

OLD SAYBROOK COASTAL RESILIENCE COALITION, INC.
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Location: Mindy K's Restaurant, Old Saybrook, CT

Date: July 2, 2024, 7:00 pm

Attendees: Gary Albanese, Rick Bovino, Joanne Breen, Marie Cerino, Beth Chotkowski, Michael Cohen, Jamie Greacen, Connie Hughes, John Kennedy, Terence McGrath, Dave Pettinicchi, Ed Rajotte, and Joe Russo

Excused: Jean Boggs, Jay Costello, Tara Gustafson, Donna Henry, Dave Hopkins, Scott Loveland, Carolyn Lyle, Lew Perry, Sally Pritchard, Robert Pulito and Patricia Walden

Non-Voting Affiliate: Doug McCracken

Guest: Michael Russo (Otter Cove)

AGENDA ITEMS

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Previous Meeting Minutes:

The previous Old Saybrook Coast Resilience Coalition (OSCRC), Inc. June 4th meeting minutes were reviewed. A motion was made to accept the minutes; motion seconded and carried.

Secretary's Report:

No report.

Treasurer's Report:

The 2024 bank deposits and expenses during past month are as follows:

Deposits: None

In-Kind Donations: None

Expenses: \$178.31

The current OSCRC balance as of July 2, 2024 is \$3,191.19.

Vice Chair's Report:

No report.

Chair's Report:

Chairman requested a vote to make Doug McCracken a non-voting affiliate. A motion was made to accept Doug McCracken as a non-voting affiliate; motion seconded and carried. Chairman discussed future action on unexcused absence of Board members.

Old Business:

1. Update on the Clinton-Fenwick-Old Saybrook-Westbrook (4 Shore Resilience) grant. The schedule at this time is the draft report will be available August 2 for comments. The report will be posted August 15 to support an Old Saybrook and Fenwick information session on August 27th at 6 pm at

the Old Saybrook Middle School. The flood model used by the consultants are consistent with the state and NFWS assumptions of a 0.5-meter sea-level rise by 2050, and a 0.75-meter rise by 2070.

2. Update on the Old Saybrook 2024 Long Island Sound Futures Fund (LISFF) proposal. Proposal is submitted and waiting on a decision.
3. Chalker Beach representatives reported that there has been no new action regarding the Whole Foods issue.
4. Update on possible drainage solutions near the tide gate and the Chalker Beach Marsh via the Public Works director. Update on ARPA funding for water service to shoreline areas with no service.
5. OSCRC volunteer team reports:
 - Literature creation (Dave Pettinicchi).
 - 300 brochures were created and are available if anyone needs them. Please contact Ed Rajotte. Brochures were distributed during the Saybrook Street Party on June 23.
 - Planning, permitting, and performance (shovel-ready) project proposals (Joe Russo).
 - Follow-up to the Zoom meeting between OSCRC members and state representatives about completing the Fenwood seawall. Ed Rajotte is working with Devin Carney on this issue.
 - The OSCRC a proposal entitled “OSCRC Living Shoreline Education” won the Constellation Energy \$500 grant. Marie Cerino is leading this effort.
 - Update on the Saybrook Manor Association wall remediation and reconstruction. Doug’s report should indicate exactly what the remediation entails.
 - Update on the Oyster River dredging. Dave Pettinicchi did a bit of research and this is a massive project that requires involvement on many levels. He asked that we “table” this for the time being and remove from future agendas. Others indicated that the entire marsh system throughout Old Saybrook needs to be dredged.
 - Update on Jay Costello’s application for submitting grant proposals to the RTX Connect Up Charity. Jay has started the application for a grant.
 - Donations (need leader).
6. Update on government agency and private corporation funding opportunities.
 - Follow-up on Sarah Schecter of CT Sea Grant.
 - Julia McGrath, Grants and Special Projects Coordinator for Congressman Joe Courtney, shared an update on federal funding opportunities and resources for grant seekers. None of the opportunities were applicable to OSCRC’s mission.
7. Update on Climate Change presentations to satisfy OSCRC education mission.
 - Joe is coordinating with Chris Costa, Town Planner and Connecticut Zoning Enforcement Officer, to give a 15-minute Climate Change presentation plus questions sometime this year to Old Saybrook residents at the Town Hall. Joe Russo indicated that he may do a presentation at Town Hall in late August for all associations, rather than visiting each association at their individual meetings.
 - Update on opportunities for reimbursement for damages following FEMA-declared disasters. Terence doing further research on opportunities.

New Business:

- Explore a possible relationship with the Old Saybrook Land Trust.

Additional Items:

Thanks again to Rick Bovino for hosting and snacks for the meeting.

The next Board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 6, 2024.

Meeting adjourned at 8:01 p.m.