

Pleasant Bay Alliance Steering Committee
Minutes of March 14, 2017
Brewster Town Hall, 4 p.m.

Attending: Jane Harris, Dolly Howell, Allin Thompson, Chuck Bartlett, Chris Miller, Judith Bruce, Fran McClennen

Allin called the meeting to order at 4 pm.

Judith moved approval of the minutes of the February 14, 2017 meeting. Jane seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

Allin asked Carole to provide the coordinator's report on activities:

1. Composite watershed analysis

- A meeting with Town Manager/Administrators from the member towns was held on Feb. 16th. The purpose was to discuss distribution of the composite nitrogen management analysis. The administrators were supportive of the Alliance's efforts and suggested that the Alliance work with them to develop the concepts identified in the report's next steps, and present proposals to Selectmen when ready. It was suggested that the report be submitted on an informational basis to the Boards in April, at which time presentations could be made. The Cape Cod Commission and MassDEP would participate.
- The Watershed Work Group discussed and supported this approach. Suggested edits to a draft cover letter were discussed. Carole noted that additional changes may be suggested by Work Group members. Carole requested approval and authorization to send the analysis with cover letter to Boards of Selectmen, allowing for modifications to the cover letter as suggested by the Watershed Work Group. Chuck suggested removing the word draft, since the report has been widely vetted, and all agreed.
- Chuck made a motion to accept and adopt the report as final, based on the extensive review by the Watershed Work Group, Cape Cod Commission and MassDEP. Fran seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.
- Judith made a motion to authorize sending the report and cover letter to the Boards of Selectmen to update them and to move ahead with next steps in concert with Town Administrators, Cape Cod Commission and MassDEP. Dolly seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

2. Kelp farming was discussed at the recent Watershed Work Group meeting. Jamie Bassett is developing a proposal for two commercial kelp lines. He is looking at a location in Big Bay off Nickerson Neck. He needs several permits to do this work. The Work Group was interested and supportive, but raised many questions about invasive species and navigation hazards. Jamie will be reporting back to the group once he has more information on those topics.

3. Tide Gage Study

- Carole noted that a revised proposal for tide gage analysis was submitted by the Center for Coastal Studies. The proposal is for three annual reports of \$5,000 each, for a total of \$15,000 over three years. Jane made a motion to accept the proposal and pay \$5,000 for the first report which was received in October 2016. This is ongoing work that is very valuable to the Alliance and will contribute to numerous other studies.

4. Sea Level Rise Study

- A revised report will be reviewed by the Coastal Work Group on March 15th. If the group is satisfied, the text will be considered final and the graphic design work will then be completed.

5. Erosion Management Guidelines

- A revised version of the guidelines will be reviewed by the Coastal Work Group on March 15th.
- May 18th is the targeted date for presenting the Sea Level Rise study and releasing the Erosion Management Guidelines for comment.

6. Shark monitors

- One monitor was retrieved and had no detections. A second monitor has not been retrieved. They will be redeployed in May.

7. RMP Update

- The upcoming update of the resource management plan was discussed.
 - The plan should reflect recent studies, including the composite nitrogen analysis. Any proposed changes to the Memorandum of Agreement related to nitrogen management could be discussed in the plan.
 - Judith raised dredging for water quality and sharing of sediment from dredging among towns as issues that should be addressed in the plan update.
 - Carole will be speaking with work groups about priority topics in the coming months.

The next Steering Committee meeting will be April 11 at 4 pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 pm.

Signed

Aaron Thompson

Date

4-18-18