

CLIMATE CHANGE TASK FORCE

Town Of Stonington

Meeting Minutes

Regular Meeting

May 18, 2017 - 7:00 pm

Location: Community Service Room Department of Human Services
166 South Broad Street, Pawcatuck, Ct 06379

Present: Jeff Callahan, Susan Hibbard, Rick Newton, Lyndsey Pyrke-Fairchild, Dennis Unites, MaryEllen Mateleska

Town Employee: Scot Deledda, PE – Town Engineer

Guest – Student and Stonington resident

Call to order at 7:01pm

- March meeting minutes approved
- Discussion on CT Department of Housing Planning Grant May 4th presentation
 - Task force was pleased that the presentation incorporated solutions but request higher resolution graphics for presentation.
 - Graphics and presentation are also requested to be posted on the town's website in an easy to locate area
 - Final meeting is scheduled for end of June; suggestion was made for Keith to sit on the Q&A panel to address local questions.
 - Final report should include sources of potential funding to support solutions and impact studies on solution implementation
- Update on current and pending town studies
 - Survey of Historical Buildings – Draft report is complete and a request can be made to Connecticut State Historical Preservation Office for a final report
- Concern was raised that the multiple resiliency studies may generate confusion from residents and the need to consolidate the efforts and findings. Consolidation of findings must occur at both the town and regional level in order for the towns to make more cost effective and operational improvements to prepare for future climatic impacts. Jason Vincent will be invited to a future meeting and task force members will request to present at future meeting to express concerns to Board of Selectmen.
- Update on status of town budget – climate change related funds were removed from the budget including; funds for structural improvements for sea level rise impacts, funds to support a climate impact study, and funds for professional services/development. Funds to support the task force's clerical services remained but as this volunteer filled role the request will be made to reallocate the money.
- Roster has been updated on the website
- Update on the Southeastern Connecticut Regional Resilience Vision Project facilitated by The Nature Conservancy. A resilience vision plan has been created and the study engaged town

planners. Key findings included that communities should be communicating on impacts and potential solutions at the regional level.

- Community outreach – Rise Up Mystic will be hosting a Climate Change Symposium on June 4th, providing climate focused speakers, activities, and workshops to the public. Discussion on the opportunity for ARUP to communicate with the public.
- Potential of updating of town zoning regulations to incorporate potential sea level rise impacts was discussed and town is looking to complete a comprehensive update of regulations in the future.
- Discussion on latest trends in energy and climate related news items
- Next meeting June, day to be announced following discussion with ARUP

Meeting adjourned at 8:08PM

Mary Ellen Mateliska