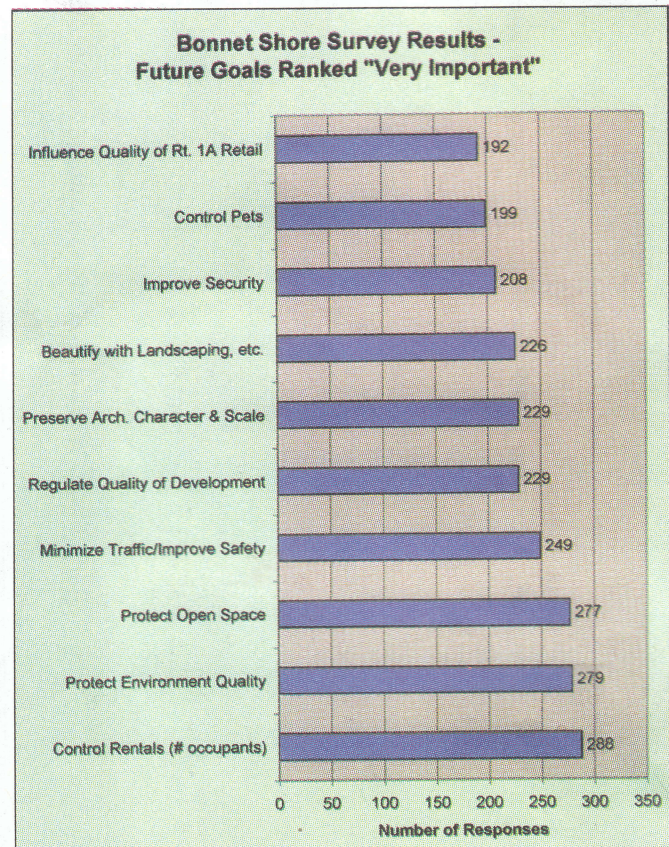
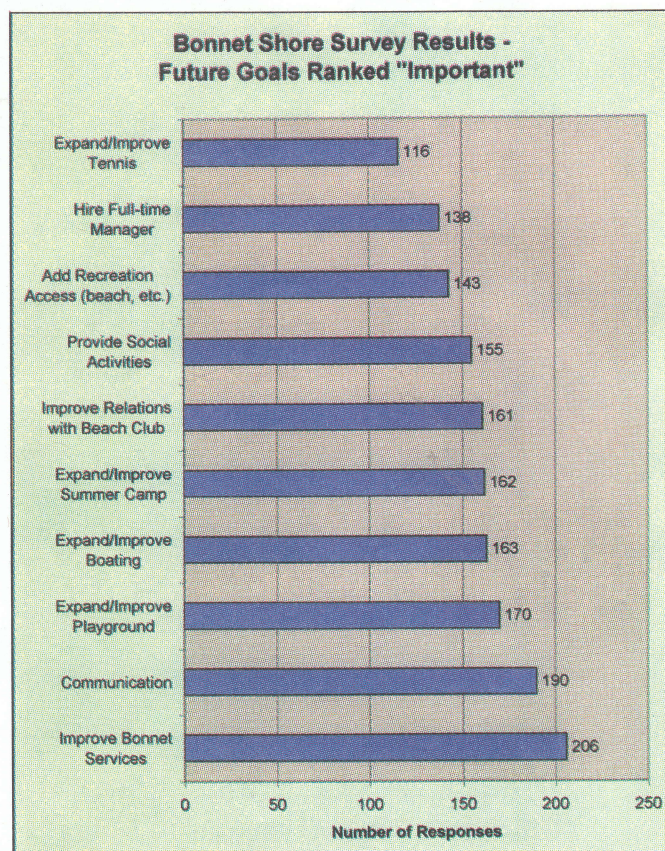


THE PLANNING PROCESS

The process through which the Bonnet Shores Master Plan was developed included a structured community planning process held during the summer season of 1999 when the entire Bonnet Shores community was available to participate. In collaboration with the Long Range Planning Committee, the consultants undertook gathering as much public input as possible through a mail survey, public meetings, planning workshops, and a design and planning charette. Response to all phases of the community process was exceptional.

Community Survey

The first step was to prepare and distribute an informational mail survey to property owners from the Town of Narragansett tax assessor's property list. Questions were developed by Newport Collaborative Architects, Inc. and the Long Range Planning Committee. The list did not distinguish between owners of land, land and houses, or Beach Club condominiums. There were 1,996 surveys; and 425 responses, many including additional comments. The response rate was excellent at over 20%.



