

# Cape May Point considers replacing security cameras

By JACK FICHTER  
Cape May Star and Wave

CAPE MAY POINT — Borough Commission is considering replacing security cameras at the entrances to the borough that are malfunctioning after more than a decade of use.

On Oct. 25, Mayor Robert Moffatt said the security cameras have proved very beneficial.

Deputy Mayor Anita van Heeswyk said there are locations she would like to see security cameras placed to prevent vandalism.

Commissioner Catherine Busch asked who has the responsibility of monitor-

ing the cameras and who would have access to the cameras and their recordings.

Moffatt said Public Works Director Bill Gibson is responsible for the cameras at the entrances to the borough at Cape and Lighthouse avenues.

“Every time we have tried to place a security camera in the dunes, they’ve been taken,” Moffatt said.

Borough solicitor John Amenhauser said if the cameras are focused on borough property, anything that may be caught on video is ancillary and not a privacy concern for the borough.

Busch said the cameras have been used in the past to record license plates of vehicles entering and leaving the borough. She said replacing the entire system involves considerable cost.

The borough was not collecting data on every vehicle entering or leaving the borough, van Heeswyk said.

“In the case of something happening in town and we knew it happened in a period of time, the video was accessible, and the police could look for license plate numbers in that case,” she said. “They didn’t keep a log of everybody who came in town. On a few occasions

it worked very, very well.”

Borough Administrator Ed Grant said he believes the security camera are very important, especially in winter when few residents are in town and there is a concern for vandalism.

“In the middle of January or February and someone’s house is robbed at night and there is only two cars that leave here, it’s a good investigative tool for the police to follow up on,” he said.

Van Heeswyk said security cameras seem to be everywhere and the borough would be remiss by not having them.

Busch said she would obtain quotes for new cameras but the cost surely would exceed what is available in the borough’s capital budget. The current camera system is obsolete and cannot be upgraded, she said.

Grant said Gibson informed him the security cameras have helped catch

multiple car thieves.

During public comment, Environmental Commission Chairwoman Barbara Bassett said the cameras are well worth the expense to “keep our little town safe.” She suggested placing a camera at Alexander Avenue.

Bassett suggested placing cameras to survey dunes. She said the system should be able to archive recordings for future reference.



Courtesy of Cape May MAC

Pictured on the grounds of the Emlen Physick Estate are, from left, Susan Cubberley, OceanFirst Bank Branch Manager, Cape May branch; Jody Alessandrine, MAC director and CEO; and Mary Stewart, MAC chief outreach strategist.

## OceanFirst Foundation supports MAC

CAPE MAY — OceanFirst Foundation presented a check for \$5,000 to Cape May MAC (Museums + Arts + Culture) on Aug. 16.

The funds will be used to help meet the matching requirement for New Jersey Historic Trust (NJHT) Planning and Capital Grants, which were awarded to Cape May MAC to be used for improved HVAC and fire suppression systems in the 1879 Physick House Museum.

Cape May’s Victorian House Museum was designed by American architect Frank Furness and is one of the best examples of Victorian Stick Style architecture in the country.

“We are very grateful to OceanFirst Foundation

for this much-needed support for the Physick House Museum’s HVAC and fire suppression systems,” Cape May MAC Director and CEO Jody Alessandrine said. “As stewards of this magnificent building, we are committed to protecting it for generations of Cape May residents and visitors.”

OceanFirst Foundation’s priorities include health and wellness, housing, youth development and education. Since 1996, OceanFirst Foundation has awarded more than 8,600 grants totaling more than \$46 million to nonprofit organizations and schools. Learn more at oceanfirstfdn.org.

Cape May MAC is a multifaceted not-for-profit organization committed to

promoting the preservation, interpretation and cultural enrichment of the Cape May region for its residents and visitors. Membership is open to all. For information about its year-round schedule of tours, festivals and special events, call (609) 884-5404 or visit capemay-mac.org.



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DATE	HIGH		LOW	
	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.
9	8:09	8:32	1:37	2:26
10	8:47	9:13	2:14	3:08
11	9:24	9:55	2:51	3:52
12	10:04	10:40	3:29	4:37
13	10:47	11:29	4:09	5:25
14	11:35		4:54	6:17
15	12:25	12:28	5:47	7:10
16	1:26	1:26	6:48	8:02

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