

THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL AT THE NEXT COASTAL RESILIENCY COMMITTEE MEETING

TOWN OF WESTBROOK, CONNECTICUT  
COASTAL RESILIENCY COMMITTEE MEETING  
Thursday, March 2, 2023  
Mulvey Municipal Center  
Multi-Media Room and via ZOOM

CALL TO ORDER

Sid Holbrook, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m. In attendance included: Sid Holbrook (via ZOOM), Marilyn Ozols, Tony Cozza, Ron Botelho, Andy Calderoni, Sara Angelini (exited the meeting at 7:00 p.m.) and Peter Gillespie, Planner.

Absent: Mike Engels, Evan Cusson

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – 2/2/23

Tony Cozza made a motion to approve the minutes from the 2/2/23 Committee meeting as presented. Marilyn Ozols seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

STATUS OF NFWF/LISFF GRANT

The NFWF/LISFF Grant has been accepted by both the BOS and BOF. It has been forwarded to the next Town Meeting for final approval.

Our partner towns provided input for the application and Peter has been meeting regularly with the staff from the other towns.

REVIEW OF COASTAL RESILIENCY PLANS FROM OTHER COMMUNITIES

Copies of the Coastal Resiliency plans from the towns/cities of Groton, Stonington, Stratford and Branford were included in the Committee's packet and posted on the town's website. Committee members reviewed/discussed same. Information from these plans may be used to "guide" the consultant chosen to facilitate the Plan.

The Committee thanked Marilyn and Mike for providing these "sample" plans.

REVIEW OF DRAFT RFQ/RFP

The draft RFQ/RFP, developed by Peter Gillespie, was included in the committee's packet and discussed. Peter will incorporate committee members comments/suggestions into the document as appropriate. When updated, the document will be forwarded to Committee members for review. The partnering towns will also have an opportunity to review the document and provide input. The intent is the post the RFP/RFQ as soon as possible.

DISCUSSION OF 4 TOWN PLANNING PROCESS

Westbrook has taken the lead on this project. Old Saybrook and Fenwick have staff assigned to developing the Coastal Resiliency Plan and Clinton will be forming a committee in the near future.

The consultant's report will include specifics for each town. A recommendation was made to form an "Executive Committee" consisting of 2 individuals from each town tasked with reviewing the RFP/RFQ and submitting a recommendation to the entire Committee(s) relative to interviewing consultant candidates, and working more directly with the consultant as the process moves forward.

It was agreed that Peter Gillespie and Tony Cozza will represent Westbrook on the "Executive Committee" and Andy Calderoni will be Westbrook's alternate member. Marilyn Ozols will be one of Fenwick's representatives on the "Executive Committee".

#### DISCUSSION OF COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The Committee discussed a variety of methods to engage the community on the project including:

- An insert/flyer on the project in the Tax Bills that will be issued in the Spring. This flyer would direct residents to the Town's website.
- An article in the Westbrook Events magazine that is sent to each household.
- Community Meetings
- On-going articles in the Harbor News. Peter will reach out to the editor.

#### NEXT MEETING – Wednesday, 4/5/23

Agenda to include:

- Status of RFP/RFQ
- Draft flyer to be used for public outreach
- Status of Chalker Beach tide gate (Old Saybrook)
  - The Committee briefly discussed the possibility of submitting a grant application (LI Sound Grant) for funding to address the Cold Spring Marsh area. While addressing these long-standing issues will be included in the Plan, an opportunity to address those concerns outside of the Plan, if funding is available, may be beneficial.
- Status report from Public Works Director relative to projects; i.e. raising of Old Mail Trail, catch basins, etc.

OTHER BUSINESS – None.

PUBLIC COMMENT – None.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Marilyn Ozols made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:46 p.m. Andy Calderoni seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Suzanne Helchowski  
Clerk