

Flood and Erosion Control Board
Regular Meeting Minutes
October 5, 2016
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Present: David Benvenuti
Chris Callahan
George Harran

Absent: Gerald Holmberg

Also Present: Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Kuenkler

Chairman Benvenuti called the Flood and Erosion Control Board Regular Meeting of October 5, 2016 to order at 7:00 p.m.

1. OLD BUSINESS

a. Keeney Cove Bathymetric Survey - Presentation by Donald Gerwick.

Mr. Gerwick gave Board members copies of Keeney Cove Bathymetric Survey, dated August 26, 2016, elevation datum based on NGVD 29. He reported cross sections from A-1 to A-8 were located based on previous coordinates from the 2010 survey. He discussed areas of channel infill and scour in the cross sections. At station 0 there is a little bit of infill and scouring. This was the pattern until station 2 + 0. Then it starts to show a light deposition of approximately 3". By station 3 + 50, 4 and 5 there is noticeable scour. Mr. Gerwick felt a fair amount was pushed downstream from scour in the upper cove by the outlet. Ms. Fitzgerald observed scour on the west side. Mr. Gerwick felt there was a little bit of scour in some places. Ms. Fitzgerald asked when was the bridge replaced? She was told it was approximately two years ago. Mr. Gerwick felt anything that might have come downstream could have worked itself out.

Mr. Gerwick discussed A-3 in the area of the curve where it tends to scour. Ms. Fitzgerald asked how depth to sediment was measured. Mr. Gerwick replied they used a straight rod or rod with a prism. Ms. Kuenkler noticed what she observed to be is shown on the plan. She indicated her home is between A-5 and A-6. She canoes and kayaks in that area. Mr. Gerwick added some areas are a little bit deeper. Ms. Kunkler stated its hard and sandy in section A-4 and between A-5 and A-8 there is mayonnaise sludge. Ms. Fitzgerald felt there is scour closer to the outlet going downstream. There is a .50' difference since 2010. Ms. Kuenkler felt between 2010 and now it seemed to deposit in this area. We had storms, 13' of rain and snow melt. Ms. Kuenkler stated there was a change in the color in the water when DOT was working on the bridge at Rte 1, but there were silt fences in place. Ms. Fitzgerald stated the development on the Cancer Center had large retention basins. She did not notice any scour. Mr. Gerwick stated sometimes it takes a long time before it shows up. There is flow coming in and going out in the tidal estuary. Ms. Kuenkler stated during hurricanes Irene and Sandy the roots of a willow tree and locus came up in the backyard between A-4 and A-3, possibly that contributed to it. Much dirt went into the water from that. Mr. Kuenkler stated by Meeting House Hill, the water came over the road. Mr. Gerwick felt nothing was consistent.

Mr. Gerwick reported the survey data is for the purpose of comparison. Ms. Fitzgerald added we have the coordinates. There was less than a foot of change. Mr. Gerwick stated there is ledge in

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some places. Ms. Fitzgerald observed erosion in the channel since 2010. Mr. Gerwick felt one heavy rainstorm could change things. In Southeastern Connecticut 100 year storms tend to be more intense. As you go forward it is reasonable to come to the conclusion it will probably be more intense over time. Ms. Fitzgerald asked will we see more erosion? Mr. Gerwick replied yes. When there is a large rainfall event there may be more scour. It depends on the tide. Mr. Gerwick stated there are so many variables it is almost impossible to predict. We are having more intense rain storms.

Ms. Fitzgerald asked Mr. Gerwick to do a write up for methodology, which he agreed to do. Mr. Benvenuti asked for the cross section A-4 in NAVD 88 be shaded in for the 2016 datum.

Ms. Kuenkler stated there is a noticeable caving of soil on the east side with a 1' loss in places. Eelgrass came in. Mr. Kuenkler added there is horizontal erosion. Mr. Gerwick stated we want to create policies that discourage that. It is not good for the entire system.

Mr. Benvenuti stated as far as depths go, its pretty good. Maybe some of the erosion on the Niantic River roadside, we can control. A significant event can make a difference. Mr. Gerwick agreed buffers are a good idea. Looking at earlier data overall there is no dramatic shift.

Ms. Kuenkler felt the information was interesting and complete. Mr. Kuenkler stated it will help homeowners insurance rates.

Ms. Fitzgerald invited this Commission to a Coastal Resiliency Study.

2. NEW BUSINESS

There was no discussion of new business.

3. PLANS REVIEW

There were no plans to review.

4. PAYMENT OF BILLS.

Board members reviewed Invoice #16-050 0816, dated August 29, 2016, from Gerwick Mereen for surveying services for an updated bathymetric study in Keeney Cove in the amount of \$4800.

MOTION: Mr. Callahan moved to approve Invoice #16-050 0816, dated August 29, 2016 from Gerwick Mereen for surveying services for an updated bathymetric study in Keeney Cove in the amount of \$4800, to be taken from Account No. 52030, Professional Fees, subject to final deliverables as agreed to at this meeting. Seconded by Mr. Harran. (3-0) Unanimous.

5. CORRESPONDENCE.

There was no new correspondence received.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 7, 2016.

Mr. Benvenuti asked for additions, deletions or corrections to the Flood and Erosion Control Board Regular Meeting Minutes of September 7, 2016.

MOTION: Mr. Callahan moved to approve the Flood and Erosion Control Board Regular Meeting Minutes of September 7, 2016, as presented. Seconded by Mr. Harran.
(3-0) Unanimous.

7. ADJOURNMENT.

MOTION: Mr. Callahan moved to adjourn the October 5, 2016 Flood and Erosion Control Board Regular Meeting at 8:30 p.m.
Seconded by Mr. Harran. (3-0) Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Frances Gheri, Recording Secretary