

From: [Ona Ferguson](#)
To: [Mike Murray@nps.gov](mailto:Mike_Murray@nps.gov)
Cc: [Robert Fisher](#); [Pat Field](#)
Subject: Re: Potential Conflict Re: Continuing discussion
Date: 12/04/2008 11:37 AM

Mike,

Yes, we are aware of and working on this situation. Thanks for the heads up.

Ona

On 12/4/08 8:40 am, "Mike_Murray@nps.gov" <Mike_Murray@nps.gov> wrote:

>
> Ona,
>
> FYI
>
> During the Permits/Passes conference call on Monday, Patrick Paquette
> advised that he would be at Cape Hatteras late this week for the weekend
> (fishing tournament) and planned to meet individually with the various
> campground owners about his self-contained vehicle proposal to try to calm
> their concerns and elicit their understanding of his proposal.
>
> In light of Judy's message below, one would expect that Patrick's planned
> lobbying effort described above will be viewed as provocative by Judy and
> maybe also by the campground owners. Not sure if this "situation" needs
> intervention by facilitators, but wanted to be sure you were aware that
> this potential conflict may escalate.
>
> Mike Murray
> Superintendent
> Cape Hatteras NS/ Wright Brothers NMem/ Ft. Raleigh NHS
> (w) 252-473-2111, ext. 148
> (c) 252-216-5520
> fax 252-473-2595

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> it is addressed. This communication may contain information that is
> proprietary, privileged or confidential or otherwise legally exempt from
> disclosure.

> ----- Forwarded by Mike Murray/CAHA/NPS on 12/04/2008 08:30 AM -----

>
> Cape Hatteras
> Business Allies
> <cahabusinessalli
> es@embarqmail.com Ona Ferguson To
>> <oferguson@cbuilding.org>
>
> 12/03/2008 09:56 Mike_Murray@nps.gov, David Goodwin cc
> PM <dagwerksobx@yahoo.com>
> Subject
> Re: Continuing discussion

> Ona,
> I highly suggest that you find a time next Wednesday, because my
> preference would be to meet with you, Patrick P. and Patrick Field and
> Mike Murray in person.

>
> Patrick has known this was going to be an issue for small businesses for
> many, many months now and has not tried to talk to me about it. I made
> it very clear to him that I would not be able to support the idea a
> long, long time ago at least not without talking to the campground
> owners. So I talked to them and my initial reaction was dead on, they
> are opposed to the idea. I have been waiting for the issue to come out
> to the public, and it did in the last reg neg meeting held in Avon, I
> stated out loud several concerns I had, as did Carolyn McCormick.
> Patrick never addressed those concerns, instead he has snuck his agenda
> into the passes/fees/permits document and "lobbied" the like minded
> folks and swayed them to support this notion (under the threat of
> Northern Sport fishing Associations withdrawing support/funds from CHAPA
> etc.)

>
> When he did actually have the opportunity to discuss it with me the
> night prior to the last reg neg meeting, all he did was rant and rave
> and threaten! He wouldn't let me get an entire sentence out of my mouth!
> I have no intention of releasing him on the campground owners, they
> don't deserve that any more than I did. I also do not think they would
> appreciate me bringing Patrick before them so he can "address their
> concerns". They have already expressed their concerns to me!
> Apparently he either doesn't want to hear it or doesn't believe it or
> thinks he can convince them that it won't harm their business!

