

DRAFT MINUTES
BARNSTABLE COUNTY COASTAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
CAPE COD COMMISSION
3225 MAIN STREET, BARNSTABLE, MA
NOVEMBER 8, 2019, 1:00 P.M.

Attendance:

Members:

Kristy Senatori	Cape Cod Commission	Present
Mike Maguire	CC Cooperative Extension	Absent
Steve Tebo	Barnstable County	Present
James Killion	BC Assembly of Delegates	Remote Participation
Rick DeVergilio	CC Conservation District	Absent
Steve McKenna, Vice Chair	Mass. Coastal Zone Management	Absent
Chris Miller, Chair	Town of Brewster	Present
Ray Jack (arrived 1:16)	Town of Falmouth	Present
Mark Borrelli	Center for Coastal Studies	Present
Andrew Gottlieb	Association to Preserve C.C.	Present
Chris Adams	Cape Cod Chamber of Commerce	Present
Mark Adams (Ad hoc member)	CC National Seashore	Absent

Others Present:

Christine Player	Foth Engineering
Heather McElroy	Cape Cod Commission
Erin Perry	Cape Cod Commission
Shannon Hulst	Cape Cod Cooperative Extension
Bob Duncanson	Town of Chatham/CRC
Greg Berman	CC Cooperative Extension
Tim Pasakarniss	Cape Cod Commission
Siobhan Cavacco	Cape Cod Commission

Call to Order

Chris Miller opened the meeting at 1:06 pm.

Public Comment

There was no public comment

Review and Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes

Upon a motion by Chris Adams, seconded by Kristy Senatori, the minutes of the May 13, 2019 meeting were unanimously approved.

Discussion and potential vote whether to adopt the Barnstable County Coastal Management Committee website as its official notice posting method for posting meeting notices

Mr. Miller opened the discussion and potential vote on whether to adopt the BCCMC website as its official notice posting method for meeting notices in accordance with the Open Meeting Law. Ms. McElroy informed members the vote to approve the electronic posting as the committee's official posting will eliminate the need for physical postings outside the building. Upon a motion to adopt the BCCMC website as its official notice posting method for meeting notices by Andrew Gottlieb, seconded by Chris Adams, the motion was approved unanimously.

Woods Hole SeaGrant/Cape Cod Cooperative Extension Model Floodplain Bylaw project presentation

Mr. Miller turned the discussion over to Shannon Hulst, Deputy Director/CRS Coordinator at the Cape Cod Cooperative Extension, for a presentation on Wood Hole Sea Grant/Cape Cod Cooperative Extension Model Floodplain Bylaw project. Ms. Hulst informed the committee the CC Cooperative Extension is working on the project in conjunction with FEMA and the State. The overall goal of the project is to improve flood resiliency and ensure towns are in compliance with the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) which will allow them to join or continue to stay in the Community Rating System (CRS). Ms. Hulst explained the CRS is a program within the NFIP. Towns work to get into the program for flood insurance discounts. The project is funded by Woods Hole Sea Grant and is only looking at floodplain development. CCC is working on coastal resiliency. They are working with Ms. McElroy and Ms. Perry to make sure they are complementing each other's work and not overlapping.

1st part of model bylaw is to comply with the NFIP. In MA, there are three entities that have different pieces of NFIP built in – building code, wetlands protection act, and zoning regulations. Some pieces of NFIP aren't incorporated anywhere. Towns need somewhere in their regulations in order to participate in the NFIP and for the residents to get flood insurance. Any residence or business in a flood plain with a federally backed mortgage has to have flood insurance. This part of the project is coordinated with Department of Conservation & Recreation (DCR) and FEMA and will be used for the state model.

2nd part of model is to create higher standards that go above and beyond NFIP but cannot be a higher level than the building code as local building codes cannot be stricter than the state building codes. The model will suggest things primarily for CRS credit, such as limiting development in the floodplain. EX: Chatham – does not allow any development in the highest risk flood plain and only allows new, non-residential in the next higher risk flood plain.

3rd part of model is incentives to encourage builders to go above and beyond existing building codes
Example: Town of Hull has permit discount if you go above and beyond building code on how high up build.

