Willard Beach Master Plan Committee  
Meeting Minutes - Monday, January 27, 2020  
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. **Quorum established.**

**Absent** – Lisa Thompson, Ashley Kilmartin (resigned as member prior to meeting), Claude Morgan (non-voting)

**Public** – John Murphy

1. **Review and Approval of December 16, 2019 Meeting Minutes** –  
   *Vote* - Pedro moved to accept; Peter seconded, no discussion, approved unanimously.

2. **Amendment to November 18, 2016 Meeting Minutes** – Adrian proposed that the minutes be changes to reflect that although the committee discussed and was generally in favor of hiring a facilitator, no formal vote had been taken by the committee.
   *Vote* – Amendment approved unanimously.

2. **Presentation by Justin Gove (Water Resource Protection Department, City of South Portland); Q & A**
   - Justin is a civil engineer and wears a number of hats for City.
   - Justin presented a powerpoint with a brief history of sewer system in SP – first sewer infrastructure in 1920s.
     - In 1975 new sewer pump station at WB directing sewer flow to new WWTP, installed new combined sewer outfall that discharged to old outfall.
     - SP trying to reduce flow into combined sewer – low flow fixtures, repair leaking pipes, disconnecting roof and foundation drains.
     - This effort has been successful - 1986 28 CSOs 500 MG/yr. to 2018 4 CSOs 3.5 mg/yr.
   - Currently 3 storm water outfalls on WB.
     - No raw sewage since 1975 when waste water plant built.
     - Structure of one of 2 outfall pipes at WB shows significant deterioration.
     - Outfall pipe below the water line appears to be in fair condition.
     - A diver recently found that outfall is partially submerged by sand, still free flowing.
     - Frequent washouts on beach from outfall structure.
   - City is trying to remedy these problems and make structure easier to maintain and more resilient to flood a combined outfall possible. They are currently considering 3 alternatives:
     - Alternative 1 – add new outfall that discharges onto the beach rather than offshore– smaller pipe but still concrete structure – lowest cost but also likely least popular.
     - Alternative 2 (3 sub-options) – replace existing in whole or partially/repair existing outfall cons – still working in dune system, still have outfall and buried structure, old corroded pipe would remain.
     - Alternative 3 – 60 inch outfall pipe eliminates Willow St outfall, buried outfall across tidal zone, requires pipe from old Willow St that would have to be shallow which could be a big issue. This alternative would give the best aesthetic result (gets rid of all exposed pipes) though SMCC outfall pipes would still remain.
   - WRP is recommending Alternative 2, which repairs most of the current Willard St pipe but leaves some of the submerged old pipe that is in good shape.
     - Will be presented soon to City Council workshop (tomorrow night – January 28) for possible start in March.
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- 2 – 3 month construction period for most aggressive option, likely winter, beach wouldn’t be shut down.
- Justin noted that Eel grass mitigation is also an issue on the old pipe.
- There is a clear water quality issue associated with discharge of storm water; bacterial counts go up after storm events.
- The group had an extended discussion of technical storm water engineering questions.
  - Willard Beach parking lot – possible using porous pavers for storm water.
  - Wetlands area behind parking lot is serving purpose for storm water retention.
- Alternative 2B - $250,000 vs. $1.25 million for Alternative 3; Alternative 3 would probably take 3 years + because of planning and permitting, and repair is needed now.
- Contractor will likely stage off of Willard St, rosa rugosa at entrance probably will be removed.
- John Murphy noted the need to make sure sand is retained when plants removed for new pipe.
- Council proposal does not discuss mitigation for plant removal, etc.

3. Discussion of Willard Beach System document (continued from December 16 meeting) was tabled until next meeting.

4. Scheduling next meetings and setting next agendas:
   - **Monday 2/24**, tentatively at DPW.
   - **Monday 3/30**, tentatively at DPW.

5. Adjourn
   
   **Vote** – Steve moved to adjourn, seconded by Emily, unanimous.