>
> Patrick wants me to communicate with me in order to understand my
> concerns? What is there to understand? The way it has been presented up
> to this point is as follows: /Allow self contained camping at NPS
> Campgrounds via a special use permit, when the NPS Campgrounds are
> closed for the season. /If he cannot comprehend what the "problem"
> with that is, then he is an idiot! / (Sorry but lets get real!)
>
> Perhaps Patrick would understand better if the proposal was something
> like: /NPS will provide bait and ice to all fisherman with a special use
> permit, in order to compensate for pedestrian only areas. /Now/ /Jim
> Lyons might go for that, but I doubt Bob Eakes or Frank Folb
> would..... Oh but let me preface that with this thought..... aren't
> these the very same people who accuse Jim Lyons of representing only a
> /select few/ /who desire a certain type of beach experience?
> /
> I will be glad to bring the surveys I have from the campgrounds to a
> meeting * if and only if * Mike Murray is attending, and share them with
> Mike, you, and both Patricks. But I am not going to just hand that info
> over to Patrick P. or the "like minded" folks, so Patrick can concoct a
> smokescreen to put up in front of the campground owners and then go and
> badger them!
>
> This isn't rocket science.... Self contained camping on Federal property
> in or next to villages that have year round private campgrounds amounts
> to direct competition with the business owners/citizens who are funding
> those Federal lands with their tax dollars to start with! They already
> compete with NPS for camping business during the busiest times of the
> year, now we want to possibly take what little off season business they
> have away too? Patrick says this is a "small" group of users who
> currently are not coming here because there is no self contained beach
> camping experience to be had, and they would bring dollars to the island
> (but not the campgrounds) but he fails to realize that there is a very
> real potential for the campgrounds to lose their existing visitors to
> "NPS self contained camping". I tried to explain this to him, but I
> wasn't allowed to finish the point. Instead I was screamed at and told
> that this was an accepted practice at Cape Lookout. When I tried to
> point out that Cape Lookout had no "campgrounds" as in private
> campgrounds, I was then berated even further and told that I didn't know
> what I was talking about and I ought to find out what I am talking about
> etc etc! Seems to me that Patrick doesn't know what he is talking about!
> It clearly states on the CALO web site that there are no campgrounds!
> Yes beach camping is allowed, but it isn't in competition with small
> business, because there are no campgrounds at CALO! This is why what is
> decided here on this issue will not be a blueprint for other ORV plans,
> this is the only park with 8 villages located within its boundary!
>
> Sorry, but I do not intend to ever attempt to discuss any of this again
> with Patrick Paquette unless it is in a controlled environment!
> Obviously my "like minded" peers had no intention of getting him under
> control, since they all stood by and watched this unfold..... oh sure
> they all said afterwards that there was a problem with his
> behavior..... lot of good that did me! Of course not one of them has
> ever come to me and asked to hear the campgrounds owners side either,
> they just all support Patrick, because apparently he has control over
> some funds that they desire. That isn't my problem though, it is theirs!
> Besides, they know they are throwing the campgrounds under the bus on
> this one!
>
> Patrick keeps insisting on this camping idea, this discussion has to be
> had publicly with the entire committee! Those who are supporting Patrick
> on this need to do so publicly! It will put them in a very compromising
> position however..... Then Patrick can make the following statement on/
> _the camera he wanted in the room so badly_ -/* "These guys have given
> more money to the cause than all of the business owners combined!" * The
> way it stands now, they are all willing to support Patrick, behind
> closed doors, (you know, all those who were so insistent on
> transparency....) and to throw me under the bus too, and let the
> campgrounds owners think it is my fault.
>
> That being said, I am willing to have a facilitated meeting with
> Patrick, and I will objectively listen to what he has to say. If he can
> educate me, great! God only knows I don't know it all! However, my
> arguments are sound and logical, and I have no problem debating the
> issue in public, it will be up to NPS and the entire committee to make
> the final decision however, I am not cutting a back room deal on this
> one! I also will not show all of my cards so Patrick can intercept,
> warn, and buy those who will be voting against what they claim to stand
> for..... He already has compromised Scott Leggat on this issue, some of
> those campgrounds that are against this are members of the Chamber of
> Commerce, yet Scott has agreed to support Patrick..... wonder if he will
> do it publicly? It will be interesting to watch if nothing else! Not to
> mention, there has never been a love fest between businesses, residents
> and NPS here, this camping thing will just add to the animosity as far
> as I am concerned, people are going to be furious enough about permanent
> closures, fees, permits etc, but that is NPS's call.
> Judy
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>
> Ona Ferguson wrote:
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>> Judy,
>>
>> I just talked with Patrick Paquette, and he is happy to work on the
> language
>> and details of the self-contained vehicle camping component of the
> "vehicle
>> characteristics and operations" document, but first wants to communicate
>> directly with you to understand more about your concerns. Could you email
>> or call him? He will be on the Outer Banks starting tomorrow, and would
> be

