
Coastal Hazards Adaptation Team (CHAT) Work Session #43

Tuesday, October 25, 2022
1:00-3:00PM
VIRTUAL MEETING

Minutes

1. Introductions

Liz Durfee - Planner and CHAT Coordinator
Tom Bassett - Resident Representative
Jason Bachand - Town Planner
Jay Diener – Hampton Conservation Commission
Brianna O'Brien - Conservation Coordinator for Hampton
Lucy Perkins - NH Department of Environmental Services Coastal Program
Bob Ladd - Village District Representative
Kristin Howard - NH Department of Environmental Services Coastal Program
Rayann Dionne - Seabrook-Hampton Estuary Alliance
Natalie DiGeronimo - NH Department of Environmental Services Coastal Program
Keith Lessard - Planning Board Representative (arrived 1:11pm)
Barbara Kravitz - Hampton Beach Area Commission (arrived 1:12pm)
Brendan Lynch - NH Department of Environmental Services Coastal Program (arrived 1:14pm)
Jennifer Hale - Hampton Department of Public Works (DPW) (arrived 1:14pm)

2. Approval of minutes

- August 2022
Mr. Bassett MOTIONED to approve the August 2022 minutes. SECONDED by Mr. Bachand. Vote: Unanimous.
- September 2022
 - Mr. Bassett recommended editing a sentence on page 5 to say “To determine if there are bacteria in the water”.

Mr. Diener MOTIONED to approve the September minutes with edits. SECONDED by Ms. O'Brien. Vote: Unanimous.

3. Relevant Flood Updates

Mr. Bachand:

- The Master Plan steering committee discussed draft action items at their last meeting.
- A complete draft of the Master Plan should be ready by December, and is on track for adoption by late February/early March.
- Mr. Bachand recently spoke at a conference for the Northern New England Chapter of the American Planning Association. There is discussion about the possibility of Hampton doing a mobile session next year on flooding and the beach area.

Mr. Bassett:

- No reports of flooding from neighbors since he left in early October.

Ms. Hale

- A permit has been submitted for the ditch mitigation project. DES has some comments.
- DES is looking at other grant funding opportunities and implementation components for Hampton.
- Kings Highway is in final review.
- All work is complete on the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF). A final report should be out at the end of November.
- DPW will present a warrant article to the Board of Selectmen and the Budget Committee to supplement the shortfall from the \$2 million grant.
- Future potential Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) funding was just released by FEMA. The Town submitted a letter of interest for the bank stabilization as well as a culvert at Winnacunnet Rd.
- DPW was looking for funding for the sewer rehab project for sewer lines that lie within the marsh.

Ms. Kravitz:

- The Hampton Beach Area Commission has identified a web designer.
- PREP has initiated a workshop series called [Building Community Support for Sustainable Stormwater Funding](#).
 - 8 session workshop with PREP and Wildlife division of NH government.
 - There has been one meeting online and one in person.
 - There are representatives from different communities.
 - Hampton representatives are Eric Sunderland and Brianna O'Brien.
 - Objective is to come up with some projects that can be acceptable across the town.

Mr. Diener:

- Asked for an update on the search for a Coastal Resilience Coordinator.
 - Ms. Hale noted that they have received many applications. They have been reviewed. Scheduled for an update at the beginning of December.

Ms. O'Brien:

- Stormwater funding workshop:
 - Working to identify some of the biggest stakeholders that we would want to include in the conversation to determine what stormwater utilities we might want to consider.

Ms. DiGeronimo (posted in the chat)

- The grant agreement for the Coastal Resilience Coordinator is moving forward.

4. Engagement Plan

- Ms. Durfee presented changes to the Engagement Plan.
 - Ms. Durfee will work on fact cards for each recommendation and get the social media together with Ms. O'Brien over the next month.
 - Mr. Diener and Ms. Dionne are putting information on SHEA's website.

- Once the Coastal Resilience Coordinator starts, we will talk more about integrating CHAT into some of their work.
- Ms. Durfee has started emailing out monthly updates and meeting agenda to Deb Bourbeau's email list.
 - CHAT is currently looking for other ways to build their email list. Let Ms. Durfee know if you have any suggestions.
- Comment/Questions:
 - Mr. Diener asked if there is a sweet spot between winter and peak season to meet with them?
 - Mr Ladd suggests contacting John Nyhan at the Hampton Area Chamber of Commerce for input.
 - Mr. Diener suggested adding SHEA's Coastal Resilience Fair as a potential outreach event
 - Ms. Durfee will add that.
 - Mr. Bassett voiced concern about relegating Community Engagement to the "Other" category.
- Action items and summary:
 - Ms. Durfee will make adjustments and send out a new draft.
 - Ms. Durfee will adjust the document to date it as a final copy even though recommendations may change.
 - Ms. Durfee will add a note about referencing SHEA's website for the most current version of the recommendations.
 - Ms. Durfee has shared the general policy for social media with Ms. O'Brien.
 - CRS will be shifted up to Economic Implications.
 - Community Engagement will be shifted above Floodplain Ordinances.
 - Ms. Durfee will review Section 3 to ensure that the first paragraph clearly indicates that the next step would be to create a discussion with the town.
 - Ms. Durfee will distribute and post the final draft after she makes the changes.

5. Hurricane Ian reflections:

- Mr. Diener:
 - Noted communities that have successfully invested in substructure are more resilient to potential threats.
- Ms. O'Brien:
 - Noted that there will always be people who reject the science and rebuild in high-risk areas or who cannot evacuate for a variety of reasons. This is important to remember with outreach.
- CHAT members acknowledged the potential tension between homeowners and insurance agencies.
 - About 1/3 of parcels in Hampton are located within the 100-year floodplain.
 - The town has struggled to stay in compliance with the national flood insurance program.
 - Mr. Bachand noted that the most important thing is solving noncompliance. The Town has been very proactive and working with FEMA.
 - Ms. Durfee suggested reinviting the building inspector to CHAT meetings.

- Ms. Dionne noted the potential displacement if large numbers of people were to move.
- Ms. Perkins noted the compounding effect that sea-level rise can have on the housing crisis.
- Mr. Bachand will speak to CHAT about some of the key topics related to sea-level rise and resilience in the Master Plan once it is finalized.
- Ms. Durfee shared a video on the Babcock Ranch planned community.
 - CHAT acknowledged that this community is 30 miles inland.
 - CHAT agreed that burying power lines could result in other impacts.
 - Ms. Durfee suggested exploring long term resilience of infrastructure.
 - Ms. Kravitz asked if there is any data that gives information about what the community specifically did and the costs associated.
- Montauk Community - Managed Retreat
 - No comments or discussion.

6. Climate Migration

- Ms. Durfee presented a Domestic Climate Mitigation report.
 - Ms. Durfee will send a link out to a report on Domestic Climate Mitigation.

7. CHAT member interests

- Mr. Bassett would like to increase resident representation.
 - i. Ms. Durfee will reach out to Deb Bourbeau's email list and have a post scheduled for social media.

8. Next meeting: November 15, 2022, 1pm-3pm

9. Adjourn

Members of the public are welcome at CHAT meetings. Visit <https://shea4nh.org/coastal-hazards-adaptation-team-chat/> to learn about CHAT. Please contact CHAT coordinator Liz Durfee at efd.planning@gmail.com if you have questions about how to join on Zoom. During the meeting, please:

- *Keep your microphone on mute to minimize background noise*
- *Use the hand raise function or type in the chat box if you have a question or comment*
- *Stay on topic*
- *Be respectful of all meeting participants*