

LONG RANGE STUDY COMMITTEE SURVEY

Summary

1. We mailed out 523 questionnaires, and 249 of you responded. In survey circles anything of over about 25% is considered good. To get 47% return on a survey is excellent; so the first thing we know about Black Point is that its citizens are concerned and active.

2. Extrapolating from the figures we received, there are about 1,000 people at the beach during the week and approximately 1,300-1,500 people on the weekends. The major change in numbers is due to the influx of teenagers and adults.

3. You indicated that about 10% of our cottages are rented some time during the year.

4. 31% of our homes are used year round.

5. This is how you said you used the facilities at the beach:

- a. 73% of us use the beaches regularly  
23% of us use the beaches sometimes
- b. 17% of us use the boat docks regularly  
22% of us use the boat docks sometimes
- c. 16% of us use the moorings regularly  
12% of us use the moorings sometimes
- d. 14% of us use the recreation program regularly  
16% of us use the recreation program sometimes
- e. 13% of us use the boat launch regularly  
25% of us use the boat launch sometimes
- f. 11% of us use the tennis courts regularly  
40% of us use the tennis courts sometimes
- g. 8% of us use the clubhouse regularly  
44% of us use the clubhouse sometimes
- h. 3% of us use the basketball courts regularly  
29% of us use the basketball courts sometimes

6. Regarding use of the beaches, the respondents indicated that:

- 40% of them use South Beach
- 21% of them use North Beach
- 21% of them use Seabreeze
- 10% of them use Seaview
- 5% of them use Seaspray
- 3% of them use other

7. As regards the condition of the beaches, you stated the following:

	<u>OK to Excellent</u>	<u>Poor</u>
Sand	72%	28%
Amount of beach	71%	29%
Depth of water	59%	41%
Cleanliness of water	67%	33%
Water bottom	39%	61%

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>
Are the beaches crowded?	63%	37%
Are the beaches noisy?	64%	36%
Is there sufficient parking?	65%	35%
Are the beaches safe?	85%	15%

8. The following numbers of boats were recorded in the survey:

- 74 power boats
- 60 sail boats
- 29 sunfish type
- 13 catamarans
- 9 surf sails
- 14 other

9. This is the way you maintain your boats:

- 39% of the people moor at Black Point
- 20% of the people trail their boats or moor them for short periods of time
- 18% of the people trail their boats in and out each use
- 13% of the people store or moor their boats out of Black Point
- 2% of the people have their boats in slips
- 9% of the people report no proper storage or mooring available

10. As for dinghys:

- 64% are stored at home
- 18% are stored on the right of way
- 16% are stored on the beaches
- 2% other

11. Boaters who responded, reported the following:

	<u>OK to Excellent*</u>	<u>Poor</u>
Dinghy storage	24%	77%
Facilities at pick-up dock	54%	46%
Moorings	64%	36%
Swimmer safety	64%	36%
Boater safety	66%	34%
Launching safety	72%	28%

\*The number of people rating any of the above as excellent is minimal.

12. When asked to write about our needs at the beach, you created the following hierarchy of issues:

#### Primary Issues

1. Shallowness of water at North Beach
2. Erosion of South Beach
3. Eel grass (all beaches)
4. Rocks/stones in water (all beaches)
5. Beach cleanliness (cigarettes, sticks, stones)
6. Dinghy storage
7. Launching area--rocky, water level, safety
8. Evening noise--on beach, from cars (stereos, etc.)
9. Vehicular safety--speeding, stop sign violations, peeling
10. Dogs--sanitary management
11. Zoning--process, communication with public regarding "summer water" issue

#### Secondary Issues

1. South Beach--severe slope in one area
2. Need for more beach
3. Lack of respect for safety of swimmers by boaters
4. General water safety
5. Poor mooring facilities
6. Water depth at pick-up dock
7. Need plan
8. Recreation--need to upgrade, add, e.g. swimming, arts/crafts, adult activities, gymnastics, road race, softball, etc.
9. Sewers (need them)
10. "Cats" use too much space

#### Minor Issues

1. Seaspray--not cleaned
2. "Cats" need more space
3. Swimmers endanger selves by actions (swimming in restricted areas)
4. Need small boat storage
5. Clubhouse--noisy rentals
6. Tennis--reservation system (+,-), no cost, parking, cleaning of courts, cliques(2), more time
7. Vacant lots (dirty)
8. Parking (need more) (use stickers)
9. Roads (poor)
10. Renters--limit number/household, disrespectful of rules
11. Hedge heights (traffic safety)

#### Conclusions

In general, the people of the Black Point Beach Association are more active than the typical population, as evidenced by their response to this survey. This is confirmed when you realize that the survey was done in an off season. The demography of Black Point demonstrates a family population, with adults representing approximately 70% of the population, teenagers approximately 13% of the population, and children 12 and under approximately 15% of the population. We have also projected that the numbers of people on the weekends are increased by about 25 to 33%.

Although about 10% of the cottages are rented, less than 1/3 of those are rented year round or for the winter.

We are a beach community, with 96% of all people reporting use of the beach. Less than 20% of the population are avid boaters, but nearly 40% of the population uses boats as a recreational outlet. 11% of the population use the tennis courts regularly, but almost half of the population has some involvement with the tennis facilities. 8% of the population makes use of the clubhouse as a means of recreation, but 52% go to the clubhouse for one reason or another on an occasional basis. About 3% of our population are basketball persons, but up to 1/3 of us throw a shot in the hoop occasionally.

According to the survey, the three most utilized beaches are South Beach, North Beach, and Seabreeze. They represent the vast majority of our population. Seaview, Seaspray, and the other areas serve approximately 18%. In general, the beaches were rated as OK with 2/3 of the people saying the sand, the amount of the beach and the water cleanliness were acceptable, but less than 60% felt the water depth was appropriate. In the narratives, this pointed specifically to North Beach. The water bottom less than 40% of the people felt was satisfactory. There again this was supported in the narratives. The written statements also impressed me with the need for South Beach to have a rock removal program on the beach itself. In general, the written comments about the beach were more negative than the ratings given in the first part of the survey. The beaches were rated as extremely safe and having sufficient parking, but about 2/3 of the respondents felt the beaches were crowded and noisy.

As noted above, approximately 20% of the population is heavily involved in boating. More than 1/3 of the boats are power boats, another 1/3 sail, and another 1/3 are smaller boats such as sunfish type, catamarans, surf sails, etc. The larger boats are moored permanently at Black Point or trailed in and out and left for short periods of time. About 18% of the people trail their boats in and out each time and 13% of our boating population keep their boats stored and moored out of Black Point. A major issue for boaters was the storage of dinghys, with 2/3 of the people reporting that they stored them at home. Docking, as reported statistically and narratively, is a problem with water level rocks and people using the docking pick-up area for other reasons. Mooring itself, in general, is considered good by a majority of the population. 1/3 of the population has significant concern for safety of swimmers and boaters around the launching areas and on beaches where catamarans are launched and stored.

As you read the list of major, secondary, and minor issues, I wish to note that the process used was to read each comment, put it in a category, and simply rate the issues as level 1, 2, or 3 based upon the frequency of response in each area.

In general, I would say that the vast majority of people at Black Point are satisfied with the area, that the 11 major issues need to be addressed as immediately as possible, hopefully before the opening of the beaches in the summer of 1984. The other issues I believe we have a little more time to work with, and this can be accomplished through our summer input meetings and finalized in summer 1985 or 1986.

This report is respectfully submitted to the Board for their consideration and review.

Matthew Borrelli  
Chairman, Long Range Study Committee

P.S. Thank you to the people who volunteered to serve on committees and to those who offered to act as consultants to our association. For the Board's information, there are about 30 people in each category.