



I hope you are all having a great summer. Here are a few of the things going on in Pine Knoll Shores.

Next dinner with the mayor. The next dinner with Mayor Ken Jones will be on Saturday, July 12, at 5:30 p.m. at the Clamdigger Inn. This is our annual Saturday dinner in July when we target second-home owners. All are welcome.

Phase II sidewalks. By the time you are reading this we will have started with the Pine Knoll Shores Phase II Sidewalk project. We were delayed in getting this started, but made the decision to press ahead rather than delay further. The primary goal here was to get the sidewalk segment on the far east of town constructed, which will help alleviate a dangerous situation with the public beach access parking spaces on Oakleaf Drive near the intersection with Salter Path Road. We will have another segment built from the red light west to the Public Safety Building.

Sidewalk questionnaire. The mayor has proposed that we consider a mail-out questionnaire to gauge interest in sidewalks in Pine Knoll Shores. This is one of those ideas that has strong advocates and strong opposition. We have had sidewalks discussed in our 2007 and 2012 recreation surveys, and they were mentioned during the recently completed interviews and survey responses that were part of the development of the Pine Knoll Shores Strategic Plan. This time we are considering a mailing directly to all 2,600+ property owners on our mailing list. The specific purpose of the questionnaire is to gauge interest in the town's funding a larger project than the two we have seen in the past two years. These projects were small in scale as we used NCDOT funding, which is limited. This state funding no longer exists, so if we are to continue with sidewalks we will have to consider alternatives. Funding of these alternatives essentially comes down to three things: town funds (tax money), grants or some combination of both. The Board of Commissioners will approve the questionnaire, and I expect that we will discuss this at the July and August board meetings (July 9 and August 13, both at 6 p.m. at town hall). The NC Division of Community Assistance, the same organization that helped us frame our Strategic Plan, will assist us.

Smart meters/working with Carteret-Craven Electric Cooperative (CCEC). At the June Board of Commissioners' meeting we decided to apply for a zero-interest loan from the NC Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF). We will work with McDavid Associates out of Farmville to prepare the DWSRF application, which has a deadline of September 30. Meanwhile, over the summer we will work with CCEC to prepare a legal agreement between them and the town. We hope to begin installation of the meters this coming winter.

Tree trimming on Salter Path Road. We fight a constant battle to keep the vegetation trimmed on the streets of Pine Knoll Shores that intersect with Salter Path Road. The lack of east-west visibility is the concern. If you believe there is a problem on a particular street, please call Ernie Rudolph at 723-8189 or email him at psd@townofpk.com.

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What's Up With PARC?

By Jean McDanal

During the Kayak for the Warriors activities, folks kept coming up to Bud Pitzer with suggestions for improving events next year. Many times, he was focusing on the immediate event and, consequently, did not fully take in what he was hearing. So that all these good suggestions won't get lost, a separate email address has been set up. If you have suggestions, please email them to suggestions@k4tw.org, even if you spoke to Bud during the events. Then all can be easily reviewed to make things even better next year. Put the name of the event your suggestion applies to in the subject line. The emails that have already come in will be forwarded to that account for processing.

As in past years, the town will celebrate the Fourth of July with our annual parade. Thanks to Martha Edwards for organizing this event. The parade will begin at Garner Park at 10 a.m. Please decorate everything you can think of—bicycle, scooter, skateboard, dog and even Granny—and come join the fun. Drinks and watermelon will be provided after the parade. We could use help cutting the watermelon at Garner Park.

The town of Pine Knoll Shores once again will be partnering with the North Carolina Aquarium at Pine Knoll Shores to clean up the beach following the July 4 holiday. We encourage residents and visitors alike to participate. We will meet at the Iron Steamer ocean access at 9 a.m. on Monday, July 7 (rain date July 8). Blue trash bags and water bottles will be available for volunteers and maps will be available showing beach accesses along our shoreline. Please bring your own work gloves.

The only areas to be cleaned are on the beach. The plan is to have each volunteer or pairs of volunteers pick a section of the beach to scour for trash, usually a half-mile or mile section. When finished or when the trash bag gets too heavy, volunteers will tie them closed and deposit them in sight of the ocean side of the fence line above the high tide line. Someone from the town will ride the beach with an ATV and pick up the bags. Items that are too large to bag, like tent poles or broken chairs, should be deposited at the access points. We should be able to complete this by 11 a.m. If we all pitch in, it will not take long at all. We know what the beach looks like after the Independence Day weekend—and a little TLC will get it ready for the rest of the summer.

The trail that was recently completed by the Boy Scouts will be officially dedicated as the Bob Kerry Trail. Bob was involved with the Community Appearance Committee and was responsible for our first Tree City designation. The dedication will probably take place in September.

Please set your sights on October, as Pine Knoll Shores will offer its second annual town-wide yard sale on Saturday, October 4, in front of town hall. Start cleaning out that attic now. More information will be coming in future months.

As everyone begins moving to the rhythms of a more relaxed summer, please enjoy your families and friends as they travel to our coast. PARC activities also slow down after the Fourth of July. Have a safe and happy summer.

If you have any suggestions for PARC, please do not hesitate to email me at PARCPR@ec.rr.com or come to one of our meetings. The next meeting is Tuesday, July 8, at 9 a.m. at town hall.