

TOWN OF PALM BEACH

Office of the Town Clerk

MINUTES OF THE COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW OF THE TOWN'S LONG-TERM COASTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAM PUBLIC WORKSHOP HELD ON DECEMBER 10, 2012

I. WELCOME & REVIEW OF "GROUND RULES"

[David A. Rosow, Town Council President]

Council President Rosow announced that this was a Public Workshop, and that the Town Council will not be participating in the discussion. The purpose of this Workshop is to solicit comments from the public to be included in Woods Hole Group's Comprehensive Review of the Town's Long-Term Coastal Management Program.

II. INTRODUCTION OF WOODS HOLE GROUP

[Peter B. Elwell, Town Manager]

Town Manager Elwell provided an overview of the history of the Town's Long-Term Coastal Management Plan, its prior peer reviews, and prior Town actions. He stated that Woods Hole Group was engaged to conduct a peer review, including not just of the Shore Protection Board's current recommendations, but also the history of the program since 1999. Woods Hole Group has reviewed the history of the Program and has met with Staff, members of the Town Council, members of the Shore Protection Board, and various other stakeholders. Today is the opportunity for any member of the public to share their comments in an open forum.

III. SUMMARY OF WOODS HOLE GROUP'S WORK

[Bob Hamilton, Vice President, Woods Hole Group, Inc.]

Bob Hamilton, Project Manager Woods Hole Group, provided an overview of their scope of work and the company. He stated that their report will be submitted to the Town by the end of January 2013 and that he wanted to receive as much public input as possible.

IV. COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

Lou Crampton, 2335 S. Ocean Blvd, stated that he and his colleague, Garrison Lickle, are representing a new committee, the Civic/ Citizens' Shoreline Committee, which is an advocacy organization and their mission is to educate, inform, and mobilize the public to

support the best available, yet practical, solutions to protect our Town's beachfront shoreline. Their areas of concern are cost, environmental impacts, and finding a fair solution Town-wide.

Garrison Lickle, former Chair of the original Shore Protection Board, 400 S. Ocean Blvd, stated that the new Committee would like to know what the scope of work will be, the cost of the Shoreline Protection Program, and how it will be funded. The Committee would also like to request that the report contain a special section on the latest technology, continuing developments, and what other communities have done.

Llywd Ecclestone, 190 S. Ocean Blvd, Shore Protection Board Chair, stated that the biggest problem we have to address is protecting the shoreline south of Sloan's Curve. We have three engineers' reports on what to do in the south area, and they are all different. He requested that an analysis of the three engineering reports be included in Woods Hole's final report.

Robert Gonstead, 4000 N. Ocean Drive, Riviera Beach, representing Protect Our Beaches, spoke regarding Palm Beach County's shoreline protection efforts. He requested that the Town consider endorsing the Protect Our Beaches Coalition.

Robert Andrew Roddy, 231 Kenlyn Road, expressed his concerns regarding the sand that was added to the beaches in the north end of Town that wound up washing away. He suggested creating artificial reefs or breakwaters.

Constance Gasque, 167 Root Trail, representing William Cooley, presented a copy of Mr. Cooley's comments and requested that Woods Hole take a look at what's happening with the sand.

Sanford Kuvin, 146 Inlet Drive East, inquired as to how many of the five high priority, and three medium priority, projects identified in Woods Hole's 1998 report have been accomplished. He expressed his concerns regarding the dramatic loss of sand resulting from Hurricane Sandy, the enormous loss of beach due to the shutdown of the Sand Transfer Plant, and the sand pipes. He expressed his objection to the Town's argument that the sand at the Lake Worth Inlet is in the shadow of the Inlet and that it doesn't move south.

Lewis Katz, 2275 S. Ocean Blvd, thanked the Town and Woods Hole for their shore protection efforts. He spoke regarding the impacts of Hurricane Sandy. He stated that he would like for the Town of Palm Beach to be an example of the best way to protect shorelines. He suggested looking at areas with similar coastlines and see what they are doing.

