an abundance of materials on the web. The above is what I found most useful and simple for residents to use.