

# Coastal Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Town of Marshfield, Massachusetts

Hearing Room 2 — Marshfield Town Hall  
2015 April 9

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## COMMITTEE PRESENT:

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

## ALSO PRESENT (in audience):

- Rod Procaccino (Town Engineer)
  - Cindy Castro (Town Beach Supervisor)
  - Jack Sullivan
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### 1. Call to order

Mr. Cowie-Haskell called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm.

### 2. Approval of Clerk's Minutes

Mr. Cowie-Haskell called for objections or corrections to the minutes of the 2015 March 31 meeting of the Committee. Seeing none, he declared the minutes approved as distributed.

### 3. Discussion with Town Engineer about possible adaptations to sea level rise

Mr. Cowie-Haskell asked Mr. Procaccino to first update the Committee on this winter's storm damages to coastal infrastructure and then talk about points along the coast that concern him, running from one end of Marshfield's coastline to the other. Open conversation ensued with the Committee, Mr. Procaccino, Ms. Castro, and Mr. Sullivan (a town resident who indicated some level of expertise based on a career with FEMA).

The following is a partial list of statements made by various participants during the discussion. This list is a representative sampling, not a complete transcript.

- Major damage to the 2' tall cap of the seawall from 46–50 Bay Avenue. Emergency procurement was executed to get in there with steel plates and sandbags, and to do debris removal. Heavy equipment access was achieved through the opening from Bay Avenue at Stage Lane. The Town is looking at improving the seawall at that opening. Mr. Procaccino expressed that this seawall along Bay Avenue is in very rough shape and will break sooner or later.
- Other major damage included an 89' long seawall collapse at the Brant Rock open lot.
- A few hundred thousand dollars worth of work is upcoming for seawall cap repair from the Brant Rock trailer park to the Fairview Inn. This is currently out to bid.
- Repair for the beach access stairs at Shepard Avenue is also out to bid.
- The revetment just south of Shepard Avenue is failing with some undermining for around 300' of shoreline.
- Upcoming reconstruction of the Foster Avenue seawall will take the wall height to 24' above mean low water, like the recent work along Surf Avenue.
- There was wide ranging discussion of the health status of all existing coastal structures.
- Raising of the dike could be considered a priority area.
- The wastewater plant is less vulnerable than nearby areas, but access to the plant is vulnerable.
- The pump station at Central/Highland Street is vulnerable. It was indicated that this station may need rehabilitation in 15 years.
- Manhole covers in Marshfield below a certain elevation are bolted and gasketed to prevent seawater inflow and infiltration.

No motion or votes on this agenda item.

4. Review draft outline for outreach pamphlet

This item was deferred due to the late hour.

5. Adjourn

Mr. Fleming moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Cowie-Haskell seconded the motion. No further discussion. The Committee voted 3-0 in favor. The meeting adjourned at 9:27 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sean Robinson  
Coastal Advisory Committee Clerk