

## **Sea Level Adaptation Working Group (SLAWG)**

### **Meeting Minutes**

**Date: 12/13/2010**

**8:30 am – 10:00 am**

**Attendees:** Mike Nugent (OOB), Jim Walker (OOB), Jay Chace (Scarborough), Lucy LaCasse (Scarborough), Bob Hamblen (Saco), Ken Buechs (Biddeford), JT Lockman (SMRPC), Peter Slovinsky (MGS)

### **Presentation of DRAFT Vulnerability Assessment**

Review comments on the draft report:

- Need to add the names of towns (and seals) onto the cover page and acknowledge that funding has been provided to support SLAWG efforts
- Short discussion of funding for 2011. Will be in front of Town Council.
- Remove the graph on the front page; put an image of flooded Memorial Library instead
- Make a note on involved parties that Gary Lamb was involved in 2010; include Mike Nugent as 2011 member.
- Page 3 – underline or highlight that sea level rise scenarios don't include the impacts of waves or freshwater input
- Page 3 – need to highlight somewhere about the statistics of Saco Bay having the highest rate of erosion.
- Page 3 E. Make a note that tax assessment values are conservative and not necessarily representative of fair market value of a structure. We could, at some later point, include the percent value of assessment to sales ratio.
- Page 4 – need to be clearer on HAT, HAT+2, 1978+2 etc. Could include a table in the text that includes a clearer explanation of these acronyms. Could also include a small schematic diagram explaining the elevations and the associated acronyms (similar to sea level rise one that is listed).
- Include an introductory letter that is like an executive summary that include the key points from the report. This would be very important for the Councils.
- Could separate figures from the text so that the reader can easily read the text and look at the figures (e.g., a separate Appendix for figures with instructions to print separately)
- Consider using a single page glossary or call out boxes explaining the most important acronyms or terms.
- For Figure 3, suggestion was made to either provide clear indications what the acronyms stand for, or create a new figure that states that the scenarios are associated with different emission scenarios. Could just show a high, low, and mean value. Same for Figure 4. Needs to be simpler. Explain the inset graph with simpler captions. Captions need to be more explanative.
- Figure 9 change the caption spelling of Biddefrod to Biddeford
- On page 7, IV, 2, need to be clearer on the fact that the total value or usability of a parcel is not completely compromised if inundated on an irregular basis.

- We need to be clearer that the scenarios that we are looking at include the impacts of sea level rise on High Annual Tide. We need to be clear that although there is a highest annual tide each year, that numerous tides each year come within a couple inches of that elevation. Include a statistic about the number of times we have been close to the HAT over the past year of 2010.
- Need to highlight that the potential damage in Saco Bay to exceed \$1B (page 5), need to move this somewhere else, or do a callout.
- P.5 paragraph, change 1,1100 to 1,100 and change the 1978 reference to be 1978+2 for both parts of the sentence at the end of that paragraph. For the Vulnerability Analysis (p. 4-6), break up the discussion into Town impacts for the different scenarios.
- Vulnerability Assessment is part of the Action plan; we need to make sure that the step-by-step by in process is implemented throughout our work efforts. Incorporate Jay's list of points on the Action Plan. Bottom of page 7, include text on how the Action Plan will be created.
- Decision matrix will be included in the 2011 plan on prioritizing the potential projects that SLAWG can rank, etc. Need to be sure that the 'most bang for the buck' (e.g., Ocean Park project). The group doesn't necessarily need to create a priority list of actual rankings, as identified priority projects can be undertaken at the same time within communities.
- Recommendations can come from SLAWG on changing existing regulations at the State levels (DEP, etc.) that help sea level adaptation projects. This can be included in the list of SLAWG duties listed on pages 7-8
- Can SLAWG be directly involved in the SBIT and Camp Ellis dredging project? This is already included in the action plan duty list. SLAWG can comment at some point on the project. Since some SLAWG members are part of SBIT, then we can inform SLAWG on the process; reciprocity may be more difficult. Will be able to provide public comment on the EA/NEPA permit process that the Corps will be undertaking.

#### Next steps

- JT and Pete will revise the document, per the group's comments, and give a revised draft back to the group, probably in the next 4-5 days. The next meeting, December 14, 2010, will be canceled. Further communication will be done via email.
- We will need to include potential presentations to the Town Councils on the report that was provided. This will be suggested for the executive summary letters. Probably will need presentations for Scarborough and Saco.
- How will we communicate the potential vulnerability to the general public? Videos, presentations, 2011 Maine Beaches Conference, handouts.
- Scheduling for SLAWG 2011 meetings. We will shoot for Mon, Tues, Fridays for the upcoming meetings. We will do Doodle poll for this.
- Next meeting will be in the 2011 calendar year.

The next meeting will be scheduled for sometime in January 2011.  
Minutes by P. Slovinsky, MGS.