

Minutes of Coastal Advisory Commission meeting 12 March 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, Frank Snow, Kevin Cafferty, DPW, Lynda Murray Harding, Paula Jewell, and Tom Hall via telephone. We were joined by Tim Carty of the Coastal Coalition.

Louise spoke about the leadership positions that have not been filed as yet. We plan to finalize at the next CAC meeting.

Minutes from the January 15 and February 19, 2019 were discussed and approved.

Louise talked about our discussions from the last meeting regarding our broad scale tasks and spoke about how we need to streamline our goals going forward. She encouraged us to make suggestions.

Louise and Kyle Boyd got together prior to the meeting and Kyle presented a Handbook which summarized the key studies, suggested priorities and community feedback along with a chart summarizing grants to date, in process, completed and denied. This report will greatly help us zero in on our focus, what the town has accomplished to date along with other important information for us to review. He plans on updating this notebook at every meeting.

We had a very good discussion about what we should plan going forward based on common themes/concerns from these reports. We discussed the downtown area concerns, Peggotty Beach, municipal /waste water facilities and Managed Retreat. We agreed we will want to plan our community outreach or forums in these areas and begin the process of seeking out speakers to provide more information in these areas.

Kyle also gave a report of the new grants available to address the downtown and Peggotty Beach area.

Frank expressed his frustration over the Minot beach sand loss. He stated this was in place and set to be processed and then out of concern for cost by the Army Corp of Engineers this was cancelled and wanted to know why. We need to find ways to have these plans move ahead in the future. We will bring this up at future meetings with officials to gain perspective on how to avoid in future.

We spoke about the elevation of homes. We discussed pros and cons of this project.

We spoke of the issue of easements and how we could better educate the public of the importance of this in order to protect our shoreline. We need people to understand how it affects property for both the homeowner and the abutters. By refusing to grant easements the homeowner does not get the full benefit and the abutters are frequently adversely affected. We also discussed how much manpower and costs are wasted when the easements do not come through for projects.

Based on all of the above, we hope to plan forums, guest speakers and engage our local legislators to help up promote education and dialogue on these topics with our community.

Our next CAC meeting is scheduled for April 16th.

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

Respectfully submitted.
