

Sea Isle City Puts Off Open Space Summons

By JOE ZELNIK

CREST HAVEN — The voicemail did it.

County Open Space Review Board Chairman William F. Quinn did a number on Sea Isle City officials Oct. 24 for failing to show up at 1 p.m. to give an often-scheduled report on their plans for the former Co-spar property bought with \$1.5 million in county open space funds in 1998.

Anti-Drug

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board comprised of teachers, said Batten.

The Peers encourage students "to hang out with us and make a difference."

If a student is offered drugs at a party, they should leave, said Peer Sal

"We've sent four letters to Sea Isle City to present their waterfront excursion report," said Quinn. "We don't yet know what it will be."

The city plans an "Excursion Waterfront Park" on the just under one acre oceanfront lot.

"He," said Quinn, referring to Mayor and Freeholder Leonard Desiderio, whose freeholder office is about 250 feet from the

open space meeting, "hasn't even responded by paper or phone to our memos. I think we are due an explanation."

Open Space Director Barbara Ernst asked if she should send another letter.

"No," said Quinn. "I don't know how to get him to come here."

After the meeting, Ernst returned to her office to find a voice mail from Desiderio at 11:53 a.m. saying the city was "not quite ready," she told this newspaper, "and wanted to postpone for another month."

The city engineer reported last month that he hoped to go for bids this month.

Open Space invited Sea Isle City to explain its plans on Oct. 29, 2004, Jan. 30, 2006, and in March 2006,

according to Ernst.

The site may be sandy, but it's been rocky for Sea Isle City-Open Space relations.

In 1999, Open Space wrote Sea Isle City several times to insist it stop permitting parking on the property for a seasonal fee of \$125. It never answered, but did stop the parking.

In 2003, the county gave Sea Isle City permission to hold its National Night Out celebration including vendors, rides, and exhibitors on the property for one day.

The lease between the county and Sea Isle City permits the property to be used for "recreation and conservation purposes."

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English Teacher Dawn Dollinsky introduced the program to the Teitelman School five years ago. She said the newest addition is an anti-smoking program called Rebel II.

Teachers receive in-service training to help them implement the peer pro-