

Sea Level Rise Subcommittee Meeting
Subcommittee of Town of Kiawah Island Environmental Committee
Town Meeting Hall
June 21, 2018

Minutes

Persons attending meeting

John Leffler, Subcommittee Chairman		Diana Mezzanotte, Town Council Member		
Bob Cheney	Jim Chitwood	Jane Ellis	Jim Jordan (TOKI)	Jack Kotz
David Pumphrey	Lyn Schroeder	Jim Sullivan		

Others: Wendy Kulik, Gregg Bragg, Art Morgenstern

Time Line and Details for Report

Mr. Leffler set the following targets:

- June 29 - first drafts completed, ongoing internal review and commentary
- Early July – report goes out for external fact checking review
 - o Suggested external reviewers list: Sea Grant, Norm Levine, Dan Burger, Denise Sanger, Will Doar
- Late July - subcommittee considers external comments and completes report
- Early August – review by Mayor and Town Administrator. Mayor will decide if he wants other individuals to review at this time too.
- Mid-August - report submitted to Stephanie Braswell for layout
- September – selected release to Environmental Committee, Town Council members, and others as determined by the Mayor
- October – formal presentation to Town Council and release to public

Mr. Leffler noted the report currently is not internally consistent in style and there is some repetition among sections, but these will all be worked out during editing.

He noted that using numbers instead of bullet points when you make lists makes it easier to locate specific items when editing or discussing.

Mr. Leffler noted we still need some of the resource people’s full titles and information, but these are coming.

The group discussed executive summary and conclusion sections and decided a conclusion was probably unnecessary since a good executive summary would likely cover the same points.

Mr. Leffler pointed out that the Research and Monitoring Chapter was beginning to look extraneous as all the items posted for that chapter have been covered in other chapters.

The Education Section is emerging as a location for an education strategy and for recommended readings. This permits dropping the Recommended Readings appendix with readings placed in the appropriate chapters and very general readings going under Education.

Wendy Kulik pointed out that the Town's Comprehensive Plan review should probably consider this report. Ms. Mezzanotte noted the next version of the Comprehensive Plan is slated to take place in 2020. Mr. Leffler said that he hoped flood mitigation and sea level rise adaptation would be incorporated into the next Comprehensive Plan.

The group discussed how the report might be used, and the need to coordinate among TOKI, KP, and KICA. The idea of hiring a new person to manage this process, attend outside organizations' conferences and meetings on SLR as well as work on the mapping information available at C of C was considered as a recommendation.

Mr. Leffler asked members of the group to complete and submit their bios.

Mr. Leffler highlighted the following sections of the report which need careful review:

- Introduction – it was written last summer and might need revisions
- Background Chapter, look carefully at the wording of the Kiawah Island section. It was written separately and deals with the UCS report.
- Review the scenario section as it comes from the Charleston report. Remember that these are planning projections, not predictions.
- Review other sections to make sure you have no objections or additions.
- Review the weather trend and projections section as it's a new one.

C of C Maps

Mr. Leffler noted that the C of C maps were being taken down from 5 m² resolution to 1 m² resolution. In that process, some technical problems developed. For example, the new maps did not show floods in areas that did flood during Irma. Lucas Hernandez believes they have isolated the reason for the problems and are fixing it now.

The group discussed maps and how to make various types of maps available. Mr. Jordan noted the Town can likely provide a link to maps and show them in different layers. It was also noted that a website link can be continually updated, so as new maps become available, or new resources develop, each can be referenced for linked to the website.

Kiawah River Bridge Tide Gauge

The group reviewed the tide prediction process. The Kiawah River bridge tide gauge was active for one year in the mid 1970's. It was a temporary station put in place to collect data so that the location could be correlated with the Charleston permanent tide gauge station for tide predictions at the bridge. Once the correlation was developed, the Kiawah station was deactivated. Current tide predictions for Kiawah are driven off the Charleston data and may be adjusted using the factor developed from the Kiawah Bridge station.