

Commission on Coastal Risks and Hazards

Meeting Minutes

Legislative Office Building – Room 302/304

Friday August 16, 2013

Members

1. Senator David Watters –in attendance
2. Senator Nancy Stiles – in attendance
3. Representative Chris Muns – in attendance
4. Representative Fred Rice – in attendance
5. Dr Mimi Becker – in attendance
6. Steve Bird – not in attendance
7. Robert Cormier – in attendance
8. Edna Feighner – in attendance
9. Jennifer Gilbert – in attendance
10. Peter Kinner – not in attendance
11. Jonathan Kipp – in attendance
12. Dr. Paul Kirshen – in attendance
13. Jim Lee – not in attendance
14. Steven Miller – not in attendance
15. Thomas Morgan – in attendance
16. Mark Nogueira – in attendance
17. Dave Caron – in attendance
18. Kevin Nyhan – not in attendance
19. Michael O’Sullivan – in attendance
20. Jonathan Pennock – not in attendance
21. Kyle Pimental – in attendance
22. Vicki Quiram – in attendance
23. Cory Riley – in attendance
24. Cliff Sinnott – in attendance
25. Raymond Smith – not in attendance
26. Sabrina Stanwood – in attendance
27. Roger Stephenson – in attendance
28. Phil Winslow – in attendance
29. Gail Wolek – in attendance
30. David Wood – in attendance
31. Michael Woodworth – in attendance

Minutes

- As provided by statute, as the first member named by the speaker of the House of Representatives, Representative Muns presided as chairperson and seeing a quorum called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM.
- Representative Muns called for nominations for a permanent chairperson of the committee. Representative Rice nominated Cliff Sinnott of the Rockingham Planning Commission and Senator Stiles seconded the nomination. By a

unanimous vote in favor by the members in attendance Mr. Sinnott was elected Chairperson.

- Mr. Sinnott then asked for nominations for clerk of the commission. Representative Muns nominated David Wood of Hampton and Senator Stiles seconded the nomination. By a unanimous vote in favor by the members in attendance Mr. Wood was elected Clerk.
- Senator Watters mentioned that Senate staff will be available to assist the clerk and the committee.
- Chairperson Sinnott asked if the Commission is limited to a maximum of 4 meetings per year. Senator Watters clarified that 4 is the minimum number of meetings per year required by statute. Senator Watters also reminded Commission members that the Commission sunsets on December 1, 2016
- Chairperson Sinnott also asked if there was a requirement that the Commission must recommend legislation. Senator Watters clarified that there is no requirement that the Commission must recommend specific legislation.
- Chairperson Sinnott reminded members that the Commission is required to provide its initial report by November 1 and that the commission should agree on a deliverable. He suggested that perhaps a summary of the available NOAA data would be an appropriate deliverable.
- There was general agreement that it is important for the commission to first review and understand the relevant data available before proceeding to make recommendations.
- Also agreement by members that it is important to obtain and share information gathered by not only organizations represented on the Commission but by other groups as well.
- Senator Watters suggested that Legislative Research might be able to provide a summary of legislation and regulations that are already in place to assess and address coastal risk hazards.
- Dr. Becker and Ms. Stanwood suggested that the Commission ask each of the communities represented on Commission to provide a summary of what risks they have identified and what mitigation actions they have already put in place.
- Senator Watters submitted a motion to enable the Commission to accept alternate members who are dually appointed by the appropriate appointing authority and may represent that entity for quorum and voting purposes in the event that the named member is unable to attend a Commission meeting. The motion was seconded by Senator Stiles and approved by a unanimous vote of the members present.
- There was general agreement that the Commission needs to establish a website to facilitate the sharing of reading materials among Commission members and the public. Ms. Wolek agreed to assist Chairperson Sinnott and Clerk Wood in this endeavor.
- It was agreed that the next two meetings will take place on Friday September 20 at 10:00 AM and Friday October 18 also at 10:00 AM
- It was agreed that these two meetings will be held somewhere on the Seacoast at a location to be determined. Several sites were suggested: Great Bay Community College, Newcastle Community Center, Seacoast Science Center

- The meeting on September 20 will focus on the follows:
 - A review of the right to know law and commission members responsibilities under it.
 - A primer on what we know about sea level rise. Dr. Kirshen has agreed to work with Chairperson Sinnott to prepare this presentation.
 - A discussion of workgroups that the commission may want to establish. There was general agreement that the commission should consider this and members are encouragement to come to the meeting with their specific ideas on which workgroups should be established.
- The meeting on October 18 will include (at a minimum) presentations by represented communities of the risks they have identified and what mitigation actions they have already put in place.
- Senator Watters moved, Senator Stiles seconded and by a unanimous vote in favor of the members in attendance Chairperson Sinnott adjourned the meeting at 11:25 AM.