

Nantucket Coastal Resilience Advisory Committee (CRAC)

Tuesday, December 10, 2024

Via Zoom

*Meetings are audio- and video-recorded

Members present: Gary Beller, Peter Brace, Sarah Bois, Tim Braine, Doug Rose, Jen Karberg, Joanna Roche, Matt Fee, Dave Iverson, Christy Kickham (joined at 10:04), Rachel Freeman

Members Absent:

Staff present: Leah Hill, Vince Murphy

Scheduled Speakers: John Giorgio, Town Counsel

Members of the public: Gerry Connick, RJ Turcotte

Recording available here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=USfvtiSHC7k&list=PL49sKqpy7VAiUk-g5h2jluAn_2jqocI2L&index=1

Packet available here: https://www.nantucket-ma.gov/AgendaCenter/ViewFile/Agenda/_12102024-14573

1. Call to order
 - The meeting was called to order by chair Peter Brace
2. Meeting announcements
 - Script for remotely conducting Open Meetings
 - Meeting is being audio/visually recorded
3. Public comment on topics not on the agenda

No public comments.

4. Approval of minutes
 - Minutes for October 22 were approved.
5. Introduction of the new Coastal Resilience Advisory Committee member as the Planning Board representative, David (Dave) Iverson
 - Mr. Iverson was welcomed by the chair
6. Discussion on potential funding mechanisms for coastal resilience projects with Town Counsel
 - The committee members and town counsel Giorgio discussed funding mechanisms for over an hour, touching on several topics and issues. The following list covers most of these:
 - The current \$1 million annual allocation that CRAC receives from the town and what it has funded: research, matching funds for grants, startup consultant planning, etc.
 - The usual Town funding mechanisms that might be used in the future for funding capital projects: Special purpose stabilization fund; revolving fund
 - The need for a long term financial plan for when funding would be needed for CRP recommended projects
 - The need to coordinate with the Steamship Authority's plans to upgrade the wharf etc
 - Future need for additional staff to handle future grant writing and project coordination
 - The list from the packet of alternative funding mechanisms and their feasibility
 - The problems with plans that require special legislation and require state approval
 - Betterments and the process of creating them
 - The notion of starting with Beach permits as a possible source of funds that could go into a stabilization fund. Joanna Roche volunteered to compose a letter to the Select Board recommending this as an initial step.
 - A motion was made to have Joanna Roche compose this letter before the next meeting on January 14. The motion was approved unanimously.
7. Refine list with suggestions to update the zoning and land use regulations to incorporate coastal resiliency (see packet).
 - The chair recommended this be moved to the next meeting on Jan 14, 2025
8. Discussion about which local regulatory entity to incorporate coastal resiliency into next..
 - Leah Hill recommended this be moved to the next meeting as well. The chair agreed and it was continued.
9. New Business, Committee & Natural Resources Dept. reports from Planning Board, Conservation Commission, Harbor and Shellfish Advisory Board, Advisory Committee of Non-Voting Taxpayers, and other committee members.
 - Doug Rose requested more information on state regs that deal with indemnification. There was a brief discussion of this.
 - Leah reported that November sunny day flooding on Easy St about 1 foot over the predicted high water...can be seen on the Noah Nantucket tide guage. She also reported

that Ava will be contacting members to conduct interviews for media. She also announced that she would be on The Point on NPR tomorrow. Finally she is submitting the roadway work in the CRP to state DOT for incorporation into their state resiliency plan.

- Christy reported that Capital Committee is coming up with their recommendations for CRP projects and will follow up in an email with details.

10. Discussion of upcoming meeting dates and topics: Next meeting January 14.

11. Motion to adjourn

- Vote to adjourn unanimous.