

**HBAC Minutes: 6/25/2020**

This meeting was recorded by Channel 22



Town of Hampton



NH Dept of Natural and Cultural Resources



Hampton Beach Village District



Hampton Chamber of Commerce



Rockingham Planning Commission

*Chairman Nancy Stiles has determined that due to the State of Emergency declared by the Governor as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and in accordance with the Governor’s Emergency Order #12 pursuant to Executive Order 2020-04, she has determined that to properly ensure the safety of the public and as several of the Commission Members are within the CDC guidelines needing to take special precautions, this body is authorized to meet electronically Please note there is no physical location to observe and listen contemporaneously to this meeting, which was authorized pursuant to the Governor’s Emergency Order.*

**Meeting called to order** at 7 pm by chair Nancy Stiles, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Griffin

**Attending:**

**Commissioners:**

- Nancy Stiles, Town of Hampton and Chair
- Rick Griffin, Board of Selectmen Representative
- Barbara Kravitz, RPC representative
- Michael Housman, NH Dept Natural & Cultural Resources
- Bob Preston, Hampton Chamber of Commerce
- Robert Ladd, Hampton Beach Village District
- Bill Watson, NH Dept. of Transportation

**also attending:**

- Jason Bachand, Town Planner
- Ann Carnaby, meeting assistant

**Not present:**

- Dean Merrill, Member at Large and Vice Chair
- Chuck Rage, Hampton Beach Village District - signed in late

**Public Comment** related to agenda items:  
none

**Minutes of May 28 meeting**

moved - Griffin, seconded by Watson  
unanimously accepted with no corrections

**Appointments:**

Jay Diener was introduced by Barbara Kravitz as being an extraordinary advocate for the town of Hampton and possessing strong natural attributes of organization with which he has been instrumental in the creation of both SHEA (Seabrook Hampton Estuary Alliance) and CHAT (Coastal Hazards Adaptation Team).

His summary of his presentation notes were generously shared, and they follow here:

*CHAT - Coastal Hazards Adaptation Team - was started in January, 2019*

*An outgrowth of work done under a grant from the Consensus Building Institute to introduce the concept of managed retreat to Hampton.*

*Subsequent funding from NOAA through the NHDES Coastal Program.*

*Primary objectives of CHAT are to:*

*All Hampton boards & commissions represented (including this Hampton Beach Area Commission with Nancy Stiles and Barbara Kravitz), plus DPW Deputy Director, Town Planner, and two neighborhood leaders.*

*improve coordination of flood hazard management and adaption efforts in Hampton. investigate, analyze, and prioritize flood management and adaptation strategies and present recommendations to Hampton's Boards and Commissions for consideration.*

*inform residents about the flood hazard management and adaption options the Town is considering to enable residents to provide input on these options. provide educational and public outreach opportunities concerning flood hazard management and adaptation strategies.*

*We also have 2 representatives from the NHDES Coastal Program, and an independent contractor who helps plan and lead each monthly meeting*

*Adaptation strategies were categorized based on three types of goals:*

*Keep the water out (floodproofing, flood venting)*

*Live with the water (elevating structures)*

*Get out of the water's way (relocating away from the water)*

*Reviewed various SLR projections, such as Tides To Storms, and original and updated Coastal Risks & Hazards Commission Science reports.*

*Used existing SLR maps to identify vulnerable neighborhoods along Hampton Beach.*

*Studied case histories of adaptation strategies in other cities and regions from Boston to Norfolk, Va, to the Louisiana coast.*

*Looked at permanent and temporary flood-control structures. Heard from speakers about a wide variety of topics, including:*

*the protective value of sand dunes and salt marshes;  
how flood insurance works, and what it does and does not cover;*

*the opportunities and challenges of applying for FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Program Grants;*

*Now we are moving to identify, discuss, refine, and finalize adaptation 'next steps' for Hampton, and to present them to the Town.*

*the upsides and downsides of the wall that was built along the salt marsh in Salisbury, MA; and about how Woodbridge, NJ launched, funded via FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grants, and managed a project in which 200 property owners sold their homes at fair market value so the town and state could remove the structures and leave them as open space for additional flood storage - which helps protect remaining structures.*

*We will also look for ways to engage the public in this effort.*

*This process is expected to take us through September.*

*CHAT's ongoing role may include:*

*Helping craft and review the new Coastal Hazards chapter to the Town's master Plan  
Assist with outreach, monitoring and assessment of adopted flood adaptation strategies*

*Continue to research and recommend additional adaptation approaches as changes in sea-level rise occur*

#### **Treasurer's report (Housman)**

account update - balance is \$\$6767.12

#### **Old Business:**

Chair Stiles brought up the Hampton Beach Master Plan Grant with the information that if we applied and were refused, the information in the application would be retained on file to be used if another opportunity came available. The grant is predicated on the recipient having a match of "in kind" funding. Watson discussed a method of tracking time for determining a final number for the value of time spent for our in kind response. Motion to authorize the chair to move forward with this application which is due by the end of July, made by Griffin, seconded by Kravitz, unanimous in favor.

#### **New Business:**

Preston discussed the difficulties on the beach last weekend, and a reminder that the population that visits the beach in June is considerably different and somewhat more difficult to control than the visitors in July & August, when it is mostly families. He compliments the HPD and DPW for the daily cleanup work, which he describes as "magic". He further complimented all residents & visitors who also help out with the cleanup, and said the beach is cleaned up by 9am in spite of negative press pictures. Stiles observed that the "walking mall" appears to be working well

**Next meeting:** TBA for late July or late August

**Adjourn at:**

motion by: Watson

second: by: Kravitz

motion passed unanimously

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Carnaby, meeting assistant