

MINUTES  
MARGINAL WAY COMMITTEE  
MONDAY, August 12, 2019  
DUNAWAY CENTER

ROLL CALL

Members Present- K. Arnold, L. Gillespie, P. Breen, J. Griswold, and J Oliver

E. Cooper and G. Brother attended this meeting

A quorum was noted.

**B. MINUTES**

The minutes of the Marginal Way Committee meeting held on July 15, 2019 were approved.

**C. TREASURER'S REPORT**

The Treasurer's Report was not available

**D. CHAIR'S REPORT- State of the Marginal Way**

Comment was made that the trimming of the Marginal Way this season has been acceptable. The large volume of rain has resulted in excessive plant growth.

John Patten has been watering the new plants in the Seaside Garden once per week.

**E. OLD BUSINESS**

**1. Storm Damage Repair Operations**

The DEP's permit process for the 18 repair projects continues.

Work continues in providing FEMA with the required information to support the reimbursement of funds from FEMA to repair the damage to the Marginal Way from the March 2018 storms.

The Lead Engineer will meet with the abutters to the Marginal Way on August 19<sup>th</sup> to discuss the details of the repair to the Marginal Way.

**2. Effects of Sea Rise on the Vulnerability and Sustainability Study on the Marginal Way.**

The Chair reported that the Maine Legislature had proposed a law addressing Sea Rise concerns postulated by NOAA.

A study reported on the predicted loss of beachfront in a number of Maine Communities. Ogunquit was not listed in communities most severely affected by the postulated Sea Rise.

As noted earlier, the proposed Sea Rise study would use NOAA data and an engineering survey to identify vulnerable areas on the Ogunquit oceanfront, the Marginal Way, the Ogunquit River and Perkins Cove. This study would examine the damage caused by Sea Rise on municipal infrastructure, businesses and personal property as well as identifying corrective actions and related costs

P. Breen reported that a search into the Legislature activities showed that no funding for Sea Rise studies has yet been allocated by the State of Maine.

Prior research indicated that Coastal Grants are available from the Dept of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry. These grants are small in the \$40K range and approval must be obtained from a citizen advisory council who in the past has expressed concern about allocating money for an Oceanside resource that will wash away due to storms.

P. Breen indentified a few firms who perform geological assessments of damage by Sea Rise and determine the impact of Sea Rise on Municipal Infrastructure, Businesses and Private Property.

Woods Hole Group was contacted to determine their Sea Rise activities. Wood Hole Group conducted the Beach Erosion study for the Town a few years ago.

Woods Hole Group stated that they are presently conducting Sea Rise Studies for many Towns located along the Mass. seashore.

The State of Mass. has funded a program, which sponsors Sea Rise studies for municipalities who have coastline along the Atlantic Ocean. The State of Mass and the Municipalities will share the cost of conducting these studies.

Further work will be done to identify Sea Rise activities in the State of Maine.

A suggestion was made that contact be made with the State Representative from York, Lydia Bloom, who has been active in promoting Sea Rise activities.

The regional Corps of Engineers office in Concord NH will be contacted to identify relevant federal agencies and contacts for Sea Rise discussions.

### 3. People Counter

The following chart summarizes the pedestrian traffic count on the Marginal Way for CY16, CY17, CY18 and CY19 through 8.23.19.

	CY16	CY17	CY18	CY19	
<b>January</b>	<b>Not Installed</b>	<b>No Data</b>	2274	3817	
<b>February</b>	<b>Not Installed</b>	<b>No Data</b>	7050	2798	
<b>March</b>	<b>Not Installed</b>	<b>No Data</b>	7079	8365	
<b>April</b>	<b>Not Installed</b>	<b>No Data</b>	16821	17631	
<b>May</b>	<b>Not Installed</b>	<b>No Data</b>	31875	30846	
<b>June</b>	<b>Not Installed</b>	<b>No Data</b>	48982	55846	
<b>July</b>	66259	60176	70443	78150	
<b>August</b>	96539	142314	70896	59718	*8.23.19
<b>September</b>	67380	154593	57907		
<b>October</b>	41982	55145	35726		
<b>November</b>	15347	12181	9260		
<b>December</b>	No Data	4081	8244		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>287507</b>	<b>412228</b>	<b>366557</b>	<b>257303</b>	<b>Grand Total 1323595</b>

Note that July 2017 only has data from 7th-30th  
Due to operator error in data retrieval.

#### **4. Invasive Plant Experiment**

The planned restart of the Invasive Plant Experiment has been delayed until next year, as new protocols need to be developed due to problems noted in the conduct of the initial study year at US sites.

This experiment has succeeded in Canada over the past few years with the result that 20% of the invasive plant population has been destroyed by caterpillars.

A revised protocol is being developed for the US sites, which will be used in 2020.

#### **F. NEW BUSINESS**

POD day will be held on Saturday August 17 from 8AM to Noon. Volunteers will assemble at the Lighthouse to be directed to areas on the Marginal Way infested with Black Swallow Wart where the volunteers will pick the seed pods for incineration.

#### **G ADJOURNMENT**

This meeting adjourned @ 4:45PM.

The next two meetings of the Marginal Way Committee will be held on October 7 and November 4 @ 4PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Paul Breen  
Secretary