

The Coastal Resiliency Action Committee  
**MEETING MINUTES - TUESDAY, JUNE 25, 2019.**  
Old Water Department, Falmouth Town Hall, 4:00 p.m.

Present: Charles McCaffrey, Chair  
Jamie Mathews  
Paul Dreyer  
Andrew Ashton  
Ed Schmitt  
Jennifer McKay, Administrator – Conservation Commission

Absent: Melissa Freitag, Vice-Chair,

Also present: Richard Johnson, League of Women Voters

Mr. McCaffrey opened the meeting at 4:01.P.M.

### **Continue discussion of committee reports**

Mr. McCaffrey will give a presentation to the Planning Board tonight. He will give a summary of what we've accomplished over the past year and what we plan to do over the next year. Mr. Dreyer, Planning Board member and liaison to CRAC, had encouraged Mr. McCaffrey to give the presentation. Ms. McKay acknowledged the importance of having conversations between the two boards as we will need the input from the Planning Board in the future.

Mr. Mathews asked when our last presentation to the Board of Selectmen occurred and it was agreed that it took place in the last six months.

Mr. Dreyer attended the Selectmen's meeting last night where they talked about the Menauhant project. They have pulled out some of the piers and put fencing around the area. They have permits for the groins. They have not applied to the Conservation Commission re the Applied Coastal project as of yet. It was mentioned that they would like to add that to the original permit. Ms. McKay noted that they couldn't do that but could apply for an amendment.

### **Update on grants**

Ms. McKay noted that we received the grant for Surf Drive. The Coonamessett River grant that the Town recently received was eligible because we are an MVP program. This Committee applied for two different grants – an Action Grant that we are eligible for because of the MVP program and a Coastal Resiliency Grant from CZM. We can hire Woods Hole Group to do the work on Surf Drive. The contract has been executed but we haven't gotten it back from the State. I will ask Elise to bring us a contract from WHG. There is a small grant that is due July 12th – FEMA money. Mr. McCaffrey will speak with Elise re it.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

*Committee will consider any matters not reasonably anticipated by the Chair.*

The Community Rating System (CSR) application will be a 3 year process. A Community Assessment visit will be scheduled in the next couple of months. Molly? spent a day in Falmouth and was impressed with the number of department staff who attended the first meeting.

If we are approved the Town will be eligible to receive some assistance with flood insurance in the future. It has something to do with wind velocity and could save a homeowner up to 15%. We have not been accepted yet – it's a 3 or 4 year process.

On July 8<sup>th</sup> – Elise LeDuc will give a presentation on the Vulnerability Assessment to the Selectmen. It's important that the Selectmen understand the context. The Model shows total flooding in some areas. The agenda is not finalized yet. It might be nice to give a short presentation on what we're doing. Elise will give a 10 to 15 minute presentation and we can give a short presentation on other items we're working on right before Elise's presentation.

The Capital Improvement Plan requests are due to the Town on July 12<sup>th</sup>. Ms. McKay recommends that the Committee ask for \$100,000 each year for coastal resiliency. Mr. Dreyer noted that there is a Coastal Resiliency Meeting in Nantucket tomorrow. Members of the Conservation staff are going. There is a conference at the end of July in Harwich being held by the Cape Cod Commission.

The Vulnerability Assessment will not interfere with starting the Surf Drive project. The Committee should have a meeting with WHG in July re Surf Drive. It will be a group meeting. The Assessment has to be done by June. We should do a couple different photo renditions on how the assets will be, i.e. a map of Woods Hole – the drawbridge – the lift stations – a flooding scheme of Woods Hole. We could show the Mitchell Beach House under water or how it will be in 2030 and 2090. Gregg took Elise out on a boat to look at bridges that are critical assets. We will see if she can add the West Falmouth dock. If we don't get the CZM grant – we should think of something to do with the \$80,000 we have. What can we do relative to the West Falmouth work within that budget? The left over money will roll over. If we don't get the grant we can ask for funding in the fall. We can talk with someone on how to trim this down. We could ask a consultant what we can do with this much money. We will be awarded another \$100,000 at the fall Town meeting and we can start using that money. It was suggested that we ask the Selectmen to extend the Committee beyond the 3 years. The Selectmen seem to want us to bring a new project to them each month and that is not possible.

There was an interesting topic - post disaster assessment - in the CAB discussion. FEMA is in the process of discussing after disaster techniques. How do you go about assessing what needs to be done after a disaster? Our Emergency Management Team needs to know how to assess post disaster. It could be a grant possibility. You could have emergency permits in place before a hurricane or other disaster. When a named storm is coming MASS DEP will issue emergency plans a day or so before an event and we follow the State's guidance.

Richard Johnson – Chair of Natural Resources for the League of Women Voters asked that the Committee members attend their fall meeting and give a ½ hour to 45 minute presentation. It will be held in the Hermann Room at Falmouth Public Library. The invitation is for either October or November. The Committee is interested in doing that. The Vulnerability Assessment will be complete at that time. Mr. Johnson will be in touch with Ms. McKay to arrange the meeting. The Committee will attend the October meeting to be held on Thursday, October 17<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Johnson is meeting with the Board of Directors tonight and will inform them.

## **VOTE MINUTES**

The minutes will be voted at the next meeting on July 9<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Dreyer: Move to adjourn.

Mr. Mathews: Second.

Mr. McCaffrey: Unanimous, so moved.

The meeting adjourned at 5:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Cronin, Recording Secretary