



TOWN OF OLD SAYBROOK  
**Planning Commission**  
**NATURAL HAZARD MITIGATION COMMITTEE**

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302 Main Street • Old Saybrook, Connecticut 06475-1741  
Telephone (860) 395-3131 • FAX (860) 395-3125

**SPECIAL MEETING**  
**MINUTES**  
**Wednesday, March 14, 2012, 2:00-3:30 P.M.**  
302 Main Street  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Room

I. **CALL TO ORDER**

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 2:15 p.m.

II. **ROLL CALL**

Present: Bob Missel, Planning Commission; John Talbott, Zoning Commission;  
Janis Esty, Planning Commission; Thomas Stevenson, Board of Finance

Absent: Cathy Flanagan, Planning Commission; Jerry Brophy, Conservation  
Commission; Steven Gernhardt, Board of Selectmen

Staff: Christine Nelson, Town Planner; Sandy Prisloe, Environmental Planner;  
Jay Northrup, Planner, CRERPA

III. **REGULAR BUSINESS**

A. **Minutes**

<p><b>MOTION</b> to accept the minutes from meeting 2/22/2012; <b>MADE</b> by J. Talbott; <b>SECONDED</b> by J. Esty; <b>APPROVED</b> by B. Missel, J. Talbott, J. Esty, T. Stevenson. <b>(4-0-0)</b>.</p>
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B. **Correspondence**

Ms. Nelson received communication from the Chalker Beach Improvement Association offering to help implement the Plan once it is finalized.

C. **Staff Report**

Mr. Prisloe reported that Robert Yust, a Navy engineer, attended the Conservation Commission meeting the previous day and offered his expertise to the Natural Hazard Mitigation Committee (NHMC) since the Navy is also looking at the effects of sea level rise on its facilities. The Committee welcomed input from the community.

Mr. Prisloe has not seen the newest data he supplied to The Nature Conservancy added to the Coastal Resilience web site as of yet, showing roads prone to flooding and GIS data.

**IV. INVENTORY**

**A. Collect Data on Other Natural Hazards**

The Committee discussed natural hazards, other than flooding, aiming to complete the list of hazards that might be mitigated. Committee members also discussed community notification systems that were in place in the past for fires or air raids. Mr. Northrup suggested that an inventory of such broadcast systems be included as an action item in the Plan.

Ms. Nelson displayed a Fire Fighting Resources Map, used by the Town for planning purposes, which showed areas serviced by water sources. Areas without water sources within 1000', mainly in the North/Northwest area of Town, were discussed. One possible action item is to retrofit cisterns for fire fighting in areas not served by a water source.

Data collection is now complete and can go the review stage.

(Mr. Stevenson left the meeting at 3:00 pm.)

**V. MITIGATION ANALYSIS**

**A. Summarize Impacts on Critical Facilities & Infrastructure**

The Committee agreed to move on to the next agenda item.

**VI. PLAN REVIEW**

**A. Read Draft Text about Social Demographics & Cultural Characteristics**

**B. Read Draft Text about Structures & Economic Development**

**C. Read Draft Text about Ecological Resources and the Environment**

Mr. Northrup has a draft of the Plan, but will add items from today's discussions and distribute at or before the next meeting.

**VII. ADOPTION**

**A. Adoption Process**

Mr. Northrup handed out an adoption process checklist. He will try to have the completed draft ready within one month. Methods for presenting it to the Town

Commissions were discussed. To keep printing costs lower the draft will not include photos. The Committee expressed concern that the timing of the release of this Plan might confuse residents, since the awareness campaign to inform residents of the updated FEMA maps is also due to begin soon. Ms. Nelson called First Selectman Carl Fortuna into the meeting to discuss any grant applications that would hinge on the finalization and adoption of the NHM Plan, so that the release date would not be the same as the FEMA awareness campaign.

(Mr. Talbott left the meeting at 3:30 pm)

Mr. Fortuna joined the meeting to discuss grants. After a discussion with the Committee it was determined that delaying the Plan would not interfere with any pending grant applications. It was decided that a final draft of the Plan by the end of May for adoption by the end of June would be desirable.

**B. Outline Outreach and Public Informational Meeting**

Ms. Nelson suggested that since the action items in the Plan are to be carried out by staff members, the Committee should present the draft to them as a group. It should also be presented to each Commission, either individually or at one meeting. Copies of the Plan should be posted on the Town web site and placed in the Library, Town Hall, and other public places and copies given to home associations in the community. The Planning Commission would be responsible for approving the final draft and then the Board of Selectmen would adopt it. Mr. Fortuna requested that copies be distributed two months ahead of time to the Selectmen to allow time for review.

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

<p><b>MOTION</b> to adjourn at 3:50 to a special meeting on Wed., April 11, 2012 at 2:00 p.m., 2<sup>nd</sup> Flr. Conf. Rm., 302 Main St.; <b>MADE</b> by J. Esty; <b>SECONDED</b> by B. Missel; <b>APPROVED</b> by B. Missel, J. Esty, <b>(2-0-0)</b>.</p>
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Respectfully submitted,

Susan Graham  
Administrative Clerk