

**STEERING COMMITTEE
COASTAL RISKS AND HAZARDS COMMISSION**

Friday, August 12, 2016

9:00AM – 11:00AM

NHDES Portsmouth Regional Office – Room D

Pease International Tradeport
222 International Drive, Suite 175
Portsmouth, NH

Draft Minutes

Committee Member Attendees: Senator David Watters, Senator Nancy Stiles, Roger Stephenson (9:05am), Cory Riley (9:06am), Jennifer Gilbert (9:09am), Cliff Sinnott (9:35am)

Others: Nathalie Morison, Kirsten Howard, Julie LaBranche

1. Call to Order

- Meeting called to order at 9:04am
- Senator Watters declared a quorum

2. Meeting Minutes for June 3, 2016 Meeting (Attached))

- Motion to approve minutes by Cory Riley
- Motion seconded by Senator Stiles
- Minutes approved by voice vote

3. Master Schedule (Attached)

- Nathalie Morison described the proposed schedule through December 1, 2016
- Report writing group proposed that we push back final report approval so that Commission discusses September 16 and then approves in October.
- Nathalie will send full package of revisions by August 29. Review by September SC meeting.
- Group decided to keep the September 2 SC meeting. Senator Stiles, Julie LaBranche, and Kirsten Howard won't be able to attend.
- The September Commission meeting will focus on the revisions that were based on public comments. Then the Commission will vote to adopt the final report on October 21.
- Nathalie suggested that a final event could take place in November or December 1. November is difficult with elections and Thanksgiving.

Communications discussion

- Senator Stiles wondered about conducting a televised piece with NH1.
- Group also discussed whether to invite newly elected legislators to final event.
- Senator Watters mentioned that an event in Concord after the election would make sense. Could do something around November 18 date in Concord. May not get Governor-elect and other officials to attend. Maybe something could happen on the Exchange. Hopes NH1 would broadcast.
- Roger asked Senator Stiles: Are you working with Kimberly Hawes at NH1?

- Senator Stiles mentioned that the report needs to be made public so there is an awareness. Let people know that there is action that needs to take place over the next few years.
- Roger mentioned that The Herald has been helpful. Foundation of general awareness. We'll have at least two new saltwater senators. A knee to knee meeting with new senators would make sense right after the election before the November 18 meeting. The notion of the Commission has come up in small meetings. Should be a heads up.
- Senator Watters mentioned that all candidates are aware. Would want to make sure they receive it.
- Senator Stiles state that it's important during process that it's very apparent that all the communities were involved in this.

Next Commission meeting agenda

- Senator Watters mentioned that the Commission could discuss whether we want to make any statement about intention about follow through and how that would be handled. Whether there is a need for any legislation for next session such as for a permanent advisory body.
- Senator Stiles mentioned that a place or a person should exist for communities to contact to answer questions.
- Roger suggested that we should be put on the agendas for October or November at the Strafford Regional Planning Commission and Rockingham Planning Commission.
- Nathalie reminded the group about the Project of Special Merit to continue this work for another 18 months
- Kirsten reminded the group about the new section in the report focused on continuity
- Nathalie suggested that the group leave November Commission meeting date/event tentative for now
- Senator Stiles asked if we want to give this to all the candidates
- General agreement, some electronic version
- Roger asked if we should present it to the governor
- Senator Watters agreed that it should be presented to governor-elect in January.

4. Report Writing Workgroup:

- Nathalie explained that the content of revisions isn't quite ready for review, will be sent August 26 or 29.
- She put together a high level list of changes to the report as well as substantive changes to recommendations.

Greenhouse Gas Mitigation additions:

- Decision was to acknowledge in the body of the report but not make a recommendation.
- Roger stated that he is not comfortable with that decision. Mentioned it's an obvious bullet but it's not part of this Commission's charge.
- Cory stated that she would support it but just point back to the Climate Action Plan
- Senator Watters suggested to change the word to recognize. Agreed to inclusion in body of report.
- Roger changed his mind and agreed that it would work in body of report as a direct reference to the Climate Action Plan but not as a recommendation.

- Julie suggested adding to the section about the part that brings all stakeholders in to collaborate on mitigation activities as recommended in the CAP.

