

Meeting Minutes
Pleasant Bay Alliance
Steering Committee
December 10, 2019, 4 pm, Brewster Town Hall

Attending: Chris Miller, Fran McClennen, DeeDee Holt, Ryan Bennett, Walter North, Chuck Bartlett, Allin Thompson, Carole Ridley

Allin called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm.

The minutes of October 21, 2019 were voted on a motion by Fran and a second by Chuck. The vote was 6-0-0. (Ryan abstained)

Coordinator's Report:

1. Watershed/SNEP Work Group – The Work Group meeting on November 20th included a visit from Tom Ardito, SNEP Program Director. Walter raised questions about the timeline for completing the I/A analysis and also the plan for communicating this information to Select Boards. Ryan stressed the importance of clarifying questions about the cost implications of I/A systems. She noted that Brewster is looking forward to the grant deliverables to assist the Town's decision-making. There was also a discussion about the need for clarity from DEP on what the agency will accept for performance of I/A and shellfish programs. These issues will have a bearing on how much reliance Brewster puts on I/A systems. Ryan noted that Brewster has new data on golf course fertilizer load that it will be sharing soon. The need to communicate the findings of the SNEP deliverables was discussed. Carole noted that the current grant includes a public outreach component. A subsequent grant proposal could seek more funds for outreach and communications. All agreed that policy decisions remain with the towns, but the SNEP deliverables could assist in making those policy decisions.

2. Coastal Work Group/CZM Grant – Work is proceeding on the three CZM grant tasks. The first task, aerial flyover and vulnerability assessment, is underway by Center for Coastal Studies. They have experienced weather delays, and Carole has requested an update.

3. Resource Management Plan – Carole had a recent discussion with the ACEC program coordinator who has not taken any action on the response to comments the Alliance submitted to her in November. In order to move things forward for state review, the Alliance could incorporate her typographical and other top-level comments. The Steering Committee agreed that comments on the dredging session should be discussed with DEP staff. The dredging section had not been altered since approved by the state in 2013. There is no apparent reason why this section should be revised. Carole will follow up with Steve McKenna to set up the discussion with DEP. She will come back with a recommendation to the Steering Committee in January. There may be a need for Town Meeting action.

4. Orleans has announced that it is looking into dredging maintenance dredging areas in Pleasant Bay. Carole reached out to Woods Hole Group for more information.

Walter reported that the Orleans Conservation Commission voted to clarify their regulations that the area of the ACEC that is considered jurisdictional is the 100 feet from the top of bank, not beyond that. He also reported that Friends of Pleasant Bay is seeking CPA funds from each town to support construction of the new dock.

The meeting adjourned at 5:10. The next meeting is January 14th at 4 pm.

Signed:

Date: January 23, 2020

Carole Ridley