



June SLR Working Group Meeting Minutes

Date: Saturday, June 13, 2020

Time: 9:00 – 11:00 AM

Location: By ZOOM

Deborah Lamm opened the meeting, thanked everyone for their participation, and reviewed the agenda

Jocelyn Lahey reviewed ZOOM protocols for the meeting

Teresa Crean (URI Sea Grant), the Coordinator for the URI capstone course, reviewed the goals of the class, the composition of students, and the mechanics of running the class during the Pandemic. She noted that the RI Sea Grant program is developing a 4-5 page summary document of the 2020 capstone class. Teresa introduced the five students who summarized the work they and their classmates conducted.

Landscape Architecture Presentations

Redefining Resilience, Karl Alamo

Coastal Resiliency, Spencer Beebe

Environmental Economics Presentations

Willingness to Pay for Coastal Resilience, Chris Brown

Economic Impacts, Alanna Jones

Cost Benefit Analysis, Shayna Fidler

Spirited discussion followed the student presentations. The Watch Hill stakeholders expressed gratitude and appreciation for the work the students accomplished.

Pete August briefly reviewed the 3 foot SLR planning goal the group settled on back in December. This was followed by discussion by members of the group. Key points raised include:

- Try to incorporate as many green solutions as possible
- Don't be afraid to pursue bold, longer term solutions. There might be a significant economy of scale. A 5' SLR solution might not add much more cost than a 3' solution
- The Park Commission has done considerable work and planning over the past few years to examine solutions.

The group decided the next move should be to study elevating the sea wall from the Napatree entrance, through Watch Hill proper, to the dock area where the WH Fire District keeps its

emergency rescue boat. A small committee will be established this summer to begin gathering information on what it will take to elevate the seawall.

11:00 Adjourned