

# Homeowners say they have the right to grade dunes

By Dani Palmer  
Cannon Beach Gazette

Should dune grading wait until Cannon Beach's sand management plan is complete? The Planning Commission thinks so. Despite homeowner opposition, commission members want an amendment to the city's zoning code which would prohibit foredune grading until that plan is delivered.

"Why should this amendment be allowed?" Breakers Point homeowner Frank Patrick asked planning commissioners on Oct. 22. "Or, more importantly, why is it necessary?"

On Tuesday, Nov. 3, the Cannon Beach City Council held a public hearing on the amendment and after discussion, tabled the issue until future notice.

## Homeowners want grading options

Foredune grading applies to two sites, Breakers Point and the residential streets, and is done to maintain views or prevent inundation.

While Breakers Point homeowners were granted permission to grade 13,700-cubic-yards of sand in August, a condition of



SUBMITTED PHOTO/CANNON BEACH GAZETTE

Sand dunes near Breakers Point in Cannon Beach are said to block homeowners' and create an environmental hazard.

the permit was a delay of further grading until the sand management plan is developed and the revegetation plan is evaluated for success.

In September, the council asked the commission to amend the ordinance to reflect that condition.

At the Oct. 22 Planning Commission meeting, Patrick said the commission

and the City Council are responding to the interests only of "a few very vocal people who are saying we have to preserve the dunes" and not Cannon Beach homeowners.

"The sand management plan is a sand management plan, not a dune preservation plan," he added.

A sand management plan is expected to be delivered

in 12 to 18 months.

Commissioner Lisa Kerr said the city's sand management study may conclude that leaving the dunes alone is best, or that grading is the right choice.

"We just don't know what the end result will be," she added.

Breakers Point homeowner Ed Stone said it does not seem legal to

prohibit dune grading under state land use guidelines. Patrick also said the amendment constitutes a moratorium that violates state law.

"You folks are trying to change the rules of the game," Stone said, adding he wants city officials to abide by the law.

"Obviously if we don't agree with you, that doesn't mean that we're not following the rules," Kerr said. "It means that we don't agree with you on how that gets implemented, what the rules are and what that means."

Patrick said sand could pile up another 15 feet during the grading prohibition period — "a real problem" when it comes to safety and maintaining beach access Breakers Point Homeowners Association Property Manager Bruce Francis added the city asked them to put in the dune grass that is trapping sand and exacerbating the problem. There are dunes nearly 50 feet high near Breakers Point now as a result of meeting the city's original guidelines.

"We're all happy with what the city gave us," he noted, referring to an August decision to grant limited grading at Break-

ers Point. "We now have permission to move to the next phase."

## Rush to prohibition?

Francis said he didn't understand why the commission felt the need to amend the ordinance. To acquire a permit for dune grading would take about 18 to 24 months, the time it may take to finish the sand management plan.

If an amendment is to be considered, the commission needs to "at least put a time limit on" the dune grading prohibition, Francis said.

Currently there is no sunset date for delivery of the sand management plan, he added.

Kerr said a deadline could create further conflict if the sand management plan process runs longer than a proposed sunset date.

Commissioner Joseph Bernt, Kerr, Chair Bob Lundy and Charles Bennett voted to approve the amendment recommendation. Ryan Dewey was the lone dissenting vote.

If the proposal had been approved by the City Council, it would not have impacted the Breakers Point dune grading approval or any remedial projects, such as sand removal to keep storm drains flowing.

## OBITUARIES

### Rosemary Frances Kemper-Riddock

Dec. 1, 1941 — Oct. 19, 2015

Rosemary Frances Kemper-Riddock, 73, a longtime resident of Banks, Oregon, and a resident of the Seaside community over the last 10 years, passed away peacefully on Monday evening, Oct. 19, 2015, at St. Vincent Medical Center in Portland.

A funeral Mass was celebrated on Saturday, Oct. 24, 2015, at Our Lady of Victory Catholic Church, 120 Oceanway in Seaside, Oregon. Family and friends were invited to attend a reception following the Mass, held at the parish hall. The Rite of Christian Burial took place following the reception at Visitation Catholic Cemetery in Verboort, Oregon.

