



HAMPTON BEACH AREA COMMISSION



100 WINNACUNNET ROAD, HAMPTON, NH 03842

HBAC Draft minutes January 27,2022 at 7PM

This meeting was held live in the Selectmens Meeting Room

Attending:

Commissioners - representing...

Nancy Stiles, Chair, Town of Hampton

Dean Merrill, Vice Chair, Member at Large

Michael Housman, Treasurer NH Dept Natural & Cultural Resources

Barbara Kravitz, RPC representative - (phoned in from home)

Patricia Bushway, Member at Large

Robert Ladd, Hampton Beach Village District (phone in from home)

Maureen Buckley, alternate for Chuck Rage, Hampton Beach Village District

Bob Preston, Hampton Chamber of Commerce

also attending:

Jason Bachand, Town Planner

Not present:

Bill Watson, NH Dept. of Transportation (tried to phone in - system failed)

Ann Carnaby, Administrative Assistant - (taking minutes from home)

WELCOME, Pledge of ALLEGIANCE

Public Comment: none

Adoption of 11 /21 minutes

this meeting had been postponed from the original October 30th date because of numerous scheduling conflicts

acceptance moved by Dean Merrill

seconded by Bob Preston

passed - yeas 6, abstentions 2

Treasurer's report (Housman) - balance in treasury - \$25,453.82

\$22,000 federal dollars locked in for Master Plan update consultant

Appointments: Steve Whitman, Resilience Planning & Design, LLC, consultant to Town of Hampton Master Plan Update:

the Master Plan activity for the town was divided into 2 portions - Phase I focused mainly on the vision and coastal aspects of the plan and was underwritten by the NH DES Coastal Program. Phase II is being conducted by Steve's company, Resilience Planning and Design, LLC and his partnering firms. Their initial work was to produce the "Existing conditions - Hampton, NH" document which has been widely accepted and applauded. By the end of 2021 & early 2022 the Master Plan Steering committee

expressed a preference for a "thematic" approach to the writing of the Master Plan update, so the Resilience team revisited the vision statement and identified themes emerging from the vision portion which they are currently fine-tuning. As series of meetings seeking community input have been held with some themes emerging which are: identifying a sense of place, balanced and forward development of the town, developing a robust economic growth, preserving open spaces with recreational opportunities, neighborhoods with vibrant town centers, and Hampton emerging as a leader regionally.

There are another round of public input opportunities beginning soon called Community Conversations which are focused on the emergent central themes. March will be a time for Steve & his staff to do the first draft for the committee and to place online for the town to view and comment.

KRAVITZ asked where Steve's input and expertise will be - how do we get the benefit of your knowledge and expertise?

WHITMAN we've been in it all along beginning with our identification of the Existing Conditions report.

STILES asks how do we avoid conflict between the town and HBAC in developing our respective plans?

WHITMAN we will be asking you what we can do

STILES tell us what you have envisioned for the beach area

WHITMAN no, I can't - the plan is not what we think - it includes what the people of the town & beach think

STILES how will you involve our consultant?

WHITMAN our draft will not be due till the fall - we can integrate content - staff can tell what is town wide & what is HBAC

STILES so there will be no duplication - we are very concerned about that

WHITMAN the order of activity is very favorable - that we have started with the town first and HBAC is coming in very soon behind us with their input to be integrated into the whole is the best way of it happening

STILES reinforces that there will be no duplication of effort and invites WHITMAN and his team to interact with the HBAC for the sharing of information and ideas

KRAVITZ the theme of our updating is toward a resilient environment to 2050 - are you working on a similar time frame?

WHITMAN for SLR (sea level rise) the longer window makes a lot of sense 0 for the town, looking at a 10-20 year window is more realistic because of needs

KRAVITZ if the town is looking at infrastructure changes they must last longer than 10 years

LADD would it be reasonable that managed retreat would be a last resort part of the plan?

WHITMAN we're not committing to anything - it is the town & your group that must decide. It is the town wide focus on land use and how the town will use managed retreat and other options. The beach is the barrier to protect the marshes and further inland. it is the beach that is the frontline in the coastal system which connects back to the mainland via the 3 major arteries. he welcomes the commissioners to communicate about both policy and infrastructure

STILES asks PRESTON to comment on behalf of the business community

PRESTON replies that the community isn't ready at this time - LADD agrees - BUCKLEY states that flooding is already an issue - last storm every major exit from the beach was flooded - BUSHWAY states that balanced development is an immediate issue and should have high priority

KRAVITZ can we entreat WHITMAN to have solid interchange with our consultant when we select one? If there is managed retreat, where will they go? Will/can it be within Hampton? Those dilemmas need close collaboration - another area of growing concern is the number of professional consultants conducting projects simultaneously - does WHITMAN have help to get a handle on avoiding repetition?