Survey results indicate areas of importance to residents of Bonnet Shores.

Public Meetings

Four public meetings were held: one each in June, July, August, and September. They were open to the public, and extensive mailings encouraged residents to attend and participate in identifying issues and refining ideas. NOTE: This record of responses from the meetings is unedited, participants were informed that there were "no dumb ideas". Accordingly, all responses have been included in the following notes.

The following core issues emerged through the meetings:

Expansion of the Bonnet Shores Beach Club

Condition and use of the beaches

Secondary impact of growth along Route 1A

Environmental quality and stability of Wesquage Pond, other ponds, and wetlands

Safe Circulation - vehicular and pedestrian

Growth and development within the community

Quality of life

Public Meeting #1 - June

ISSUES AND CONCERNS

The following community issues and concerns emerged from the group discussions:

Bonnet Shores Beach Club: Concerns include: relationship of club members to the community at large, club expansion (physical), increased membership, club-generated traffic, general impact on the community.

Growth: The Land Trust and its role in helping to control growth and preserve open space.

Preservation: Preserve the natural resources and architectural character and scale of the community.

Roads & Safety: Improve road conditions, pedestrian safety and amenities, and enforce speed limits.

Sewers & Septic: Improve and/or extend sewer lines and septic systems.

Local Government: Enforce and/or create ordinances to help achieve quality of life community goals; enforce and/or create ordinances to prevent party houses; and create mechanism to require fiscal accountability.

These issues and concerns became major factors for to be addressed by the Action Plan.

Three sub-committees were formed to study: Roads and Pedestrian Safety, Community Character, and the Beach Club.

The committees would report their findings at the July meeting.

INVENTORY AND ANALYSES

Agenda: the natural and built environments, government structure, history, the Beach Club, and road safety. The Committees presented their findings and recommendations to over 60 attendees.

ROAD AND PEDESTRIAN SAFETY

Engineering: Town plans and capital improvement schedules need to identify problem areas and propose projects.

Priorities need to be assigned to roads needing or scheduled for repair, pedestrian improvements and their location.

Paper vs. actual roadways were noted, and a signage program was suggested.

Education: Educate visitors and residents about speed limits, parking ordinances, and local driving etiquette.

Enforcement: Enforce existing traffic and parking ordinances vigorously.

Propose and pass new ordinances if needed. Strengthen the relationships between local government, residents and other property owners, and the police.

COMMUNITY CHARACTER

This Committee identified scenic areas, gateways, transitions, landmarks, and features defining the scale, ambience, and character of Bonnet Shores.

Important natural sites: Little Beach, Kelly Beach, Wesquage Pond, Land Trust properties, and public rights of way including the beach walkway and Battery Point.

Architectural / Historical Landmarks: Community Center, Battery Park, Little Beach, The Point, the original Beach Club clubhouse, the Slave House, and the Old Skeffington House.

Transitional Areas: Entrance to Bonnet Shores at Route 1A, the commercial strip at Route 1A, Gardenia Drive entrance, and the Beach Club.

BONNET SHORES BEACH CLUB

Two areas of concern were identified:

Expansion of the Club and its effect on community infrastructure, services, and the environment.

The impact of current or future non-resident Beach Club owners voting on local issues that affect year-round residents.

Other concerns are the structural integrity of the Beach Club, its sewer capability, current building code violations, membership and its possible expansion.

The Committee proposed a joint Fire District/Beach Club strategy to address these concerns.

Other strategies include a community buyout of the Club, changing Fire District voting eligibility requirements, requiring resident stickers for vehicles, and more stringent administrative review.

Public Meeting #3 - August

DESIGN and PLANNING CHARRETTE

Meeting #3 was a design and planning charette to generate and solidify ideas for the future of Bonnet Shores. Participants worked in groups and presented ideas that produced the following categories for study:

Community Facilities: Playgrounds, playing fields, the community center and its program

Community-owned beaches and their management

Community Character: Scale, architecture, managed growth, plant materials and tree maintenance, gateways.

Preservation of open space, natural amenities, beaches and beach access, creation of a greenway, and controlling development.

Sewer and Septic connections, extensions, and improvements.

The Beach Club and the issues discussed at Public Meeting #2, above.

Roads and Traffic maintenance, control, enforcement, and general public safety

Government definition, structure, and relationship to the Town of Narragansett community at large.