Rosemary was born on Dec. 1, 1941, in Long Beach, California. She was one of three children born to Charles

and Frances (Amerata) Smith, and moved with her family to Portland, Oregon, as a young girl. She attended St. Mary of the Valley through high school, graduating with the Class of 1959. She earned her bachelor's degree from Marylhurst University and a master's degree from Portland State University.

She met her husband, Nolan Kemper, while attending a baseball game he was playing in at East Moreland Park in Portland. After a dance-filled courtship, they were married on Aug. 10, 1963. After getting married they were both hired as schoolteachers by the Defense Department, and for over a decade they taught school on U.S. military bases all over the world, including Midway, France, Turkey, Germa-

ny and the Philippines.

After traversing the globe they returned home in 1974, and together built their family home in Banks. Rosemary worked in the home raising her kids, and as a substitute teacher in the Banks school district, until Nolan passed away suddenly in 1983.

After Nolan's death she returned to teaching full-time at Dilley Elementary School, and later became the curriculum director for Forest Grove School District. She finished her educational career in 2010, after serving as the principal of Cannon Beach Elementary for three years.

In 1986 she met Michael Riddock through mutual friends, and they were married a year later, living in Banks until 2007, before moving to Seaside. Michael



Rosemary Kemper-Riddock

passed away in July 2012.

Rosemary loved the beach, enjoyed hiking with friends and set new standards for grandmother excellence, showering her six grandchildren with love, books and her handmade quilts. She volunteered at her church, Our Lady of Victory, and sang in the church choir.

She lived to help others, and was integral in the founding and success of Seaside's

Food 4 Kids, an organization that provides food-filled backpacks every Friday during the school year to kids who request assistance. More than anything, she loved helping others, and devoted her life to making everyone she encountered feel like they mattered.

She is preceded by her first husband of 20 years; Nolan Kemper, her second husband of 25 years, Michael Riddock, her parents, and her sister, Nicki Ard.

Survivors include her four children and a daughter-in-law: Karl Kemper of Ashland, Chris and Jill Kemper

of Portland, Katrina Kemper of Yokosuka, Japan, and Kerry Kemper of Portland. She is also survived by her brother, Pat Smith, and his wife Pam, of Gladstone, Oregon, and six grandchildren: Jordan, Jackson, Alexis, Nola, Cade and Luke.

The family suggest donations in Rosemary's name to Food 4 Kids Seaside Oregon, P.O. Box 2611 Gearhart, OR 97138

Services were provided by Duyck & VanDeHey Funeral Home (503-357-8749). An online guest book may be signed at [www.dvfuneralhome.com](http://www.dvfuneralhome.com).

## Swedenborg: Fire responses won't be affected

Chief from Page 1A

Swedenborg's top priority is keeping firefighters on task until they get a new chief. After speaking with board members, he suggested the district care for the projects it has now before starting anything new in absence of a full-time leader.

Board member Linda Beck-Sweeney said most important is sustaining morale and ensuring general duties,

such as maintaining important records for the fire district, are completed.

"I think that's the big thing at this point is to keep it all moving," she said.

She added that Swedenborg has "good rapport" with the firefighters.

Clyde said if there's anything she can do to help, she's willing to "jump in."

The board is examining how to compensate Gardner and Swedenborg for their

work. The district paid Balzer \$36 an hour, roughly \$72,000 a year. Gardner has been working 60-hour-plus weeks for awhile and is up for a contract renewal in March when he could receive a raise, board members said.

The board will likely make a decision on Swedenborg's hourly wage next week, during its regular Monday night meeting. It hopes to meet with a Special Districts

Association of Oregon representative then who will assist the district in the search for its next fire chief.

Clyde said they still need to discuss what they want in a leader and existing options. In the meantime, Swedenborg said the department's fire responses will be remain unchanged.

There is no timeline yet for how long it will take to find a replacement.

## Applicants sought for Arch Cape Design Review Committee

Clatsop County is seeking applications for two open seats on the Southwest Coastal Citizens Advisory Committee, also known as the Arch Cape Design Review Committee.

Deadline for applications is Friday, Dec. 4. To apply,

obtain an application form and return it to the Clatsop County Manager's Office at 800 Exchange St., Suite 410, Astoria OR 97103, 503-325-1000. Forms are available from the County Manager's Office or can be downloaded from the county website [www.co.clatsop.or.us](http://www.co.clatsop.or.us).

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