Coastal Hazards Adaptation Team (CHAT) Work Session #25

Tuesday, March 16, 2021 2 PM – 4 PM VIRTUAL MEETING

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84508357533?pwd=b3VMSC9GVVpzZEwxTzdTNUhWSjdWdz09

or by dial-in @ (669) 205-6099

NOTES

Participants: Jay Diener, Rayann Dionne, Jason Bachand, Stephen LaBranche, Tom Bassett, , James Waddell, Bob Ladd, Jen Hale, and Barbara Kravitz

Absent: Debra Bourbeau, Bryan Provencal, June Black, Steve Belgiorno

Staff: Liz Durfee, Kirsten Howard, and Nathalie DiGeronimo

Ms. Durfee began the meeting at 2:00 PM.

1. Introductions

The members introduced themselves and indicated whether they were affiliated with the Town, a group or were residents.

Rayann Dionne indicated she was a representative of SHEA (Seacoast Hampton Estuary Alliance).

Liz Durfee indicated she is the planning consultant.

Kirsten Howard indicated she is with the NH DES Coastal Program.

Jay Diener indicated he is with the Hampton Conservation Commission.

Tom Bassett indicated he is a Hampton resident.

Jason Bachand indicated he is the Hampton Town Planner.

Bob Ladd indicated he is a representative of the Village District.

Stephen LaBranche indicated he is a representative of the Hampton Budget Committee.

Nathalie DiGeronimo indicated she is with the NH DES Coastal Program.

Barbara Kravitz indicated she is a representative of the Hampton Area Beach Commission.

Jim Waddell indicated he is a representative of the Select Board.

Jen Hale indicated she is a representative of DPW.

2. Approve meeting notes from February 16, 2021

Ms. Durfee posted proposed edits to the minutes.

Mr. Diener noted the Team has lost two members, one from the ZBA, Norma Collins and Mark Olson who is no longer on Planning Board. Mr. Bachand will reach out to both Boards to see if anyone is interested in serving.

Mr. Bassett motioned to approve the February 16, 2021 meeting minutes as amended. Mr. LaBranche seconded the motion. A vote was taken, all were in favor, the motion passed unanimously.

3. Relevant Flood Updates

Mr. Diener presented information on NH Coastal Marine Natural Resources & Environment Commission (COMNARE).

Mr. LaBranche noted Mr. Diener sent information concerning an area off the Georgia coast which had miles of tunnels from which borings were taken that showed 1 million years ago the presence of vegetation indicating a warming/cooling cycle natural to Earth's cycle, however we are moving it along faster.

Ms. Dionne announced the Flood Smart Roundtable.....on the 25th. Topics will include what items to have in an emergency kit and what to do in an event.

Ms. Hale noted DPW's final report will be March 30th at 6:30 PM with a virtual meeting on Teams on the Town website and Channel 22.

Mr. Bachand reported the Master Plan update Phase I is wrapping up with consultants Milone & McBroom. There is a draft available for viewing on the website. The Steering Committee will be meeting at the end of the month. There will be a special meeting on March 24th. Phase II will begin tomorrow night. Ms. DiGeronimo posted a link.

Ms. Kravitz reported good feedback received from the Symposium. The recording is on the Town website and Channel 22. DOT had a public hearing on 1A last week divided by segments of roadway: near beach, High Street and middle. There were a lot of engineering considerations. There may be another hearing in the Fall. Ms. DiGeronimo will post the link.

Ms. DiGeronimo noted Milone & McBroom are making final edits to the Master Plan updates in Phase I before Friday.

Ms. Durfee reported the State of New Hampshire has put out a buying a home fact sheet for flood week.

4. PREPA grant proposal

Ms. Durfee included a slide with a link to the applications and guidance document. Mr. Diener is submitting the proposal on behalf of CHAT through SHEA for outreach and education.

Mr. Bachand is working on the application for the Planning Board. Mr. Bachand reported he sent an email relative to Phase II to the consultant Steve Whitman and will copy the Town Manager in a couple of days. The Town Manager will need to sign off on the documents.

Mr. Bassett asked about matching funds for CHAT's application through SHEA and Ms. Dionne noted SHEA does outreach and an use their time or CHAT's meeting time as match.

Mr. Diener noted if both applications are approved they could work together. Mr. Bachand agreed.

Ms. Howard noted both project concepts are eligible to apply in May for the application due in July.

a. Letter of Support

Ms. Durfee noted anyone interested in sending a Letter of Support on behalf of CHAT'S application can send her an email before the grant application is due.

5. Review draft CHAT Outreach Survey

Ms. Durfee posted the survey questions for review and feedback by the Team. The goal is to improve outreach and provide education. CHAT hasn't been able to do a lot of outreach. Ms. Durfee would like to send the survey out ASAP. The survey will be posted online in a day or two and will be up for a couple of weeks so the findings can be brought to the next meeting. Links will be on the Town website and the Team will need to get permission for that. Jen Hale will help with posting. The survey could be put in tomorrow afternoon's paper. Ms. Durfee will provide a link.

Ms. Dionne asked if the Village District had an email list and Mr. Ladd noted they have a large Facebook following. Ms. Howard indicated Friends of Hampton Beach has a page. Mr. Diener will work on that. The School System would be another good way to get information out, with permission from the principal.

Ms. Durfee noted the first question asks the respondent to describe their connection to Hampton as a resident, seasonal, business, property owner or renter. The next question asks

what the respondent is most interested in learning about. Responses could be ranked low, medium or high. Ms. Kravitz would like to add funding information as a resident or for the Town. Individuals receive assistance while the Town can have financial opportunities. The next question asks about participating and ways to get involved such as a restoration project or "pop up" demonstration such as visiting the high tide markers by Public Works. Mr. Bassett recommended a section on awareness such as FEMA, SHEA, and the NH DES initiatives. Mr. Diener recommended a review of some of accomplishments, CHAT recommendations, DPW studies, Master Plan updates and restoration projects. Ms. Durfee noted it may be worthwhile to ask some of the questions SHEA asked in their survey a few years ago, such as SLR projection awareness. Mr. Ladd recommended not making the survey too long. Completion of the survey would take about three minutes. Contact information could be provided for those wishing to participate and SHEA can be emailed at SHEA4NH.org

Ms. Durfee will circulate the final list of questions tonight or tomorrow morning.

- 6. Initial discussion on staff position (if time)
- 7. Next meeting: April 20, 2021
- 8. Adjourn. The meeting ended at 4:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Hoijer, Recording Secretary