WHITMAN building on each others' work is the way to build rather than duplicate. For example, Milone & MacBroom (Phase I Hampton Master Plan) transferred files to help Resilience Planning & Design's team and we are willing to share with the HBAC consultant.

KRAVITZ it will need coordination to be of mutual benefit.

WHITMAN it makes sense that we do a town-wide Master Plan with beach input, then dive deeper into the specific needs of the beach area with it's plan. What is the timeline for the beach finish?

STILES 2023, so we will have a good overlap

WHITMAN input he will need from us - are we satisfied with the way the town regs are guiding development? There are models of doing things differently to better guide growth...

Ladd areas of beach concern flooding, resiliency, and evacuation - we have to consider what the town would be like if the beach was lost - especially considering the economic impact

STILES coastal resiliency protects businesses at the beach

MERRILL if someone wants to do something at the beach it takes more time to involve FIMA - the beach is our industrial park vs: Rte. 1 & downtown. Everyone wants to live here. The hard question is with so much diversity, what happens on the Boulevard affects downtown - we have to make it work

STILES will be attending a meeting on Rte. 1A - it will be on the DOT website. the bridge is still on the schedule for 2024. Our congressmen are still looking for dollars - between 50 & 75 millions of them

WHITMAN we should include Jason's work

BACHAND if all the commissioners attend the community conversations there will be lots of questions! And we need HBAC representation at all Steering Committee meetings and to then report back to this group. (Steering Committee of the Hampton Master Plan Update meets as part of the Planning Boards' regular meeting on the third Wednesday of each month at 7pm)

WHITMAN the Economic Development group won't be broadcast in the interests of getting more candid input

KRAVITZ thanks Steve for working with an open palette with us - it is important to know how beach communities deal with issues. We look forward to seeing the whole picture so we may all think about our community in the same way - we will be sure to let you know who we hire as soon as possible!

Subcommittee Reports:

Property review previous Little Jacks' location looks good

Town Master Plan Strategy Committee

STILES citizens have asked if commissioners would weigh in on issues at the beach and asks if commissioners would provide input

PRESTON not our job to tread on other boards' business

STILES no but would commissioners consider weighing in?

BACHAND it is important to have this input on larger projects

HBAC Master Plan update

BUSHWAY the vision seems on the right track - continuing a thematic construct vs: a topical construct also good

KRAVITZ our RFP for a lead consultant has been released and submissions are due on Monday the 31st. There is wide distribution thanks to our partners Plan-Link, REDC. the review

committee - Stiles, Kravitz, Carnaby, DiGeronimo, Dionne, will analyze, review, & interview - DNCR & Governor's Council will approve. next step is to develop an RFP for the development of a website for the HBAC to inform the public on all progress. That RFP will be out late Feb. STILES - if we haven't received enough submissions, will the commissioners allow us to extend the deadline?

moved by Kravitz

second by Ladd

vote unanimous

STILES asks that input on new site (how long, what content, suggestions for developers) be sent to Ann at new HBAC email address: beachareacom@gmail.com

Stiles recommends DES stie as example of easy, simple, clear site.

Old Business: Winter 2022 Website Conference

Stiles - recommends the Winter Website Conference on the town website - it is all about flooding and should be watched

New Business: Potential Grant Oversight -

SB 346 - amendment 2022-0161s Committee 5-0 CC

This bill is for \$150,000. to study the possibility of building a pier at a location to be determined - suggested just south of Boars Head to provide access to the sea for the walking disabled - at first hearing we supported studying the feasibility - the L Committee felt HBAC instead of DES should be the oversight.

study oversight should be managed by HBAC since we are a state agency

PRESTON should coordinate with the 1A activity to allow adequate space for pulling over, parking, etc. we should receive images of what envisioned pier will look like; should involve the community, DOT, the business community

MERRILL what else is south of Boars Head?

STILES almost across from Rte.101 a little north of Church St

PRESTON there's a lot happening in that area - consider area by C & D Streets is widest, have state park there - wants to see drawing...

STILES reminds commissioners of Community Conversations

BACHAND urges all to go to the Master Plan website on the town's website

STILES reminds all to also go to DOT website under "projects" - Hampton Ocean Blvd. the 2nd meeting presentation - to view report:

<https://www.nh.gov/dot/projects/hampton40797/documents/40797-pre-01272022.pdf>

Other new business:

PRESTON notes the loss of "Desi" Dan Lanio last week. Desi was a much loved and respected member of our community affecting all he came in touch with, with kindness and affection.

Experience Hampton has taken the lead on establishing a scholarship fund in his name. Please send donations to this fund to Experience Hampton, PO Box 444, Hampton, NH 03843 and note that the donation is for the scholarship fund Extended Learning Opportunity.

Next meeting: Thursday 2/24 - 7pm

Adjourn at: 8:30pm PM

motion by: Dean Merrill

second: by: Mike Housman

Vote: motion passed unanimously

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Carnaby,

HBAC Administrative Assistant