
Planning Commission Minutes 06/07/2017

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, June 7, 2017 at 6:05 P.M.

Vicki G. Duffy Pavilion at Saybrook Point Park
155 College Street, Old Saybrook

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Janis Esty called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

II. ROLL CALL

Members present: Janis Esty, Robert Missel, Ken Soudan, Kathleen Sugland and Douglas McCracken

Members absent: Daniel Walden, Michael Urban

Staff: Christine Nelson, Town Planner; Meryl Moskowitz, Recording Clerk

III. PRESENTATION

Coastal Resilience Study & Infrastructure Evaluation

Samuel Bell, Senior Hazard Mitigation Specialist, and Daniel Stapleton, P.E. with the firm GZA GeoEnvironmental of Norwood, MA, gave a review of the results of their coastal vulnerability assessment. Approximately forty residents were in attendance. D. Stapleton explained that the study is to inform the community and to inform a process for how to create resiliency, as well as starting a discussion about options.

D. Stapleton stated the importance of keeping awareness of sea level rise in the forefront. The in-depth presentation focused on four areas:

1. Defining the Coastal Setting
2. Inventory Assets
3. Characterize Coastal Hazards
4. Assess vulnerability

The presenters explained the topography of Old Saybrook and described the area south of I-95 as generally low lying elevations, prone to flooding, especially the barrier beaches. They explained the terms 'risk' and 'probability'. S. Bell and D. Stapleton reviewed hydrodynamic modeling, showing flooding at 2, 10, 50, 100, and 500 years.

The comprehensive vulnerability assessment covered many areas including impact to emergency and lifeline facilities, roadways, groundwater and septic.

The complete presentation will be posted on the Town web site.

Audience members asked questions, and next steps were discussed. Two neighborhood workshops are scheduled for June 20 and August 1. The consultants will prepare drafts of a coastal resilience study, a mitigation feasibility study, and a coastal structures evaluation.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

<p>MOTION to adjourn the meeting by unanimous agreement at 8:15 P.M. until the next scheduled meeting of the Planning Commission which will be held on Tuesday, June 20, 2017, at 3:00 P.M. at Vicki G. Duffy Pavilion, 155 College Street, Old Saybrook.</p>
--

Respectfully submitted,

Meryl Moskowitz
Recording Clerk