

Present: Charlyn Brown, Vice-Chairman; Lisa Brown-Kucharski, Greg Parish, Shawn Hanson, Members; Glenn Coppelman, Circuit Rider Planner; Susan Ayer, Secretary; Julie LaBranche, Theresa Walker, Rockingham Planning Commission (RPC)

7:00 PM

**TIDES TO STORMS
PREPARING FOR NEW HAMPSHIRE'S FUTURE COAST**

C. Brown welcomed the public in attendance and introduced the program. She explained that it was prompted by the Planning Board applying for a grant in the fall of 2015, to take part in a grant the RPC had received from the Northeast Region Ocean Council. The purpose of the grants is to implement recommended strategies from the Tides to Storms Vulnerability Assessment, a document prepared for each of the seven Atlantic coastal municipalities. Hampton Falls plans to use grant resources to update the Building Code and also to inform the community, especially in the targeted areas of Depot, Brimmer, Coach and Marsh Lanes and Route 1.

Copies of Hampton Falls Vulnerability Assessment were distributed; the document is also available on the websites of the Town and the RPC.

Theresa Walker and Julie LaBranche went through information and data in the Vulnerability Assessment with in a Power Point presentation.

During the evening's presentation and in question and answer discussions, points of interest and importance specific to Hampton Falls were identified. These included:

1. Management of small dams such as the one at Dodge Pond, the railroad bridges in the marsh; also, the "pinch point" area on Route 1 at Whittier Pond, to control road flooding.
2. Sea level rise causing a rise in the water table, affecting wells.
3. Impact on wells and septic systems, including salt water seeping into well water and possible septic failures. Mapping of existing septic systems, to include the age of the system and elevation above sea level, was suggested.
4. Maintenance of evacuation routes.
5. Infrastructure management plans, to anticipate rising sea levels and storm surges whenever highway work is performed.
6. Updates to the Town's Master Plan, especially to the Transportation and Natural Resource chapters.

It was identified that Route 1 access is Hampton Falls' largest vulnerability.

Information was given about the NH Coastal Viewer, which allows views of individual properties, with overlays that show coastal resources and hazard-related spatial data. This tool can be accessed by looking it up on Google, or on the RPC website. It will also be added as a link from the Town's website.