

Charlestown Climate Resiliency Commission

05/09/24 Regular Meeting



1) Call to Order: 5:00pm

2) Attendance: D. Prescott, S. Racine, C. Beasley, M. Viola, K. Larrabee Guests: S. Cooper

3) Approval of Minutes: April 4, 2024 Motion by M. Viola, 2nd C. Beasley, approved by all.

4) Public Communications: Jane Weidman (Charlestown Town Planner) contacted the CR Commission regarding partnering/consulting with Mary Anderson from Block Island's Sea Level Rise Committee. Mary is interested in exploring how our commission is working, and is asking if Judy Grey can attend one of our monthly meetings. Dave will reach out to Mary Anderson and invite her/them to our July meeting.

D. Prescott is meeting next week as part of an advisory group to discuss next steps with the breachway restoration project. He will update the CRCC next month.

5) Municipal Resilience Project: Charlestown Breachway/Dune Restoration Project. Emily Diamond (URI) is working on developing research questions and a recruiting protocol. This includes gauging public attitudes by: 1) adding an intro that defines key terms, 2) looking at the potential for focus groups, 3) asking relevant questions that directly elicit information from the public on how climate resiliency is most relevant to them, and 4) have, or how much have they have been impacted by climate change. Identify the connection between stakeholders and the town, state. What is needed, and what are the barriers to getting it?

6) Fire Safety Update: C. Beasley reported that he is still gathering information about the cost/funding for the new fire awareness signs. He will also take over contacting the speakers for out June meeting which will be dedicated to municipal resilience/fire prevention. "Wildfire safety discussion" posting a banner on our website for Charlestown residents.

7) June Meeting Agenda: Will be dedicated to fire safety. Speakers will be asked to give a 2 min presentation to address institutional priorities and the intentions/plans for coordination between groups.

8) Commissioner Updates: S. Cooper spoke with Chris from IT. He will come to one of our meetings when we are ready to move forward to discuss digital options for the Commission to conduct outreach and education. The Commission regretfully accepted the written resignation of C. Drummond as a member of the Charlestown Climate Resiliency Commission.

9) Adjournment: D. Prescott made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:24pm, 2nd by K. Larrabee, approved by all.

Minutes Recorded by K. Larrabee & Submitted Electronically by C. Fox