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From: [Mike Murray](#)
To: [Cape Hatteras Business Allies](#)
Bcc: [Cyndy Holda](#)
Subject: Re: Our conversation
Date: 08/04/2008 02:44 PM

Thanks for your comments Judy. I will try to make myself more available to everyone after I return from leave, which starts at the end of this week.

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Cape Hatteras Business Allies
<cahabusinessallies@embarqmail.com> To Mike Murray <mike_murray@nps.gov>
cc
08/03/2008 02:05 PM Subject Our conversation

Mike,

Thanks for taking the time to talk to me the other day, it helps to know I am not a complete idiot!

I am going to share a couple of things that are flying around. Barbara Ackley sent a an e-mail about to our group with ideas about how to combat permanent resource and pedestrian closures (that I won't share right now :)).

_Dave Goodwin replied to all with the following:

Unfortunately, NPS has shot down the notion of no pedestrian-only beaches. This was in response to an email I send Mike about pedestrian-only beaches & how it might be tied to the percentage of pedestrian-only visitors to the Park. He had no figures on ped-only visitors - NPS does not track them. See below:

/With regard to pedestrian only areas, we will need to have some pedestrian only areas throughout the year to meet the diverse user mandate of the Executive Orders and NPS policy, and for each user group to have opportunities to experience what they prefer. The upper echelon of NPS and the Solicitors will not support a plan that designates everything as open to ORV use and it would be legally vulnerable for noncompliance with the Executive Orders and NPS policies. The challenge for us will be to identify some areas that everyone can live with./

Then Frank Folb replied! This only confirms what I told you about stubbornness and hard headiness and why we can't accomplish anything!
This is Frank's reply:

I have just returned to the house in Cudjoe Key Florida where I will be until Monday morning. Today while fishing we pssed Key after Key that no one is allowed to go within 150 ft for birds.

After the call last week before I left for Florida everyone knows my feeling and after getting Mike Murray's email about what is expected for pedestrian only areas I conclude that in my opinion all pro access members of Neg Reg should show our dissatisfaction with DOI's opinions, the dark sides refusal to give anywhere less than the protocols and our wonderful beach front privitations specialist and tell Mike we will meet with him to confer about what we see the future of the Recreational Seashore should be and if we get nothing but negative replies that as a group we all walk the hell out.

We have already given way too much!!!!

Well Mike as you can see Frank just isn't getting it! I am not aware of us giving anything yet, let alone way too much! The only thing they gave was the consent decree, but we all did not agree to that either! Dave Goodwin replied with what I thought was a great response, which I will paste at the end of this for you, but I'm sure it will not be well received. So far nobody has responded to it. It isn't too hard to figure out why they don't include him or me in anything, because we have minds of our own perhaps? We can't be controlled? We are trying to help our "side" as well as you, but nobody wants to acknowledge anything unless it comes from certain folks! Only ideas put forth by certain folks are

up for consideration.

Maybe we do need to do what Frank suggested and get together with you, perhaps you can reinforce some of the things you and I discussed or that Dave pointed out to them? Maybe you can help.... perhaps some validation from you on ideas from others would wake them up? Maybe you can point out that Trip or Dave or whoever have made some valuable contributions? If they just want "the select few" to talk with you however, you may have to be the one to put your foot down and point out that it is more beneficial to have all of us there, that you learn from all of us! The reg-neg members that is! Only the reg neg members, not OBPA's board of directors or Beach Buggies board of directors or half of the Anglers Club and any one else they feel like inviting, such as Rob Alderman etc. JUST reg neg members for once!

I didn't fight for seat on this committee to have OBPA's board of directors tell me how to think and how I must act! I think you can drive home the point to them that we all have something to contribute and that their exclusivity is not helping, by being more inclusive yourself. Show them that you want and need to hear from everyone, not just them! How? Why don't you and Cyndy ever stop to talk to anyone but them? I hate never having the opportunity to talk to you anymore since I have fallen out of the graces of OBPA, unless I call you. I know you are busy and I hate doing it, but sometimes I have the need to share something and nobody will listen! Sometimes I need a sanity check! I've always thought that you and I are on the same page in a lot of ways. They don't seem to possess the ability to look at things from more than one perspective. They also are not very perceptive!

Would it hurt you to perhaps stop and chat with Trip, maybe you do, I don't know? Or Scott? Or me? Or Sonny Duke? We all have ideas and thoughts, but we aren't allowed to share them, this is accomplished by not including us in anything that is going on! Maybe our thoughts and ideas are not good or viable, but we won't know that unless we have an opportunity to put them out there! If something won't work, then tell me why so I can make informed decisions! I want to base my decisions on information, not what somebody else tells me to do! Even the dumbest off hand suggestion can spark thought! I have seen a ridiculous idea stretch folks minds past their threshold and bring them back to a place they would have never entered had they not been forced to go so far out of their mindset to start with! Not only are we afforded no voice within our access group it is happening between stakeholders and their alternates too! Bob Davis is not privy to most of what Larry is doing, Larry does not share information with him! Sonny Duke was not even aware that Pat Weston was a member of the board of directors for OBPA and took part in agreeing to sign the consent decree! She is supposed to be representing homeowners, not OBPA and personally I don't think she should have been part of the consent decree discussions unless it included Sonny Duke who actually has the seat! He was NOT happy about being excluded! He won't state it, but I bet if you asked him privately he would tell you. It just doesn't smell right Mike! It is like they have brainwashed everyone into thinking that we will lose the fight if we disagree on anything! This is absurd to me! I think we will lose the fight because we are not being open minded, realistic, there is no flexibility, and no common sense being applied!

