

RESOLUTION BY THE COMMUNITY OF WATCH HILL, RHODE ISLAND

ON ADAPTING TO SEA LEVEL RISE AND STORM SURGE

APPROVED APRIL 9, 2019

WHEREAS, the village of Watch Hill, by nature of its low elevation and proximity to the sea is extremely vulnerable to rising seas and surge caused by storms, and

WHEREAS, sea level rise is an undeniable fact in Rhode Island as evidenced by long-term trends recorded by NOAA tide gauge stations in the region, and

WHEREAS, NOAA predicts sea levels to rise approximately 3 feet by 2050 and possibly over 9 feet by 2100, and

WHEREAS, even a modest storm that has a 10% chance of occurring at any time will bring a surge of 6 to 9 feet and will be devastating to Watch Hill; and

WHEREAS, nuisance tides now occur on a regular basis and cause flooding of our streets, businesses, and utilities; they are our new normal, and

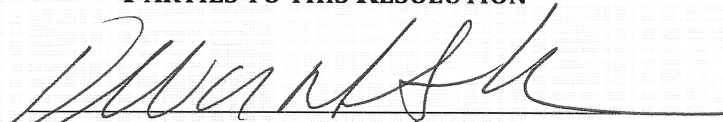
WHEREAS, we lose access to recreational destinations such as the Napatree Point Conservation Area, Beach Club, Beach Cabanas, and Yacht Club many times a year due to flooding by nuisance tides and Nor'Easters, and

WHEREAS, adaptation to sea level rise and storm surge must be a community effort that addresses transportation challenges, protecting property and utilities, yet maintains the character of the community, and

WHEREAS, as we develop measures to adapt to sea level rise and storm surge, we must plan for the long term and consider future conditions of transportation and commerce that are far different than today,

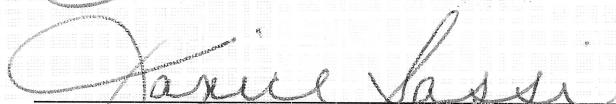
THEREFORE, NOW BE IT RESOLVED that the undersigned organizations embrace a community-wide effort to adapt the village of Watch Hill to sea level rise and storm surge in a holistic, comprehensive, and timely manner that maintains the historic and aesthetic character of Watch Hill, protects our commercial endeavors and infrastructure, assures the safety of our residents and visitors, and ensures that the public has reliable access to recreational destinations along our shores.

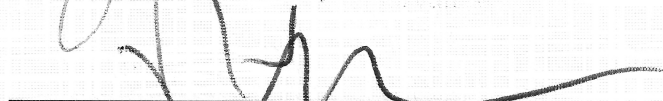
PARTIES TO THIS RESOLUTION



The Watch Hill Conservancy

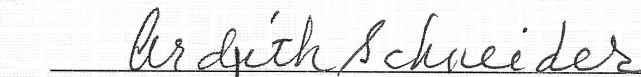

The Watch Hill Fire District

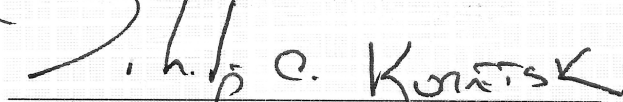

Watch Hill Park Commission

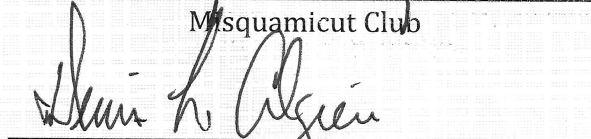

Napatree Point Conservation Area



East Beach Association

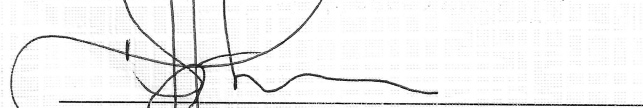

Watch Hill Lighthouse Keepers Association


Watch Hill Improvement Society


Misquamicut Club


The Watch Hill Yacht Club


The Watch Hill Merchants Association


The Ocean House Hotel