Bullet 1 Response to long-term planning and storm surge:

- Senator Stiles likes that framing.
- Senator Watters suggested stating that Commission is focused on long-term planning. Storm surge presents an immediate and damaging threat to the region. The rest is as you said.
- Sen. Stiles suggested to put second bullet before first.

Social vulnerability:

- Commission recognized that Homeland Security and Emergency Management does social vulnerability work.
- Roger stated that he's not sure this fits, it's more emergency management in focus.
- General disagreement with Roger's point from the group.
- Cory suggested that in S4; maybe also recognize vulnerable businesses
- Senator Stiles suggested to replace second bullet "climate change" with three impacts: storm surge, sea-level rise, and extreme precipitation.

Private Property

- Nathalie mentioned that this section is coming.
- Group agreed to float this section by John Rice.

Groundwater

- Cory asked if we should be more explicit about other assets that are potentially affected? Such as wetlands, toxic areas, landfills, wells and septics, and roads

Section 7: Continuity

- Senator Watters sent email to department heads asking them how to embed an office or personnel to coordinate continued attention to this matter and other climate change issues. Hope we'll have some news on that.
- Nathalie mentioned she was going to highlight the recommendation for a coordinator in new Section 7.

Next STAP

- Cory said she doesn't disagree with the points made, but is wary of dating the recommendations
- Nathalie will remove this language in rec. Reference in the response that STAP language.
- Cliff said one thing that holds back people taking action is the uncertainty around range of probabilities. Acknowledge in the narrative that probabilities may be incorporated in next STAP. Risk incorporates probability.

Floodplain ordinance

- Mindy Merrill meeting; Cliff will coordinate

Comprehensive Tidal Shoreline Management Plan

- Cory asked should it integrate with setbacks and buffers shoreline stuff in addition to green infrastructure?
- Consider changing the title to not include shoreline
- Cliff asked would it be general policy and site specific
- Julie suggested scope of geography should be thought about
- Kirsten suggested that the recommendation's actions can incorporate need for process to define what plan intends to do rather than decide now

Invasives

- Cory suggested separate bullet should be: Incorporating consideration of plant and animal species that are migrating North in wildlife and fisheries management
- Senator Watters added, which may be accelerated by storm surge, sea-level rise, and extreme precipitation
- Decision: delete/don't revise because it is temperature-related. Include that explanation in the response and mention the new Commission.

Land for mitigation and conservation

- Cory asked is there a parallel for state and towns?
- Cliff asked if it's the state Coastal Land Conservation Plan?
- Nathalie said she thinks commenter wanted homeowners to access a directory of land.
- Cory suggested to leave it in; but think about it more. Think about Great Bay Resource Protection Partnership and their role. Talk to that group first.
- Nathalie said she could tell Sue that the plan could be a source.
- Cory mentioned she is comfortable with recommendation but sort of hesitant to point the coastal plan as taking on this role without asking.
- Cliff thought we should point people to the plan.
- Cory explained that as new analyses come forward, the blobs are getting bigger. That's why individual layers are helpful.
- Julie mentioned to take out word mitigation from last action
- Kirsten mentioned that we decided to use mitigation only in context of hazard mitigation
- Decision: ok to leave it in, maybe define somewhere

Report writing group meeting: September 17, 2:30-4pm (was cancelled)

Goal: Steering Committee gets revised report August 29

5. Commission meeting agenda for September 16th

- General agreement to purchase: www.resilientnhcoast.org
- Nathalie will work with Cliff to purchase.
- All needs for legislation should go to Senator Watters

6. Outreach/Communications

- Outreach to gubernatorial candidates
- Outreach to broader public
- Op-Eds, other media
 - Need to release an embargoed copy, help someone do a story

- Roger will talk with reporters and work with others to provide the data they need
- Other
 - Rollout at Hugh Gregg
 - November 18 week GBNERR is gone
 - Talk to community members about what their needs are
 - Roger suggested Cam could provide some valuable insight on CAP implementation, we should have a party for ourselves and not build an event, suggest Red Hook
 - Julie will pull out outreach pieces that have been discussed over the past few meetings
 - Roger will take lead on press
 - Cliff will send June Commission minutes to Kirsten

7. Public Comment

None

8. Other business

None

9. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 11:36am.