While I know you don't want to get involved with "local" politics nor is it your place to do so, you surely can see the harm that is being done can't you? Is it not in the best interest of ALL of us to try to demonstrate to them, that narrow minds, tunnel vision and exclusivity will accomplish nothing? How can you/we be successful if you only hear the same point of view? /Perhaps/ if they saw you reaching out to the rest of us, it would open their eyes a bit? What would their reaction be if you were to say, well I had a stopped and talked to Sonny or Judy or Dave or Bob Davis or whom ever, for a change? What I always hear from them is that Mike Murray stopped by today but I NEVER hear what was discussed! The information that you are sharing with them is not being disseminated with the rest of us Mike! It is only shared with the select few! A lot of us are very frustrated! Yet we aren't allowed to express it publicly or amongst ourselves, for fear that we will look out of sync to the other side! I have been outright accused of having ulterior motives because I was not in agreement with their way of thinking!

As for the other side, it is obvious that they are three steps ahead of us and already have a plan/strategy in place for each possible scenario that might play out, so why are we so pre-occupied with what they think about what we are saying? I can assure you that they are not basing their next move on what we /might/ do. More than likely they are smart enough to have already examined what our options are and already have a play book written for each of them! If we all choose to follow the leaders, we just make it easier for them! They have demonstrated repeatedly that they can out smart us! Let our confusion muddy their waters, as it stands now our insistence on appearing as a united front makes our actions very predictable, nothing has changed we are reactive, not pro-active, we play defense not offense. Maybe it will do some good for them to realize not all of us wish to be led to slaughter and some of us are not so predictable! Maybe, just maybe we might come up with something they hadn't expected! Since we seem bound to follow the lead of those who have been leading thus far, I would guess they have a pretty good idea what the modus operandi is and are prepared for it. They aren't expecting any thinking outside of the box, why should they? We are not allowed to partake in it!

These people remind me of my last boss who always perceived GOOD employees as a threat rather than an asset! God forbid some one had a good idea, because she would shoot it down immediately, merely because she thought it would make her look bad, because she hadn't thought of it! My understanding was that all committee members carry the same weight, be it Neal Moore or Sonny Duke or John Couch or Warren Judge. From where I sit, it appears that only certain committee members carry weight and the rest of us are just filler, so when all is said and done, it can be claimed that all stakeholders were represented. Technically it may be true, but that doesn't make it right! Even if it is true, can't

you all at least fake it? No offense but this mentality is spoon fed by NPS and CBI, who are constantly in touch with the "select few" and never in touch with the rest of us! When you all do this it only validates their self appointed roles and furthers their ability to dismiss the rest of us! I'm offended after having spent years putting my own time, money and energy into this process, none of which I have a surplus of! I do have other things to worry over and if I am just wasting my time and have nothing worthwhile to contribute or won't be taken seriously, just tell me so I can move on to the other issues in my life! I not interested in playing the role of a warm body in a seat for appearances sake!

Ok, I'll shut up now... but please give some thought to this, I do believe you can play a role in opening some eyes, they do respect you!

Here is what Dave suggested to them:_

I don't like it either, but I do think it would be prudent to look at areas we might be able to cut out for ped-only use. Like the area between the bath house in Frisco & Hatteras village. There's already a bath house, parking lot (as well as the one at Sandy Bay) & a walkway there. It's been closed for years anyway. Besides, there's no way for ORVs to get to it - it's closed on either end by the Frisco seasonal closure & the Hatteras seasonal closure. Give up something that really won't be missed. Hell, make it so it's status has to be reviewed on an annual basis & open it to ORVs if it isn't being used!

Don't get me wrong - I do not believe that ANY of the beach should be single-user oriented. It should ALL be multi-use. But the point is that we should privately between ourselves be looking at how we could accommodate & live with some of the things we KNOW we will have to live with. This pedestrian-only thing is going to be one of them.

Fight it? Hell, yes. But we need to be prepared to guide the process towards where WE want it, not the Dark Side or NPS. We need to identify these sort of things that we can grudgingly live with.

I know we have all been talking up the "historical & traditional" use of the Park. Up to now it has been a valid point. But that point no longer exists. It has been said by others that this ORV plan is for the FUTURE. Past arguments don't get it anymore. No one is listening, it doesn't really matter what our grandfathers & great-grandfathers did out here.

I think that our history is important, but during times like these history is taking a back seat to the future use of the Park. We need to move our focus from the past & move it to the future. The only way to beat the Dark Side is with FACTS. The only way to get as much as we can in the reg-neg is with FACTS. We need to arm ourselves with every FACT we can find on birds, turtles, NPS policies, Executive Orders - everything that is germane to ORV use.

Look, you guys need to listen to Mike Murray & some of the things he says. It's a heads-up on what will & will not be accepted by NPS. This pedestrian beach thing is one of them. So is permits. You had best get your heads screwed on right & help us all figure out what we can do to minimize the situation, rather than bowing up like a tom cat & saying "we're not going to accept it". That sort of thing will get us nowhere & we will lose. It will be MUCH better if we can guide & direct these situations where WE want them to be, not where the other side (including NPS) wants.

Call me stupid, call me crazy....but in the next couple of months you will all find out what the deal really is.....

Thanks for putting up with me!
Judy