Public Meeting #4 - September

ACTION PLAN OPTIONS

The results of the August charette were refined and presented as a three-phase action plan. Attendees indicated their preferences for each proposed Action Step.

Phase One

Duration - Year One to Year Five

FOCUS - District government; strengthen ordinances; develop and implement growth management policies; acquire open space; establish waste water management plan; study teen activity needs; develop traffic calming education program; and create design guidelines for community character.

Phase Two

Duration - Year Five to Year Ten

FOCUS - Capital improvements including enhancement of Little Beach and the Community Center. Continue open space acquisition and growth management work from Phase One, and initiate traffic calming improvements.

Phase Three

Duration - Year Ten to Year Twenty

FOCUS - Capital improvements including hiking trail. Proposed sewer connections. Continue open space acquisition and growth management activities.

The people who helped make it happen at the

BONNET SHORES

MASTER PLAN COMMUNITY MEETINGS

June 30, 1999

Carol Relihan
Bob Ryan
Shirley Larch
Ralph Berggren
Bob Giguere
Patricia Logker
Dan Reagan
M. Mannix
Jane Cruff
Ron Cruff
Bert Underhill
Anne Underhill
Carol Jurczak
Jill Hynes
Ray Mello
Louis Ferri
M. Sornberger
Eileen DeCiccio
Gene DeCiccio
George N. Larocque
Patricia Angulo
Marie C. Kelley
Winifred A. Kelley
Louise Hynes
Mr. Lewis Pucci
Mrs. Lewis Pucci
Mr. Paul Haas
Mrs. Paul Haas
Diane Sikut
John Sikut
Patricia Sugrue
Austin Donnelly
Kathy diStefano
Ted diStefano
Steve Patience
Helen Patience
Jean D'Agostino
Peter D'Agostino
Donna Monaghan
George Monaghan
Michael Mannix
Pat Mannix
James Gilligan
Helen Gilligan
Ruth Mahon
Bill DelGizzo
Anita J. Langer
Mr. S. Catalano
Mrs. S. Catalano
Ray Bliss
John Caparco
Paul Haas
Denise McCooley
Diane Gaynor
Ron Kelley
Dana/Jane Carter
Cathy Rei
Steve Rei
Dr. Bob Varone
Lee Listro
Paul Listro
Eleanor McMahon
Dick McMahon
Barbara Vernava
Al Vernava
T.P. Duffy

Joe Concordia
Carol Fortin
Brenda K. Laundry
Mr. Robert Carlson
Mrs. Robert Carlson
Sally Davis
Brian Hallowel
Anne Salvadore
Ann Snell
Dan McDonald
Natalie McDonald
Jeff Lino
Peggy Fair
Lynn Bakstran
Jane Morra
Mike Morra
Pat Cole
Jan Huyck
Robert McClanaghan
Simon Nemzow
Nancy Riccitelli
James Riccitelli

July 21, 1999

Pat Catalano
Peggy Haas
Paul Haas
Joe Comisbeg
Dawn Cheek
Ann Snell
Carol Fortin
Pat Cole
Louise Hynes
Ruth F. Mahon
Mr. Paul Listro
Mrs. Paul Listro
Jean Pike
Pat Mannix
Michael Mannix
Jan Huyck
John Carvalho
Dan McDonald
Al Vernava
Barbara Vernava
Sean Baxter
George Monaghan
Donna Monaghan
George N. Laruze
Patricia Logker
Janice Pucci
Lewis Pucci
Catherine McCormack
Diane Kelley
Gaynor Kelley
Elizabeth Reed
Cliff Hall
Lucie Hall
Mrs. Dot Carney
M. Mannix
Jane Morra
Mike Morra
Steve McCooley
Denise McCooley
Bert Underhill
Jim Gilligan
Helen Gilligan
Lloyd Albert

Dan Reagan
Steve Patience
Helen Patience
Patricia Sugrue
Dr. Bill DelGizzo
Mary Sornberger
Lynn Bakshen
Barbara Algren