The timeline for the project is to have the 1st part completed by next spring with the Town of Bourne. Funding deadline is the end of August.

SeaPort Council Grant

Ms. Hulst continued with a presentation on Seaport Council Grant – Storm Tide Pathways project. The grant is a partnership with the CC Cooperative Extension, Cape Cod Commission, and the Regional Emergency Planning Committee. The Center for Coastal studies was hired to do the work to design storm path maps that show how the water moves from Point A to Point B and what we can expect to flood at different tidal stages. This information can be tied into real time tidal datum to know exactly which areas will be problem points, which is very useful for emergency management and DPW. The information is also tied into National Weather Service forecast so when the forecast calls for minor, moderate, or severe flooding, town residents and officials will know what to expect with each of those categories. Some highlights of the project: open to general public, easy to use, will help determine future infrastructure investments (permanent or temporary structures), helpful for emergency management for rerouting emergency vehicles. It is also tied into planning current and future coastal flooding resiliency and municipal vulnerability program for towns to be able to join CRS. Ms. Hulst and Mr. Borrelli will be meeting with all of the towns to verify data.

Update on Barnstable County Dredge Program

Christine Player of Foth Engineering provided a dredge update. Foth was hired by Barnstable County in May 2019 to provide support services and assist in managing, scheduling, and permit compliance for dredging. They also provide in-house engineers to work with county employees and help with software and operational efficiency. Ms. Player has one point of contact with each town and each contact received a draft dredge schedule in September 2019. With a January 15th deadline, the focus has been on grant funded projects and MassWorks projects. Poor weather, particularly high winds, has contributed to some dredging delays.

The *Sandshifter* was sent to Wisconsin for an overhaul and is working on Phase 2 in Cotuit. The goal for next week is to have the *Codfish* in Falmouth. Barnstable harbor is half complete. Barnstable County purchased a 3rd dredge (name tbd) and it is currently in Fairhaven for repair as it was damaged during shipping. It will be used as a leapfrog dredge for set up purposes. Only two dredges can operate at one time as there are only two crews available. The new dredge should be in Truro by Tuesday (11/12).

Steve Tebo added to the discussion, stating the cost to towns for dredging is a huge issue, not necessarily for this season but moving forward and the county needs to make sure recouping costs. Investments in technology are a necessity to make the process more efficient. Cost and storage of pipe is another issue. Right now, 4,000 feet of pipe cost \$85,000 and where do you put it? There is close to 16,000 feet of working pipe. When the pipe is removed it needs to be stored somewhere so it can be inspected. Mr. Miller suggested putting the pipe on a barge but was informed that was already looked into and determined it will not work. Mr. Tebo pointed out the cost for smaller dredge jobs cost more money than the larger jobs. Ms. Player pointed out that is across the board in the industry – smaller jobs cost more but if the county was using a private dredging firm it would easily cost each town 3 or 4 times what they are paying now, even with a rate increase, how doing now is the most affordable, cost effective method.

Ms. Player pointed out that the discussion with towns so far has been about short-term goals/immediate needs and that this winter the focus between Foth, Barnstable County and all the towns needs to be long-term goals and how to have a break-even operation. She confirmed that pipe storage and permitting big issues. Mr. Tebo relayed example of setting up to dredge only to find out town did not file permits. Ms. Player has been working with towns on that.

Mr. Tebo continued with the discussion of cost. He added they don't know exact cost for each project until they get out there. The original dredge was donated along with other boats to help with the process and some of that equipment was not operational. A subcontractor has been hired to assist and this has increased the cost. More time is needed running all the dredges to determine total operational cost. Ms. Player discussed daily logs for dredge crew to create data to understand down time, how long it took for crew to set up pipe to explain mobilization/demobilization costs – to understand all of the pieces have a dollar value.

Discussion on role, functions, and membership of the Barnstable County Dredge Committee as a subcommittee of the BCCMC

Ms. McElroy informed members that the ordinance that established the BCCMC makes it clear that a dredging committee for the county can be a subcommittee of the BCCMC. The role and members of the subcommittee would need to be discussed. Ms. McElroy asked Ms. Player if her town contacts would be good candidates for the subcommittee. Her points of contact are primarily harbormasters. Suggestions for the role include knowing the needs of communities and prioritizing them, public education so people know how complicated dredging is, creating a dredge contract to define what crews can and cannot do and what needs to go to a private dredging firm because of safety/OSHA standards. Right now Foth discussing with each town spending plans for 5 year and 10 year dredging needs/priorities.

