

**Harpswell Conservation Commission  
Minutes  
September 21, 2016**

**Opened Meeting:** 3:08 PM.

**Roll Call:** Mary Ann Nahf, Deirdre Strachan, Sue Vachon, Burr Taylor, Ann nemrow, Mark Eyerman, Planner. Absent: Wendy Batson, Paul Ciesielski.

**Approval of 9/7/2016 Minutes:** The minutes were approved unanimously , with two minor corrections.

**Correction of 8/17/20 Minutes:** The paragraph at the top of P. 2 **Clarification of Fiscal and Calendar Budgetary Accounts** has been reworded and replaced by Selectman E. Multer's clarification of the Town's budgetary system. The amended Minutes were unanimously accepted.

**Announcements:**

**HCC Website:**

M. Nahf noted that there have been 600 web hits regarding SLR information.

**Common Ground Fair: (CGF)**

M. Nahf will attend the CGF to inform attendees of the Town's new ordinance on Pesticide control, along with a representative for South Portland's new pesticide control.

**Resignation of Member Anne Perry.**

M. Nahf heralded A. Perry for her many years of unwavering interest and involvement with the HCC. Her wisdom, writing skills and comprehensive knowledge of all aspects of the environment will be sorely missed.

**New Meadows Watershed Partnership: (NMWP)**

M. Nahf cited Harpswell's membership, ongoing since 2001, includes involvement with erosion control measures at Cundy's Harbor, and a starting point for the Wallace Shore Rd. project.

A new steering committee, that includes M. Nahf, has been formed to redefine the organization's mission. The committee will meet 2- 3/ year and plans to focus on ways to assess and remediate existing restrictive tidal flows to and from New Meadows Lake on Route 1

**Updates:**

**High Head Rd. Culvert Replacement:**

M. Nahf attended the site visit and saw how complex such a project can be:

- The roadway has settled and sunken into the marine clay over time so the grade of the center line needs to be raised two feet to its original level. This does not take into account rising sea level because if the road is raised higher, the present footprint of the base support will have to be more extensive to support the increased weight of the road. SLR inundation is a question of balance between frequency, inconvenience and cost.

- The riprap supporting the sides of the road has deteriorated due to erosion and needs to be rebuilt with new non-porous stone, again following the same footprint.
- A new 14' X 9' aluminum horizontal elliptical culvert will be partially buried and replace the existing collapsed 5 ft. culvert. The choice in size is an engineer's compromise based on cost effectiveness.
- A temporary earthen dam will be used to prevent water flow and fish access to the work area. Approval has been given by the Army Corps of Engineers. The entire project will last 2 - 3 weeks, and have minimal impact on existing vegetation. Every aspect of the project, intended to remedy deteriorating conditions, will contribute a positive benefit to the wetland and immediate environment.,
- Dunning Rd., off the Mountain Rd., could provide alternative temporary access to High Head if needed, but would require permission from at least one owner.
- HCC to request High Head community do a post-case study of the project.

#### **Types of Interns:**

M. Eyerman noted that there are 3 types of interns:

- Bowdoin student during a school semester. Free, but project must be specific to class syllabus.
- Bowdoin student during the summer where the cost of a student stipend is share with Bowdoin.
- Jeff Colbrook, MCEDD, has had interns from Orono, through the Margaret Chase Smith Foundation, that charged \$10.00 per hour for 5 hours per day for 10 weeks.
- He assessed the Town's share to be between \$1,000 - \$4,000 for the summer.

#### **Preplanning:**

D, Strachan noted that guidelines for the scope of work to be done must be outlined, that supervision must be in place, and \$ compensation to be pre-determined.

#### **Projects for Interns:**

The following options were discussed. Some are ongoing, to do with current HCC projects, while others evolved through defining the budgetary requirements for implementing HCC's 2017 goals.

1. Extract accredited road association information from the State' data base. This is a time consuming project because the State's files are alphabetized under private road names, not towns or counties.
2. M. Nahf and D. Strachan are working with the Harpswell Coastal Academy faculty to provide student manpower to record the effects of king high-tides at 5 - 7 key sites, by way of measurements and photographsMonitor salinity

3. changes and the impact on vegetative changes at salt marsh wetlands that have recently had their tidal water flow remedied. Choice of site and supervision would be under the aegis of Matt Craig, Casco Bay Estuary Partnership.
4. D. Strachan:  
Study the 4 wetlands not presently listed under resource protection, as noted in the Open Space Plan (OSP) Details need to be worked out first.
5. M. Eyerman:  
Study to evaluate the environmental assets of the focus areas identified in the OSP and how to preserve the undeveloped areas as density pressures on land increase. Define the procedure to create strategies for protection and itemize them in the Comprehensive Plan for future ordinance proposal.
6. M. Eyerman and B. Taylor:  
Pilot project, a conceptual design, to address and analyze SLR impacts of 1, 2, 3 and 6 feet for the apex of Basin Point Rd., and evaluate future construction costs. Tentative cost \$10,000- 15,000 for an engineer's survey.

**Budget:**

The budget, as of the last meeting - \$1,070.00

To finalize: Bowdoin Studies Intern, and write a proposal outlining the scope of work.

**New:**

**Future Workplan:**

- Plan Selectmen's workshop re SLR and infrastructure: M. Nahf, D. Strachan and W. Batson
- Messaging re private road associations- Publicity plan to address those who haven't heard. A. Nemrow , P. Ciesielski. B. Taylor to maintain data base.
- Roundtable discussion for landscape professionals re pesticide and fertilizing: M. Nahf.

**Adjourned:** 5:05 PM.

**Meetings:** 10/05 and 10/19 at 3:00 PM.

**Scribe:** Ann Nemrow