Willard Beach Master Plan Committee
Meeting Minutes
Monday, December 16, 2019
Conference Room, South Portland Public Works, 929 Highland Ave.

Present - Voting Members - Kevin Adams (Director of Parks and Recreation, City of South Portland), Kristina Ertzner (Park Ranger, City of South Portland), Steve Puleo (Community Planner, City of South Portland), Peter Wilson, Catherine Bickford, Emily Wright, Peggy Stewart, Adrian Dowling, Pedro Vazquez, Lisa Thompson. Quorum established.
Absent – Ashley Kilmartin (resigned as member prior to meeting), Claude Morgan (non-voting)
Public – John Murphy, 2 others

1. Review and Approval of November 18, 2019 Meeting Minutes –
   Vote - Pedro moved to accept; Peter seconded, no discussion, approved unanimously.

2. Discussion of Willard Beach System document (tabled from last meeting):
   • Kevin noted that this document was produced 16 years ago by the Willard Neigh Beach Committee (unofficial committee that produced report to City Council).
   • Pedro suggested that we review recommendations and see if still relevant.
   • Kevin noted that Justin from Water Resources can attend next meeting 1/27 and give an overview of current project.
     o For our Feb meeting Fred Dillon will attend and discuss water quality testing process.
   • Water Quality issues-
     o Steve – capture first flush of rain somewhere – need to explore with Justin what is actually being done; Portland is doing this with large tanks around Back Bay; WB pipes do not discharge sewage but some homes might have direct outflow to beach; pump station is pumping sewage.
     o Removal of sewer pipes under beach – they are still there?
   • Dune management – original plan was for volunteers to do the work; fencing was put in but was buried by sand; there is a theory that the dunes will take over the beach if they are allowed to grow.
     o Steve – Dune most important thing at beach; needs to survive – fencing?
     o Pedro/Emily – how to get students involved?
     o Several members noted the need to get some real expertise here.
     o Catherine - Common resource – people don't behave the way they do at home.
     o Pedro – Maine Land Trust Network – has a specific program re. local conservation initiatives.
     o Steve – Maine Coastal Program.
     o Emily asked if anyone is tracking sand erosion over time; Kevin said that ME Sea Grant group has a few volunteers that is doing a study; expect results next summer.
     o Action Item - Catherine knows geology prof at SMCC studying mallards – will ask him to speak at future meeting.
     o Action Item – Emily will contact friend (Zelinsky?) at Maine Geological Survey to speak to group.
   • Dogs - The group had an extended discussion about dog waste and dog issues.
   • Kevin – No evidence that recommended hazard mitigation plan was ever developed/implemented.
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- Steve – Fire Dept has an emergency management plan but that is different from hazard plan, which drills down to very specific level; there is a similar plan for Bug Light done when the city took it over.
- Steve – need for an inventory of what is actually on the beach – might potentially be a recommendation of this committee.
- Discussion of remainder of report - the group agreed to table this agenda item to future meeting on 1/27.

3. Scheduling next meeting and future agendas
   - **Monday 1/27**, tentatively at DPW.
   - **Monday 2/24**, tentatively at DPW.
   - Lisa suggested that we have one presentation per meeting - Justin in January, Fred Dillon in February.

4. Questions, Comments, General Discussion
   None.

5. Adjourn
   
   **Vote** - Kristina moved to adjourn, seconded Steve, unanimous.