Discussion and possible vote to nominate members of the Barnstable County Coastal Resources Subcommittee to forward the Barnstable County Commissioners for appointment.

Ms. McElroy referred members to the Proposed Members for the Barnstable County Coastal Resources Subcommittee list and made the following amendments: Dale Saad from Barnstable retired so need to go back to the Town of Barnstable for another recommendation; Town of Bourne recommended Sam Haines, Conservation Agent; Mashpee recommendation Ashley Fisher was nominated by the Town Administrator via Rick York who had been the representative by the CRC; Orleans is the only town that still has not responded.

Ms. McElroy explained the procedure to discuss recommendations and vote to forward list to Barnstable County Commissioners. Upon a motion to approve the Proposed Members list with the exception of Barnstable & Orleans by Andrew Gottlieb, seconded by Ray Jack, the motion was approved unanimously.

Ms. McElroy stated this would be the process for the dredging subcommittee. Chris Adams asked if the subcommittee for dredging would be a roundtable only or have decision making authority and if the dredging subcommittee should just fall under the BCCMC subcommittee instead of creating two separate subcommittees. Mr. Jack suggested the subcommittee should be to evaluate & make recommendations with multiple options. Ms. McElroy asked Ms. Player to put together her thoughts on the role of the subcommittee to review at the next meeting and Ms. Senatori offered CCC staff to brainstorm goals and objectives.

Bob Duncanson said this is the same discussion CRC had 15 years ago, which led to a recommendation to the County Commissioners to establish a dredge committee. The CRC had the umbrella of water quality, etc. and the subcommittee had an advisory role with all the towns about dredging. The need hasn't changed and critical for towns to have a sounding board. He went on to say in Chatham, they know the County is the best deal going at \$9 a cubic yard as the town looked into doing a job independently and the cost was \$250,000 just to mobilize. He suggested a tier system: from 0 to 20,000 yards one rate, 20,000 to 50,000 yards another rate, etc.

Committee Member Reports

Ms. McElroy spoke on behalf of Ms. Senatori who had to leave for another meeting. CCC received a grant from EEA to develop model coastal resiliency regulations with focus on wetlands regulations. Regarding MVP, in process of putting together an application for multiple communities, starting with Wellfleet (currently have 5 towns in total – Brewster, Bourne, Provincetown, Wellfleet, Chatham – Sandwich declined; Eastham received grant and working with Woods Hole group), looking at low lying roads that are vulnerable to flooding and identifying options and working with an engineering firm to develop solutions.

Mr. Duncanson provided an update for Chatham – Just started another CZM grant, looking at coastal resiliency issues. Last spring did a CZM grant to look at the harbor and a 40 year lookout for public and private erosion issues and sea levels rising. Creating an artificial dune or berm, which raises a lot of issues including environmental & regulatory. CZM gave Chatham another small grant to deal with these issues and see if the artificial berm can be constructed. Pleasant Bay received a CZM grant for wetland issues. Redoing trap dock. Doing a wastewater project with Harwich, same contractor so all coordinated. Mr. Duncanson commented the CRC strength is gets all the towns together, everyone can learn from each town to avoid recreating the wheel for similar projects.

Next Meeting

Wednesday, February 26, 2020 from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm. Ms. McElroy stated the discussion on dredging will continue on the next agenda and if anyone has any other agenda suggestions to contact her or Mr. Miller.

New Business

There was no new business.

Documents Used

List for Proposed Members for the Barnstable County Coastal Resources Subcommittee

PowerPoint presentations by Shannon Hulst, *Model Floodplain Bylaw* and *Seaport Council Grant – Storm Tide Pathways*

Adjourn

Upon a motion by Andrew Gottlieb, seconded by Ray Jack, and a unanimous vote, the meeting was adjourned at 2:29 pm

