

## Minutes

23 June 2010 (rev. 7-7-10)

8:30 am, Saco Transportation Center Conference Room  
Steering Committee for Sea Level Adaptation Working Group

### Members Present:

Ken Buechs, Biddeford  
Peter Marks, Bob Hamblen, Saco  
Jay Chace, Lucy LaCasse, Scarborough  
Gary Lamb, Jim Walker, Old Orchard Beach

### Absent:

Dr. Steve Zeeman, Biddeford

Staff in attendance: J.T. Lockman, SMRPC, Peter Slovinsky, Marine Geologist and Laura Wurst, Intern, MGS, Maine Dept. of Conservation  
Planning Dept. Intern, City of Saco

The meeting was called to order at 8:35 and began with introductions. All future meeting dates will be held at the train station conference room at 8:30 am. The next four meetings will be held on July 7, July 21, Aug 4, and Aug 25. J.T. Lockman led the meeting and presented the minutes of the June 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting, and the following changes were requested from the group:

1. It should be indicated that the example of an aquaculture project at the bottom of page one was only a hypothetical project, and no real project was proposed.
2. On page 2, it was suggested to add to the possible SLAWG work tasks, to gather and catalog all relevant studies on the bay that have already have been done, that could be used as future resources for SLAWG decision-making.

J.T. then led a discussion on the white paper outlining a possible interlocal agreement creating a SLAWG. In the purpose section on page 1, several suggestions were made to open up the purpose to include some issues beyond the influence of tidal waters, such as:

1. Expand the region definition in Section B, Purpose, to include "associated developed areas" adjacent to waters.
2. Expand purpose in Section B to include freshwater areas that directly empty into tidal waters and may be related to coastal flooding during storm events.
3. It was also noted that we should avoid conflict/overlap with ongoing stormwater management efforts mandated by MS4 EPA/DEP programs.

The balance of the meeting was spent discussing the Town of Scarborough's concerns, raised by Jay Chace, that the white paper laid out a system for an ongoing committee, needing ongoing funding. However, the schedule and pattern of the project as laid out in the grant proposal was for this steering committee to make a proposal for a Sea Level Adaptation Working Group structure. Then once the communities agreed with the structure, the members would be appointed this September by the Councils, and the work program would be started only after the ongoing committee was created.

Apparently interested parties in Scarborough were under the impression this entire project would be completed by this winter. However, this was not the impression held by any of the other parties. J.T. pointed out that SPO did not want to presume how a SLAWG committee would be structured, and what duties it would have, so the grant was designed to let the localities design the structure, and that was step we were in.

To remedy this situation, the group settled on the following next steps:

1. Move up the inventory piece in section G2, Identifying Vulnerable Infrastructure, to the current work of this steering committee, so that something more than a proposed committee structure will be presented to the Councils this fall.
2. Deemphasize the need for continuing funding.
3. Emphasize possible capital work projects for presentation to Town and City Councils to get political buy-in.
4. Seek funding with less reliance on local match contributions, given the poor economic climate.
5. Emphasize standardization of regulations across the bay.

J.T. discussed the funding challenges faced in the various state funded planning programs.

For the next meeting, J.T. agreed to amend the white paper with these ideas, and would speak to Kathleen Leyden and Liz Hertz at SPO to discuss altering the project schedule and scope based on concerns raised at this meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:05 am.