

New Hampshire Coastal Risks and Hazards Commission (RSA 483-E)

Meeting Minutes

NHDES Portsmouth Regional Office
Pease International Tradeport, 222 International Drive, Suite 175
Portsmouth, NH

February 20, 2015
9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Members Present

Name	Representation
Watters, David	Senator, NH District 4
Arcieri, Bill	Town of Newmarket
Bird, Steve	City of Dover
Cormier, Robert	Homebuilders and Remodelers Association of NH
Feighner, Edna	NH Division of Historical Resources
Gilbert, Jennifer (Commission Clerk)	NH Office of Energy and Planning
Godlewski, Sherry	Alternate, NH Department of Environmental Services
Hawkins, Don	Town of Seabrook
Houle, Jamie	Town of Durham
Huber, Richard	Alternate, Town of Exeter
Kinner, Peter	Town Greenland/UNH Coastal Response Research
Kipp, Jonathan	NH Public Risk Management Exchange (Primex)
Kirshen, Dr. Paul	University of NH
Miller, Steve	City of Portsmouth
Nyhan, Kevin	NH Department of Transportation
Pimental, Kyle	Strafford Regional Planning Commission
Rice, John	Seacoast Board of Realtors
Riley, Cory	NH Fish & Game, Great Bay NERR
Ryan, Mary Kate	Alternate, NH Division of Historical Resources
Scholz, Ann	Alternate, NH Department of Transportation
Sinnott, Cliff (Chairman)	Rockingham Planning Commission
Stanwood, Sabrina	NH DRED – Division of Forests and Lands
Stephenson, Roger	Town of Stratham
Winslow, Phil	Town of Rye
Wolek, Gail	NH DRED – Division of Parks and Recreation

Members Absent

Name	Representation
Stiles, Nancy	Senator, NH District 24

Name	Representation
Borden, Rep. David	Town of New Castle
Rice, Rep. Fred	Representative, District 21
Becker, Dr. Mimi	Town of Exeter
Bowman, Peter	Alternate, NH DRED – Division of Forests and Lands
Caron, David	NH Municipal Association
Carroll, Patrick	Town of Rollinsford
Fitzgerald, Brian	Alternate, Town of Rye
Kroner, Shep	Town of North Hampton
Kupper, Theodore	NH DAS – Bureau of Public Works, Design & Construction
Melanson, Paul	Town of Hampton Falls
Morgan, Thomas	Town of Newington
Muns, Chris	Former Representative, District 21
O’Sullivan, Michael	Town of Madbury
Pennock, Jonathan	UNH Marine Program & NH Sea Grant Program
Quiram, Vicki	NH Department of Environmental Services
Smith, Raymond	Town of Seabrook
Wood, David	Town of Hampton

Others Present

Name	Representation
Carter, Jamie	NOAA
Couture, Steve	NH Coastal Program - Department of Environmental Services
Howard, Kirsten	NH Coastal Program - Department of Environmental Services
LaBranche, Julie	Rockingham Planning Commission
Newhall, Rebecca	NOAA
Vallee, David	NOAA

1. Welcome/Introductions

Chairman Cliff Sinnott welcomed everyone and introduced two new members of the Commission. They include William Arcieri, representing Newmarket, and Donald Hawkins, representing Seabrook.

Chairman Sinnott asked everyone in attendance to introduce themselves. Introductions were made around the room.

2. Learning Workshop: Tools and Information about Coastal Hazards from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)

Becca Newhall, who is from the NOAA Northeast Regional Liaison Office for Coastal Management, introduced the two speakers.

David Vallee, who is the NOAA/NWS Director of Northeast River Forecasting Center, gave a presentation about climate trends in NH and their impact on storm and riverine flooding.

Jamie Carter, who is a NOAA/NWS Remote Sensing Analyst, gave a presentation about newly available Coastal Flood Exposure Mapper and other tools for visualizing coastal flood impacts.

A question and answer session followed the presentations. Both presentations are available for viewing on the Commission's web site at:

<http://nhcrhc.stormsmart.org/reading-list-for-commission-members/>.

3. Approval of Draft Minutes of December 19, 2014

A motion by Senator Watters was made to accept the minutes of December 19, 2014. The motion was seconded by Sabrina Stanwood. Bill Arcieri abstained. All approved.

4. First Pass Review of Consolidated Recommendations & Action from the Workgroups

Chairman Sinnott stated that the three working groups completed initial recommendations. The Commission's Steering Committee then reviewed them and a small group from the Committee consolidated similar or overlapping recommendations. He thanked Sherry, Kirsten, and Julie for their work consolidating the recommendations.

Chairman Sinnott stated the purpose of the Commission meeting today is to just go through the recommendations and not the actions. He stated the Commission will review and discuss the actions and the other columns in the template at the next Commission meeting.

Chairman Sinnott stated this is not the Commission's only opportunity to comment on the recommendations. If there are any comments that are not addressed today, the Commission members can email him, Sherry, Julie, and/or Kirsten.

Sherry reviewed the recommendations in Goal 1. Below is a summary of the discussion points:

- Address icing and snowpack; and
- Address timeframe and frequency to update Scientific Technical Advisory Panel (STAP) report.

Kirsten reviewed the recommendations in Goal 2. Below is a summary of the discussion points:

- Responsible party column missing;
- When there is a multi-entity effort, assign a lead agency to coordinate;
- Add "protection or restoration" to habitats;
- Address "public and private infrastructure" to "public safety;"
- Dams will be included in appendix;
- Define "climate-ready;"
- Add new assessing vulnerability due to deep snowpack;
- Consider roof load and roof removal;
- Bringing building codes up to standards with climate change;

- Add assessment on regional economy and social assessment; and
- Add to unknown hazards (i.e. snowpack).

Julie reviewed the recommendations in Goal 3. Below is a summary of the discussion points:

- Reference recent federal executive order; and
- Encourage watershed plans.

The Commission members were asked to read through the rest of the recommendations for discussion at the next Commission meeting.

5. Commission Timeline – Review and Update

In the interest of time, this agenda item was skipped.

6. Staff Support for the CRHC from the NH Coastal Program

Steve Couture stated that the NH Coastal Program hired Kirsten Howard as the Coastal Resilience Specialist. She has been tasked with working with Commission. Some of her duties will include helping to incorporate the edits into the recommendations table, performing a gap analysis, assessment of ongoing assessments, and developing a 2-page outreach summary of the STAP report and developing a PowerPoint presentation.

7. Next Meeting: March 27 Agenda Items

Due to conflicts on March 20, the next Commission meeting will be held on Friday, March 27 from 9 AM to 12 PM. The agenda will include a continued discussion of the proposed recommendations, a discussion on how to approach the actions, a presentation on the Tides to Storms project, a brief explanation of the new federal executive order and the U.S. Army Corps report.

8. Public Comment

None.

9. Other Business/Adjourn

Richard Huber asked about guidance for Commission members on reporting back to their entities. A press release or other document, including the 2-pager about the STAP report, was discussed for detailing what the Commission has done.

A Coastal Adaptation Workgroup will be hosting a workshop on April 30 to give an overview of the STAP report.

The meeting adjourned at 12:15 PM.

Meeting Notes Prepared By:
Jennifer Gilbert, Commission Clerk