

Charlestown Climate Resiliency Commission

10/12/23 Regular Meeting



1) 5:06 Call to Order

2) **Roll Call:** D. Prescott, C. Drummond, C. Beasley, M. Viola, C. Fox, K. Larrabee. S. Cooper

3) **Approval of Minutes:** Motion to accept 09/14/23 minutes by C. Drummond, 2nd by M. Viola, approved by all

4) **Public Communications:** J. Mageau letter regarding his displeasure with taxpayer funds spent to investigate options for Charlestown Beach Rd. along with other concerns. C. Drummond expresses concern over town officials and staff acting independently to move forward options without Council authority.

5) **Municipal Resiliency Program Grant Update:** S. McCandless has beach/breachway restoration proposal essentially ready to submit to the RI Infrastructure Bank by the Oct. 27th submission deadline. M. Dowling is preparing a 2nd proposal to replace/upgrade septic systems in high storm risk areas.

6) **Fire Safety Update:** C. Beasley reports progress on fire danger signage. Buy-in secured by all the fire chiefs. Dunn's Corner Station: Visibility is a challenge due to setbacks from edge of pavement on Rt 1. Cross Mills & Charlestown-Richmond Stations: would alter their existing signs to include fire hazard warning. Town Hall: warning sign would be on the grass and visible but all agreed fire stations are more appropriate locations. Permitting for each location is being researched.

7) **Charlestown Beach Road Update:** D. Prescott, C. Beasley & S. McCandless met with RMS Engineering yesterday to present the 7 comments received from the public. Comments were very thoughtful. Commission members look forward to RMA finalizing their report, RMA's presentation to the Town Council before years end, the Commission's recommendation to the Council, and then leaving the decision making up to the Town Council. K. Larrabee notes RMA's recorded presentation is no longer accessible on the Town's website. S. Cooper will see that the video is reposted.

8) **Upcoming November Meeting Agenda:** Nov. 9th Meeting: Expecting RMA's final draft of the report from commission to discuss at the Nov CCRC meeting. Discuss developing a schedule of speakers for future CCRC meetings. Developing the CCRC webpage for educating the community.

9) **Commissioner Updates:** C. Drummond reports "Friends of Green Hill Pond" has created multiple rain gardens. They are now encouraging landowners to create their own rain gardens to assist with storm water runoff. K. Larrabee will be meeting with Sup. Picard next week to learn more about how resiliency is woven into the curriculum and how students could participate/work/engage with the CCRC. C. Drummond informs commission about billions being spent in New Orleans to bring in freshwater to combat salt water intrusion.

10) **Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn by D. Prescott, 2nd by C. Fox, approved by all 6:50 pm

Minutes Recorded & Submitted Electronically by C. Fox