August 11, 1999

Ruth F. Mahon
Marie C. Kelley
Pat Cole
Natalie McDonald
Gene DeCiccio
Walter Manning
R.J. Agnitsch
Robert Panillo
Tim Hixson
George Monaghan
Kent Hewitt
Helen Patience
Steve Patience
Emily O'Hare
R.B. Parness
Doris Foley
Eileen Anderson
Carol Jurczak
Patricia Sugrue
Jim Riccitelli
Nancy Riccitelli
Dr. Bob Varone
Kathleen B. deStefano
Margaret Lachut
Marie Kelley
Lewis Pucci
Janice Pucci
Bob Davis
Sally Davis
Paul Haas, Jr.
Elizabeth L. Reed
Walter Manning
Catherine Cook
Donna Monaghan
John Sornberger
Jack Carney
Mary Beth Holland
Shelley T. Parness
Pete Foley
Laura Arrighi
Bill O'Neill
Jill Hynes
T.C. Laundry
Catherine M. Kelleher
George Howard
Bert Underhill
Al Vernava
Clarkson A. Collins
Linda McMillen
Marjorie Manning
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Carol Fortin
John Caparco
Anita Langer
Peggy Haas
Paul Haas
Joe Cornisberg

Gloria Cornisberg
 Jan V. Huyck
 Louise Hynes
 Goerge N. Larocque
 Al Armstrong
 Lyn Armstrong
 Barbara W. Algren
 Angela S. Puppi
 Lorayne Black
 Frank Lachut
 Jim Gilligan
 Helen Gilligan
 Diane Kelley
 Eileen DeCiccio
 Kathleen E. Nottage
 Jane Morra
 Mike Morra
 Denise McCooley
 Michael Mannix
 Pat Mannix
 Cliff Hall

September 1, 1999

Elizabeth Reed
 Marcia O'Brien
 Tom O'Brien
 Ellie Hanlon
 John Carvalho
 Lloyd Albert
 Anita Langer
 Madeline Mannix
 Doris Foley
 Nancy Cavale
 Steve Patience
 Helen Patience
 Kathy Kelleher
 Dan Reagan
 Jim Gilligan
 Helen Gilligan
 Dr. Bob Varone
 Bob Schwegler
 Anne Salvatore
 Manfred Kelley
 Paul Listro
 Lee Listro
 Dana Carter
 Jane Carter
 Liz Gordon
 Doris Anderson
 Jane Morra
 Mike Morra
 Mary Beth Holland
 Pat Mannix
 Patrick Mannix
 Dave Haus
 Milton W. Mannix
 Pete Foley
 R. Berggren
 P. Berggren
 Diane Kelley
 Patricia Sugrue
 Jane Cruff
 Simon Nemzow
 George N. Larocque
 John Caparco
 Bob Giguere
 Janice McClanaghan
 Nancy Da Silvi
 Ruth Mahon
 Cliff Hall
 Dan Rigney
 Al Armstrong

Lyn Armstrong
 R.J. Agnitsch
 George Monaghan
 Brenda Laundry
 Donna Monaghan
 Marie Kelley
 Jeanne DiPrete
 Al DiPrete
 Mary Ann McGwin
 C. Richard Salzillo
 Carol Fortin
 Barbara W. Algren
 Margaret Lachut
 Frank Lachut
 Joe Johnston
 Bob Ryan
 Louise Hynes
 Bob Carlson
 Maureen Carlson
 Janice Pucci
 Lewis Pucci
 Bert Underhill
 S. Catalano
 Barbara Vernava
 Kaye Relihan
 Tom Hynes
 Jill Hynes

Long Range Planning Committee

Chairperson Dr. Bill DelGizzo, DMD
 Marcel Fortin
 Carol Fortin
 Paul Hass
 Gene DeCiccio
 Eileen DeCiccio
 Anita Langer
 John Carparco
 Patricia Sugrue
 Ward Barry
 Ruth Mahon

Bonnet Shores Fire District Council

Chairperson Carol Fortin
 Anita Langer
 John Carparco
 Patricia Sugrue
 Dr. Bill DelGizzo, DMD
 Dr. Bob Varone, DMD
 Lloyd Albert
 Dan Barry

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 Arnold Robinson, NCA
 Richard Youngken, NCA

BIBLIOGRAPHY

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INTERVIEWS

Bonnet Shores residents

Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management

University of Rhode Island Coastal Resources Council

Rhode Island Audubon Society

Save the Bay

Town of Narragansett Department of Community Planning and Development - Town Planner, Assistant Planner

Town of Narragansett Engineering and Public Works Departments

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Collection of the Bonnet Shores Historical Committee, provided by Marcel and Carol Fortin

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Marissa DiIorio Peters

For the Bonnet Shores Fire District Council

Consultants: Newport Collaborative Architects, Inc.
Pawlowski Associates, Inc.

