

**STEERING COMMITTEE
COASTAL RISKS AND HAZARDS COMMISSION**

Friday, January 8th, 2016

9:00AM – 11:00AM

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

Draft Minutes

Attending: Cliff Sinnott, Cory Riley, Senator David Watters, Ann Scholz, Senator Nancy Stiles, Jennifer Gilbert, Sherry Godlewski, Steve Couture, Cameron Wake, Roger Stephenson

Others attending: Kirsten Howard, Julie LaBranche, Nathalie Morison

Minutes

1. Call to Order at 9:00am
2. Approval of Minutes from November 6th, 2015 Meeting (*Attached*)
Senator Stiles motion to approve, Senator Watters second.
All in favor. Minutes approved.

A couple updates:

Nathalie Morison introduced herself as a new staff person at the NHDES Coastal Program. She will be assisting the Commission for the rest of the year.

Cliff will submit legislative report for 2015. Steering Committee did not feel need to review.

3. Municipal Discussion Groups—Summary of results to date (Sherry Godlewski)

Sherry passed around one page summary

- Held 3 sessions – 36 participants
- Participants were given 20 minutes to read and discuss recommendations in each topic area
- In general, participants were very confused by the term “peer-reviewed science”
 - Will define it once in the report
- Participants were concerned about residents who need incentives to change
- Participants noted that the responsible parties not highlighted
- People didn’t know where the resources would come from, how they would pay for all the actions

Senator Watters stated he was impressed with the feedback. Noted that we need to do a lot more outreach in our public phase.

Sherry mentioned that we should consider how to get legislators to support. Roger responded that we need to hold a meeting with all coastal legislators first. Senator Stiles mentioned that the Science, Technology, and Energy Committee needs to be engaged.

Steve asked if we need to have a meeting before the Senate hearings in February.

Senator Watters stated that he and Senator Stiles can talk to the Senators. They just need materials some time in February. Senator Watters will find out the committee schedule.

There will be presentations at the hearings. A larger briefing for legislators can be later in April. Crossover is March 24.

Senator Stiles explained that the process for setting up a briefing is to contact leadership. Senator Watters suggested using room 210 and providing food.

Senator Watters suggested that when we have something we can send out, go to the Seacoast reps and appropriate committee members in both bodies.

Roger suggested bringing all the Seacoast legislators to Brown's lobster pound. Provide them with materials beforehand and then present the basics at the event.

Committee suggested an event at Brown's Lobster Pound on February 19 at high tide (9am). Sherry agreed to do a similar presentation to the one she did at the Discussion Groups.

Kirsten suggested that 2/19 could be pre-release of the draft report and recommendations and the following Monday could be the public release.

Senator Watters confirmed that both bills are going to Energy. He requested hearings in late February.

Cliff asked if we need a budget for Brown's. Senator Watters offered to make a contribution. Senator Stiles offered to contribute as well. Roger will look for supplementary funds. Cliff suggested that the invitation come from the 5 legislators on the Commission: Borden, Cushing, Stiles, Watters, Rice. Cliff mentioned that Fuller Clark and Prescott should attend.

Roger suggested the Commission should write up a paragraph for House calendar.

Kirsten suggested that we may be able to put together a two pager on the legislative recommendations with help from graphic designer Tricia Miller.

4. Draft Report & Recommendations Update (Kirsten Howard)

Cliff asked How should the report deal with the issues brought up by Discussion Groups?

- Cost issue
- Incentives
- Responsible parties

Senator Watters responded that these are important questions. We decided to have a public process, and through the process we'll come up with an answer.

Cliff mentioned that we should acknowledge cost as a challenge in the report.

Wake commented that we should clarify that these impacts will happen over decades and we should start funding now but don't need to pay all at once.

Kirsten mentioned that this belongs in the guidance section that Cliff is drafting.

Roger asked should we do an FAQ? On February 19 we can compile them. Sherry's Discussion Group document could be retooled into a Q&A.

Cory commented that a lot can be addressed in the report. Let's not put it all in the FAQ, Executive Summary and other sections. Also asked if we should add clam flats?

