



COASTAL RESILIENCY TASK FORCE

Minutes
Regular Monthly Meeting
Monday, June 5, 2023
1:00 p.m.

Members Present: Martin Jaffe; Carrie Allen; Nick Webb; Tom Welch; Robin Kohnke; and Kate Zadek

Members Absent:

Also present: Abby Y. Piersall, AICP, Town Planner; Richard Pleines, Building Official; Mike Neff, Emergency Management Director

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM MAY 1, 2023 MEETING

C. Allen moved to approve the minutes from the May 1, 2023 meeting. K. Zadek seconded the motion. Members voted on the motion and it carried, unanimously.

In Favor: C. Allen; N. Webb; T. Welch; R. Kohnke; K. Zadek; and M. Jaffe
In Opposition: None
Abstentions: None
The motion carried: 6-0-0

2. DISCUSSION OF THE REGIONAL COASTAL RESILIENCY PLAN

A Piersall discussed the award of the Regional Plan contract and noted that a kickoff meeting will be held with the consultant on June 15th in Westbrook. Members discussed the role of the Task force as it relates to the Regional Plan. A. Piersall reviewed the history of past resiliency planning and referenced the current Task Force webpage, where those plans are found. Members were asked to review the plans and begin to note priority action items included in those documents. The Task Force will help the Regional Plan consultant focus on elements of past plans that should continue forward as Town priorities, and elements that may no longer be as relevant.

Members discussed the importance of messaging for the Regional Plan and the need to help people connect with the importance of resilience planning. Members also discussed whether there could be opportunities to address other resiliency issues beyond flooding impacts, such as energy consumption, emissions, or changing ecosystems. A. Piersall noted that the Town

Council's charge for the group focuses on coastal flooding and resiliency issues, but that a recommendation may come out of this process to refocus or broaden the scope in the future.

T. Welch raised the possibility of incentivizing residents to switch from fossil fuels and suggested building permit incentives.

3. SUMMARY OF PAST COASTAL PLANNING WORK

C. Allen asked what the Task Force should prepare for the Consultants. A. Piersall, stated that the task force needs to 1) advise on communications strategies that will work best in Clinton; and 2) provide information and feedback on community priorities.

4. COMMUNICATIONS AND OUTREACH

C. Allen asked how focused the consultants will be on existing and proposed regulations and engaging with the Planning & Zoning Commission. A Piersall stated that the Planning & Zoning Commission will be involved with the project. Ultimately the Commission and Town Council will both review recommended policies that result from this project.

N. Webb suggested that the proposed draft language for the Coastal Resiliency Task Force webpage specifically refers to climate change. Members discussed the potential range in public opinion about the term "climate change." The Task Force reached a consensus that the website language would be updated to reference climate change specifically, but acknowledged that the effects, such as flooding, erosion, habitat changes, and other issues should be the focus of outreach materials.

Members discussed outreach strategies such as a newspaper article, posting QR codes at key locations and events, reaching out to emergency personnel, posting to social media, and linking to the consultants website.

A Piersall requested that the members send her lists of any events, including the organizer contact information, as well as any contact lists or social media platforms where project information could be shared. This will help the Consultant form a communications and outreach strategy.

5. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 1:59P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Cristi Alvarado

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Coastal Resiliency Task Force Clerk