

Minutes of Coastal Advisory Commission meeting 14 May 2019

Meeting was called to order with a quorum established at 6:05 p.m. by Louise Pfund, Chair.

Present were Kyle Boyd, Coastal Management Officer, Louise Pfund, Lynda Murray Harding, Tom Hall (via telephone), Jon Grant, Kevin Cafferty, Frank Snow.

We were joined by Dave Ball, Jack McInnis, and Tim Carty, Ann Burbine, RD Dwyer, Michele Wood, Lynda Ferguson, Susan Fiore, Janet Bristol, Jan Grant and Shirley Musto. These participants represented the Chamber, Scituate Harbor Business Assoc. and the EDC.

Louise welcomed the visitors and introductions took place.

Louise summarized the goal of inviting the harbor business people to the meeting and then turned it over to Kyle to provide an overview of the new grant for the harbor: "Scituate Harbor Sustainability and Resiliency Master Plan".

Kyle Boyd provided information about the grant which is funded at \$75,000 and will be implemented by MAPC. A 25 year master plan for the harbor which addresses coastal impact, zoning and other related concerns will be developed by a task force which will include harbor businesses. There was much discussion of the flooding of the downtown area and how it impacted all of their businesses. Another point was the harbor needed more retail outlets. Pop-up stores were discussed as a positive option for any open storefronts. Also, the harbor is active at night with the restaurants doing well, but with most shops closing at 5:00 pm, there is a missed opportunity for a vibrant commercial harbor during evening hours. .

Michele Wood spoke about the concerns she and the town merchants have regarding the flooding in the parking lot (between Mill Wharf, the marina and businesses/condos and Cole Parkway) and the effects the flooding has on their businesses. Generally, it affects parking the most but in a significant storm, the physical storefronts are also affected

Kevin Cafferty spoke about a few ideas on the flooding and about the sandbagging equipment that the town has purchased. Also, he emphasized the importance of the new grant and task force. He said, "The more you put into this the more you will get out of this". He also verbally provided a list of completed studies resulting from grants that have been awarded to the town, and discussed the complexities of the process.

There was a discussion about zoning and the possibility of eventual re-zoning to relocate businesses (or locate any new ones) further up the hill. Obviously, this is a drastic solution but may come into the discussion for long term planning. .

Many ideas were shared for what could help the harbor. There was acknowledgement that many residents have a negative view on "all the studies that the town has done and little action" but the large turnout at this meeting and the firm plan set forth for the harbor was a positive step in influencing this perception.

Louise then spoke about the public forum that is planned for June 27 which will focus on our goals of educating and engaging with the community. We will demonstrate the significant value of the studies and how they have turned into concrete projects. We will emphasize that the top recommendations are becoming the priorities, as in the Harbor grant. We will also focus on the upcoming grants and how citizens can be involved. Next steps are to develop an outline, rough content and gain input from committee members. This will have to be done outside our monthly meeting as June 27 is an aggressive date. Location for the forum is TBD.

Kyle also spoke about the CRS Mitigation Report and how the next 5 year report will require significant manpower in order for the town to be recertified. David Ball offered him help on this project.

There was a discussion regarding the Mann Hill–Egypt Beach NOI, Peggotty Beach grant and other projects underway.

Minutes from our last meeting have been approved. The next meeting is scheduled for June 11<sup>th</sup>.

A motion was made and the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted.