

**Newburyport Resiliency Committee (NRC) January 17th**  
**2019 Meeting**

**Attendees** Michael Morris, Jon-Eric White, Molly Ettenborough, Joe Teixeira, David Chatfield, Donna Holaday, Julia Godtfredsen, and John O'Connell, Lise Reid, and Barry Connell,

Absent: Bill Mullen, Christopher LeClaire, Matthew Coogan, and Chris Boelke

**NRC Mission Statement**

The Newburyport Resiliency Committee will analyze, coordinate and develop a plan in conjunction with regional planning efforts to increase community resilience related to sea level rise, storm surge, flooding and extreme weather events throughout the city. Further, the committee will advocate for and oversee implementation of the plan's recommendations

**Agenda**

- Approval of December 20th minutes
- Review of outstanding action points from previous meetings
- Review of draft plan sections - Michael Morris
- Review of Grants and funds progress - Julia Godtfredsen
- Sub Committee Report on Waterfront West flooding levels
- Any other business
  - o Daily News Article
  - o Green Expo progress
  - o Follow up Conservation Commission "Land subject to Coastal Storm Flowage" regulatory discussion.

**Previous minutes and review of previous meeting action points**

Minutes from December 20<sup>th</sup> 2018 were approved.

The status of action items from previous meetings is

- A link or a summary of the City Emergency Response Plan was requested. –  
The Fire Chief will meet Michael Morris and discuss the issue. Re scheduled target date. - **Feb 15th Chris LeClaire**
- The sub committee will meet to review input regarding flood design levels from the full committee and then submit final recommendations to the Mayor. Draft report sent to the Mayor.
- The draft Coastal Storm Flowage Regulations will reviewed in light of the Technical subcommittee report. – Completed in this meeting.
- The vulnerability section of the Resiliency Plan will be issued prior to the next meeting. Complete
- The emergency vulnerability of Plum Island will be included in the resiliency committee plan. – Complete
- The emergency vulnerability of Plum Island will be discussed in the New Year at this committee. - **Chris LeClaire March 21 2019**

**Resiliency Plan Write up**

A review of Chapter 4 “Vulnerability” was lead by Michael Morris.

It was agreed that all committee members would send further input on this chapter to Mike. **All – Jan 25<sup>th</sup>**

The report will include projections of SLR by several milestone years to assist in adaption planning. The SLR for 2100 will be the subcommittee’s recommendation of FEMA + 6 foot of SLR. The maps need to be generated. **Joe Teixeira – Feb 7**

The vulnerability of the WWTP is high. The engineering study of the WWTP is underway and will identify the prioritization of the vulnerable points.

The water supply is very vulnerable. There are interim protections that can be done. These interim protections need to be detailed. **Jon –Eric - Feb 21**

It was agreed that it is important that a meeting between City leadership and National Grid occur to establish what risk reduction improvements are planned or have been implemented and what level of sea level rise they have planned for; and what are the consequences of losing the National Grid facility. The city leadership should include the Mayor, the City Council President, the City Engineer and the City Electrical Engineer. Arrange a meeting to occur in the next month with National Grid. **Barry Connell Feb 1**

It was agreed that the section on CSO should be included. It does not fit naturally into current format. Chris Boelke has volunteered to develop more background to the CSO issue. He will contact Mike Morris regarding input on the CSO issue. **Chris Boelke – Jan 25** . The report writer will review the CSP section. **M Morris – Feb 7**

The section on public health needs to be reviewed by the City nurse. **Molly Ettenborough – Feb 7**

The next section is Adaptation Strategies and it was agreed that a sub committee would develop these strategies (recommendations). A framework for the adaptation strategies will be developed, it was suggested that this should identify likely funding sources . **Michael Morris – Jan 25**. The sub committee will consist of Michael Morris, Jon-Eric White, Joe Teixeira, David Chatfield, Julia Godtfredsen, and Lise Reid. The Mayor will be contacted about making Matt Coogan available for the sub committee. **Molly Ettenborough – Jan 25** All others are also welcome to join. A sub committee schedule will be developed and issued. **David Chatfield – Jan 25** the sub committee will consider previous studies’ recommendations, particularly as the MVP implementation grants will be checking that MVP priorities are taken into account.

