

DRAFT MINUTES
MARGINAL WAY COMMITTEE
MONDAY, MAY 1, 2017
DUNAWAY CENTER - 4PM

A. ROLL CALL

Members Present- P. Breen, J. Griswold, and J. Oliver

Members Excused - P.Hanscom, L. Gillespie and K. Arnold

Helen Horn, the retired Chair, was present. A quorum was noted.

B. MINUTES

The minutes of the April 10, 2017 Committee meeting were approved.

C. TREASURER'S REPORT

The balance in the Marginal Way's Beautification Fund was not available and will be reported at the next meeting.

D. CO-CHAIR'S REPORT

1) Invasive Control Program Activities

Work continues on removing Invasive Plants along the Marginal Way, pruning trees and planting salt tolerant native plants and shrubs.

E. NEW BUSINESS

1) Replanting of Trail Grant Site- J Gridwold

J. Griswold discussed the ordering of the plants for the Trail Grant site. The driving factor in scheduling the planting activity is the availability of seasonal water for these plants. Each owner of the three abutting properties to the Trail Grant site was asked that a seasonal water connection be made through a water meter to their water supply. Each of the property owners declined to support this request.

After discussing potential alternatives, the Committee agreed to request the K, K & W Water District to install a seasonal water line along Stearns Ave with the connection made on Town Property next to the Lighthouse.

Until the arrangement for a water source is obtained, the planting schedule will be delayed.

2) Beach Conference - Hampton Beach- April 27, 2017- P. Breen

The following summary addresses the results of a Beach Erosion Conference held at Hampton Beach, NH on April 27th.

The theme of this conference was to present the effects of Rising Tides and Storm Surges on the shoreline, which, if sufficiently large, will result in the deterioration and damage to the adjacent Tidal Marshland and potential damage to shoreline property. As the Tidal Marshes are the nurseries for aquatic life, it is important to review the potential effects of rising tides and address efforts, which could stabilize existing areas and potentially rebuild damaged areas.

A demonstration effort aimed at reconstructing marshland damaged by tidal action is underway at a beach in Durham, NH, which abuts Great Bay. The description of this effort gave insight into the different plant classes, which thrive in specific areas of the shoreline, beach and marshland and showed how the use of these plants in the right environment along with the use of wave attenuation products could increase the survivability of the shoreline and the adjacent marshland.

A joint government task force was formed to develop estimates for Sea Rise at the end of the century. A computer probability model was developed and these results were illustrated in a set of probability charts, asserting a range of sea rise estimates from 2.5' to 6.5' @ San Francisco Bay in 2100. This model postulated a 50 % probability for a 2.5'sea rise and a 5% probability for a 6.5'sea rise in 2100. This model employed assumptions that sea rise would be significantly affected by increased melting of the polar ice caps and increased rainfall.

In researching the source data, a set of data collected by the Army Corps of Engineers for 45 oceanside harbors in the US was examined which showed an average sea rise increase of 2 + millimeters per year from 2000 to 2013. Assuming that the sea rise is linear, the expected sea rise in 2100 would be $2\text{mm/year} \times 87 \text{ years} = 174 \text{ mm}$ or $0.174 \text{ meters} = 6.9 \text{ inches}$.

A short presentation described the approach and processes involved in rebuilding an embankment and marshland at a few oceanside properties located in ME. The average cost of these projects was stated to be \$1000/ft.

In any case, seaside communities such as Ogunquit should initiate plans to deal with increased sea rise and buttress their seaside infrastructures accordingly.

The New Hampshire DEP is addressing the aforementioned issue and is supporting the previously described demonstration effort.

The Maine DEP has not yet formally addressed the issue of Rising Sea level but the State of Maine Geologists have begun an effort to initiate a formal program on this topic

A Maine Beach Erosion Conference sponsored by the Sea Grant Organization will be held at Wells High School on July 14th.

F. OLD BUSINESS

None

G. OTHER

None

H. ADJOURNMENT

This meeting adjourned @ 5:30PM.

The next meeting of the Marginal Way Committee will be held on Monday, June 5, 2017 @ 4PM at the Dunaway Center.

Respectfully Submitted,

Paul Breen
Secretary