

Coastal Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Town of Marshfield, Massachusetts

Hearing Room 3 — Marshfield Town Hall
2015 October 07

COMMITTEE PRESENT:

- Ben Cowie-Haskell (Acting Chair)
- Thomas Fleming
- Sean Robinson (Clerk)

ALSO PRESENT (in audience):

- Greg Guimond (Town Planner)
- Cindy Castro (Town Beach Supervisor)
- Jack Sullivan
- Officer Sullivan (Marshfield Police Department)

1. Call to order

Mr. Cowie-Haskell call to order at 7:00 pm.

2. Approval of Clerk's Minutes

Minutes were not reviewed, as they were not prepared ahead of time by the Clerk.

3. Update on funding for Beach Management Plan

Ms. Castro and Mr. Guimond talked about the status of the proposal to create a beach management plan. A \$35k proposal to CPC has been submitted by Ms. Castro. CPC will vote on the proposal soon; if it is approved, it will go to Town Meeting in the Spring.

As per previous discussion, this type of management plan is modeled off of the Town of Sandwich Beach Management Plan (http://sandwichmass.org/PublicDocuments/Sandwich_BeachManagementPlan_Final_Adopted%20by%20Selectmen.pdf)

There was some discussion of what the plan should cover, with an emphasis on the economic impacts. Ms. Castro and Mr. Guimond will be

drafting a work program soon, which the Committee will review along with Conservation, BOS, DPW, and MPD.

The Committee asked Ms. Castro, “How did the summer go?” She estimated that revenues were about the same as last year and that overall, summer was not too different from years past: too many people, not enough parking; coastal concerns, *etc.* There was further discussion of the lack of summer beach parking.

A statement was made by Mr. Guimond that many other states are way ahead of Massachusetts on beach nourishment.

4. Review and update the Committees work plan and time line

Mr. Sullivan has submitted a letter of intent with the Board of Selectman to join the Committee.

Mr. Cowie-Haskell distributed a copy of the Committee’s work plan, which is available in previous minutes.

Mr. Cowie-Haskell noted that he was quoted in the October 7 Marshfield Mariner as saying, “Sea level rise threatens municipal infrastructure, such as the sewage treatment plan [*sic*], our homes along the waters edge as well as our enjoyment of our beaches. The CAC is studying vulnerable areas along the coast and what can be done to reduce risk”. He wants the Committee to move on to “Phase IV: Making Recommendations” in the working plan. He proposed a handful of activities that the Committee ought to be getting to soon.

The question was asked: when the right storm comes along and wipes out a range of properties with houses, what does the Town want to do? A listening session with coastal residents was suggested for sometime in December. Mr. Cowie-Haskell asked Mr. Fleming and Mr. Robinson if they would inquire with St. Ann’s Church as a possible meeting location for Wednesday, December 2.

5. Other Business

Future meetings dates of October 29, November 19, December 2, and December 17 were tentatively discussed.

Mr. Cowie-Haskell moved that he provide testimony on behalf of Committee in support of Article 6 at the upcoming October 26 Town Meeting. Mr. Fleming seconded the motion. No further discussion. The Committee voted 3-0 in favor.

6. Adjourn

Mr. Robinson moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Fleming seconded the motion. No further discussion. The Committee voted 3-0 in favor. The meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sean Robinson
Coastal Advisory Committee Clerk