

Town of South Bethany
Resiliency Committee Meeting
Tuesday, November 21, 2023

In attendance: Edie Dondero, Chair; Joan Marini, Mike Powell, Town Manager Maureen Hartman.

Absent: Geoff Kolberg, Tim Saxton.

The meeting was called to order by Ms. Dondero at 10:05am.

1. Approval of Minutes of October 30, 2023

The minutes of the October 30, 2023 meeting were approved with the addition of one paragraph supplied by Dr. Marini.

2. Public Comment Period

There was no public comment offered.

3. Review of Draft Scope of Work for York Road Flood Mitigation Project

The Committee reviewed and discussed the draft scope of work for the York Road project. Mr. Powell suggested adding a requirement that the contractor conduct subsurface boring and other geotechnical investigations as needed; and that the collection and preparation of documentation needed for compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) be added as a task.

Ms. Dondero shared edits supplied in advance of the meeting by Mr. Kolberg who was unable to attend the meeting.

4. Discussion of USACE Section 219 Program Funding Opportunity

Ms. Dondero reported that Mayor Saxton and Councilman Tim Shaw met with representatives from the USACE to better understand their Section 219 program and what resources they may be able to provide the Town in its resiliency efforts. Mayor Saxton had previously reported to the committee that Senator Carper's office had directed him to the ACE when he inquired about funding to raise the bulkhead. The possibility of engaging the ACE to address flooding and stormwater management issues in Cat Hill was discussed. The suitability of engaging ACE for the bulkhead project was also discussed. Dr. Marini felt that this was especially suited to ACE because the complexity of dealing with different age bulkheads, different property elevations and the number of boat launch ramps was matched by ACE's history of dealing with complex projects. As a complex project with mid-range execution timing, a careful survey would be helpful to get underway in the near term. Mr. Powell cautioned that ACE projects can be very expensive and suggested the Town get a

better understanding of budgeting for this program and of expectations for Town cost sharing.

5. Next Meeting Date and Adjournment

The committee tentatively scheduled its next meeting for Wednesday, December 20th at 10am. Ms. Dondero will confirm this date once availability of the meeting room is confirmed.

The meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

Minutes approved December 20, 2023