Judith Schrafft, 325 Crescent Drive, member of the original Shore Protection Board, requested that the issues of global warming and the rising sea level be addressed. She inquired as to how much consideration will be given to these problems in Woods Hole's report. She agreed with Mr. Roddy's suggestion to create artificial reefs.

Mr. Hamilton responded that their report will address the impacts of sea level rise. There are also new engineering standards for designing coastal projects to address this issue.

Larry Goldberg, 3360 S. Ocean Blvd, stated that he had sent some comments to Woods Hole and requested that those comments be addressed in their report. He had additional comments regarding regulatory feasibility and the Beach Management Agreement. He added that there are continuing changes to regulatory restrictions. He would like for Woods Hole to address how the Town can take advantage of and promote regulatory changes to help shoreline protection in their report. He also requested that the feasibility and efficiency of using breakwaters be included in their report.

Bobbie Lindsay Buck, 212 Caribbean Road, requested that Woods Hole get the data presented at last week's 4th Annual Climate Change Leadership Summit in Jupiter. She was told that the information will be posted on their website within a week.

Richard Raffo, 44 Cocconut Row, inquired as to how many, along the east coast of the United States, especially down south here, groin fields there are. He recommended installation of more groins.

Dan Clark, Cry of the Water in Broward County, recommended dunes and reefs as the best options for shore protection and looking at best management practices.

Lee Goldstein, 3120 S. Ocean Blvd, member Citizens Association and Shore Protection Board, thanked Mr. Hamilton for speaking with him. He stated that we should take the time to go over the post-Hurricane Sandy impacts and include them in the final report. We must decide if we have shore protection and, if we do, what magnitude of storm we are protected from.

Gerald Frank, 2784 S. Ocean Blvd, member Shore Protection Board, stated that property protection is the biggest thing we are concerned about here, not so much recreational beaches. He provided pictures to Mr. Hamilton illustrating the 40-foot high, heavily vegetated dunes on 7-Mile Island in New Jersey which saved their beach from Hurricane Sandy. He also provided a report from a meteorologist urging municipalities to armor their coastlines with a dune system, and urged consideration of a dune system in Woods Hole's report.

Stephanie Clark, Cry of the Water in Broward County, stated that the ecosystem does not stop at the County line. She asked that sand grain size be considered in the report and submitted further comments and a Broward County sand study to Mr. Hamilton. She added that the impacts of dredging, coral reefs, and the current conditions in Fort Lauderdale, Florida also be considered in the report.

Rodney Blair, 2275 S. Ocean Blvd, suggested going back to the shoreline conditions existing prior to 1964 and Hurricane Dora and filling in Reach 7 back out like it used to be. He requested consideration of getting rid of the inlets and the use of seawalls.

1 Russell Setti, Project Manager for Broward Soil and Water Conservation District, spoke
2 about hotspot restorations in Broward County. He stressed the importance of dune
3 systems.

4
5 Jack Benjamin, 3200 S. Ocean Blvd, stressed the importance of dune systems and
6 vegetation. The feasibility of installing groins must also be looked at.

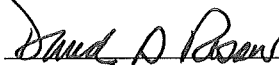
7
8 Carla Herwitz, 2275 S. Ocean Blvd, representing Save Our Shoreline (SOS), stated for
9 the record that it was SOS who engaged Karen Erickson to work on these shore
10 protection issues.

11
12 V. SCHEDULE OF FUTURE MEETINGS – None

13
14 VI. ADJOURNMENT

15
16 There being no further business, the December 10, 2012, Public Workshop was
17 adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

18
19
20 APPROVED:

21
22
23
24 
25 David A. Rosow
26 Town Council President

27
28 ATTEST:

29
30
31
32 
33 Susan A. Owens, MMC
34 Town Clerk

35
36 1/8/13
37 Date