It had been targeted to have a presentation and discussion with the City Council in February/March 2019 before the report will be finalized. At that time a presentation to the public will be considered. However the timeline is slipping. A suggested new target date of April 18<sup>th</sup> will be discussed with the Mayor. **David Chatfield Jan 25<sup>th</sup>**

## **Grants and Funds**

- Funds have been obtained from Mass DOT for installing a road bordering Bartlett Spring pond that will protect the water supply from Sea level rise and storm surge. The design is complete and construction will start in Spring 2019 once the bridge contractor has cleared the site and the City approves an order of conditions. No change is status.
- MVP Implementation Grant \$122,000 WWTF. This money along with a 25% match from the City will be used to determine recommendations for protecting the WWTF from flooding heat and wind. Implementation is underway. There will be a public meeting on this issue in February. This project is scheduled to be completed well before the June 30<sup>th</sup> deadline
- The next MVP grant round will open soon, likely within the next few weeks These projects would need to be completed by June 30 2020. Approaches to this next round were discussed. It was agreed that Julia and Jon Eric would identify the top three priorities and then circulate to the rest of the Resiliency Plan Committee for comments. **Julia Godtfredsen & Jon Eric White Jan 31.** It was noted that the top three priorities need to be in line with the MVP recommendations for the best chance of gaining MVP funds. It was noted that a joint project with Newbury regarding access to Plum Island and Plum Island emergency management are potential MVP projects.
- The Environmental Bond Bill contains a line *for >\$1,000,000 for storm surge protection, drainage and sewer infrastructure upgrades and storm water retention.* The Mayor is taking the lead on obtaining the release of these funds.
- The Environmental Bond Bill also contained a provision *that not less than \$750,000 shall be expended for coastal shoreline [SEP]stabilization, [SEP]polychlorinated biphenyls, or PCB, removal and storm surge protection of the [SEP]Newburyport Clipper City Rail Trail for redesign and construction along the Merrimack river; [SEP]Geordie Vining is now pursuing the project and working with Andy Port on releasing the funds.*

## **Technical sub committee report on flood design levels**

- A technical subcommittee consisting of Jon Eric White, Bill Mullen, John O'Connell, Michael Morris, and Diane Gagnon has developed a report on recommendations for design flood levels for Waterfront West and the report has been forwarded to the Mayor. The Mayor has reviewed the report and requested a summary be added. Summary to be added to the Technical sub committee report on flood design levels and the report released. **Jon -Eric - Feb 21**

### **Any Other Business**

- An article for the Daily News concerning the Resiliency has been requested. A draft was generated and reviewed and modified by the committee. The article was approved for release to the Daily News. Release the Resiliency Committee article to the daily News. **David Chatfield - Jan 25**
- The Greater Newburyport Green Expo, will be held on April 11 2019 at the Newburyport Nock Middle School. This Expo will provide Greater Newburyport businesses, schools and citizens with the opportunity to expand their knowledge about the Newburyport city commitments to sustainability and renewable energy (Net Zero), zero waste, green/sustainable products, jobs, career training, services and information that will help us address the challenges of the cost reductions, energy use, trash and food waste, and operating in a more sustainable manner. The Green Expo will include the Mayor speaking on Green issues, there will be an exhibitor area, a non-profit exhibit area, smaller issue presentations, school presentations are and a Repair Café. There is buy in by the schools, other ad hoc city committees and the Chamber. A City councilor to be identified as a potential speaker at the Green Expo **Barry Connell - Jan 25**  
The Green expo needs additional resources to make this project successful.  
Volunteers should contact David  
Details regarding the Green Expo will be circulated to the committee members.  
**David Chatfield - Jan 25**
- Joe Teixeira outlined the approach the Conservation Commission has taken on "Land subject to Coastal Storm Flowage" regulations. The Technical sub committee report on flood design levels should be sent to the Conservation Commission once reviewed by the Mayor. **Jon Eric White - Feb 28**

**Next Meeting:** Thursday February 20th 3:00 pm