Cam mentioned that In the Economy section, question 1 is important. A lot of people don't understand that there's a cost to not acting. All the research is suggesting that.

Cliff asked if there were any recommendations that need to be changed as a result of the discussion groups. Sherry responded that she doesn't think so. Recognized Amanda Stone from UNH Cooperative Extension as well as NHCAW members as having done a lot of work to prepare the Discussion Groups.

Senator Watters commented that in the SAIL framework Implementation and Legislation make a vague policy reference to future economy. Language that recognizes that we are trying to reduce future costs to taxpayer is important. Recognize that municipalities will need resources from State. Policy is to make investments now that will save major costs in long run. Recognition between state and municipal resources and federal. The point here is to plan so we can save money.

a. Report revisions since last meeting

- Cliff will address responsible parties in Where do we go from here. Or at end of recommendations. Kirsten will write a short paragraph in intro to recommendations.

b. Recommendation revisions

- Kirsten will edit SLAMM maps to convert meters to feet
- SC agrees with integrating STAP guidance into Report Guidance section; STAP guidelines should be blended with the Commission's guidance
- Use term 2100 and beyond...
- One idea for Municipalities: Add a "how to get started" sidebar. Point to NHCAW.
- How to address repetition:
 - Should we flatten/collapse the assessment and implementation recommendations? Group agreed to lump in the Executive Summary and leave detail in the full recommendations. Cliff and Cory will come up with the 10 overarching recommendations.
 - Nathalie will adjust the numbering scheme.
- Freeboard recommendation 3.10 d
 - Should we do something higher than 1 foot for all structures?
 - STAP says manage structure to 3.9 feet for 2100.
 - Federal: 2 feet or use 500 year or use better information and exception process will have a lot of structures in the VE zone. It's really just 7 coastal communities. 1 percent annual chance floodplain would cover both.
 - Nothing in conflict with the STAP report.
 - Don't reference Executive Order but do mirror it. Jennifer will work with Kirsten to adjust the text.
- Kirsten and Nathalie will reach out to address other outstanding questions.

5. Debrief on the RPC Legislative Forum – *Cliff Sinnott*

- No need for debrief, overall it went well

6. Plan for communications, outreach and public engagement -- *Roger Stephenson**, *Kirsten Howard*, *Nathalie Morison*

- Nathalie synthesized the target audiences in a document, mind map, handed it out to group
- Table communications plan for later, will get a working group together to focus on a communications plan (Nathalie will lead, Participants will include Roger, Cam, Sherry, Julie, and Kirsten)

7. Status of CRHC related Legislation (SB-374 & SB-TBD) – *Senator Watters**

2016-2723 / SB374 Title: *requiring the office of energy and planning to update coastal flooding trends.*

Sponsors: (Prime) David Watters, Martha Fuller Clark, Nancy Stiles, Robert Cushing, David Borden, Frederick Rice (bill text attached)

2016-2724 SB-### Title: requiring certain state agencies to conduct an audit of laws governing coastal regions to enable authorities to take appropriate actions.

Sponsors: (Prime) David Watters, Martha Fuller Clark, Nancy Stiles, Robert Cushing, David Borden, Frederick Rice

8. FY 16 NH Project of Special Merit Applications – *Steve Couture/Kirsten*

- Submitted, lots of partners, focusing on CRHC implementation, including outreach to communities, could circulate the application to communities

9. Other Business – *Cliff*

a. CRHC Timeline Update – 11 months to sunset

- Timeline is on track
- What is March to May and beyond? Communications plan
- Goal: September report finished and filed.
- Project of Special Merit starts in October so might want to plan overlap, communications support
- Cliff will turn timeline into a month by month calendar
- On public outreach: Are two public forums enough? Light public forums? Address Committees, etc., chambers. Working group will figure that out.

b. New Representative from NH Homebuilders

TBD

c. Other

Full Commission meeting on January 22, conflicts with DES PTAPP meeting and we can't use Room A

Cory will check GBNERR, will get in touch with Cliff

Cliff will let everyone know that the next meeting is Jan. 22

10. Public comment

None

11. Adjourn

Adjourned at 11:28am