

Sea Level Adaptation Working Group (SLAWG)

Meeting Minutes

Date: 4/29/2011

8:30 – 10:00 am

Attendees: Peter Marks (Saco), Bob Hamblen (Saco), Steve Zeeman (Biddeford), Ken Buechs (Biddeford), Jay Chace (Scarborough), Jim Walker (Old Orchard Beach), JT Lockman (SMRPC), Peter Slovinsky (MGS)

Review of Revised Vulnerability Analysis/Action Plan

- p. 8 – 1st paragraph on Old Orchard Beach... “With these depths, his” should be “this” area.
- Include a table of contents so that sections can be found easily.
- Appendix B flows very well.
- Need to make sure that New Salt Road on Appendix A, Figure 28 is changed to be included in the flood analysis – GIS error that needs to be coded to include that section as a road.
- New Salt Road berm – needs to be height of the guardrail.
- Having Action Plan in Appendix B – needs to be more showcased as something that needs to be high on the list of things to be focused on. In Comp Plans, Action Plan pieces are usually in the back. When the report is delivered to Councils, the AP could be delivered under separate from the Vulnerability Assessment report. The group decided that this should be the method for delivery (Report and Appendix A, with separated Action Plan).
- In Action Plan, first paragraph, make the wording more recent and that the group will continue to update the work that supports the AP;
- In Action Plan, list the Purpose, **Analysis (Vulnerability Assessment)**, then Goals, Principles.
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Other Discussion

- Discussion of state level agency impacts with the new government; i.e., dissolution of the State Planning Office, changes in DEP, etc. Will this impact funding for the project?
- Discussion on the status of some of the bills that may be weakening coastal regulations (i.e., shoreland zoning, etc.)
- Things that are happening in OOB: equipment on beach for beach scraping up near Walnut Street; remote operation of tide gate; OOB planner will be a planner from Wiscasset and was appointed and will be coming to town soon; once that happens, OOB will be revising its Comp Plan and could be incorporating some of the sea level rise information.
- Biddeford Code of Ordinance pages (online) is out of date.
- Saco – has had shoreland zoning since 1978; the City had it forced on it by the State; the zoning map that exists does not accurately reflect the boundaries of the zone even though the text of the ordinance does, and text supports that the text overalls any effective map. Nardy case – map actually can prevail over text.

- LiDAR was used in OOB to accurately map the extent of the shoreland zone using the HAT. MGS has been funded to speak with the SLAWG communities to use the technique that SMRPC has done in OOB to help SLAWG communities do this process and remap the edge of the wetland and the buffer.

Next Steps

- Need to determine priority projects (could be Milone McBroom report) and determine the next steps; could be one of the easiest to focus on since it has lots of monies and engineering.
- Could have brain storming session on potential projects for all of the communities; need a projector next time so we can show maps of communities.
- Transferability of projects from community to community is very important
- Low hanging/common denominators: floodplain ordinances and shoreland zoning (e.g., common method for determining using LIDAR). Should focus on these issues to show success of SLAWG in the first year.
- Goal: submit the revised Vulnerability Assessment and Action Plan, along with cover letters, to the Councils of the partner communities *before the next meeting*.

The meeting ended at 9:45 am. The next meeting is on Friday, May 9, 2011 at 8:30 am at Saco City Hall. Minutes by P. Slovinsky, MGS.