



Meeting Minutes

Bay Shore Planning Committee

August 21, 2014

5:30 to 8:00 PM

Bay Shore Fire Department

195 Fifth Avenue

Bay Shore, NY 11706

Attendance: Committee Members: Mary Robinson, Michael Eagan; GOSR: Vanessa Lockel, Suffolk County Regional Lead, Valerie Scopaz, AICP Community Planner; Consultant Team: Jim Dowling, AICP Jacobs; Tom Isles, AICP Cameron Engineering; Rebecca Goldberg, PE Cameron Engineering

Agenda Item: Welcome

Presenter: J. Dowling

Summary of Discussion:

The group discussed general issues in Bay Shore, as well as the August 13, 2014 storm (10 inches of rain in two hours and extensive inland flooding including economically depressed areas of the Community). Damage from this storm was from rain, while Sandy damage was mainly from storm surge. During the separate Community Tour led by Fire Department Chief Ippolito, it was indicated to the Consultant Team that houses were abandoned because the residents are older and are unable to financially afford to fix their damage.

Since Superstorm Sandy, storm surges are worse and underground stream water levels appear to be higher. These underground streams running from north to south are an issue. There is a lack of knowledge as to what to do during/after storms; knowing what to expect and where to go is critical.

J. Dowling then reviewed the findings of past planning studies relevant to Greater Bay Shore.

Decision/Motions/Votes:

NA

Action Items	Person Responsible	Due Date
NA	NA	NA

Agenda Item 1: Debrief of Public Engagement Event #1

Presenter: J. Dowling

Summary of Discussion:

Approximately 35 people attended, which is a great summertime turnout. There was press coverage, including Spanish-speaking media (Noticias). The Consultants talked to Deputy Chief Ippolito and other members of the BSFD learned about the first responders' point of view.

The next public engagement event is scheduled for September 17th. Higher attendance is anticipated as a result of the recent (August 13-14, 2014) storm and flooding. The NY Rising process and its future funding are tied to Superstorm Sandy, but the August 2014 flooding was likely worse than it would have been pre-Sandy. The Committee reported that Superstorm Sandy may have changed water levels (discussed above) and likely undermined local roads (e.g. Garner Lane near Lawrence Lake and Manatuck Lane, south of Route 27A). Vanessa Lockel discussed the need to keep the public focused on Superstorm Sandy despite the recent flooding, and asked the Committee to list any groups who might have been missing from Community meeting invite lists. The Consultant Team is very open to partnering with other events (e.g. the West Gilgo “clean up the beach” event). The Team also stressed the need to get young people involved in the process.

Decisions/Motions/Votes:

NA

Action Items	Person Responsible	Due Date
Reach out to Frank Boulton (owner LI Ducks)	M. Robinson	ASAP

Agenda Item 2: Review of CR Plan Section 1 **Presenter:** J. Dowling

Summary of Discussion:

The Consultant Team had previously sent Section I to the Committee for their review. The remainder of the Plan will be sent in sections to facilitate Committee review. As Section I is still in draft format, it is not yet ready to be shared outside of the Committee. So far, Section I is a good representation of Bay Shore’s issues and needs. The Consultant Team requested more personal quotes to include in the Plan.

Decisions/Motions/Votes:

NA

Action Items	Person Responsible	Due Date
Review Section 1	Committee	Ongoing

Agenda Item 3: Community Asset Map **Presenter:** J. Dowling

Summary of Discussion:

The Committee needs to review the Community Asset Map for items to add/edit; J. Dowling will forward the map via email. The following assets will be added:

- Touro College/Health Center (“Mini Center”/former DSS building on the on the east side of Maple Avenue, south of the LIRR). The area is now used for paid overflow ferry parking on the weekends (leased by the Fire Island Ferry Company) when the school is not in session.
- Gardiner Manor Mall and the South Shore Mall (which took on water during 8/13/14 storm)

The area near Sunrise Highway/Olive Garden was flooded during the 8/13/14 storm as well, though this is not necessarily an asset requiring mapping.

The Consultants will be updating the mapping to better note stream characteristics and locations. The Consultants asked about any additional locations of vulnerable populations as well as locations where people could shelter. Pharmacies are also assets since people need access to critical prescriptions. Shore Drugs and CVS are already on the inventory.

Southside Hospital (already inventoried) is critical to keep safe and accessible; it reportedly suffered millions of dollars in damage from the 8/13/14 storm in auxiliary buildings (not the main building). Resiliency for the Hospital should be a priority. The Consultants are meeting with Southside personnel on September 8, 2014.

Decisions/Motions/Votes:

NA

Action Items	Person Responsible	Due Date
List Additional Assets	Committee	ASAP
Revise Community Asset Map and Inventory	Consultants	Ongoing
Revise Stream Mapping	Consultants	Ongoing

Agenda Item 4: Review of Critical Issues **Presenter: J. Dowling**

Summary of Discussion:

J. Dowling provided copies of the draft Critical Issues write-up. Some critical features are the ferries/marinas and the need for resiliency. Critical issues include flooding and recovery time, the local economy, water quality, vulnerable population, maintaining services and access to Southside Hospital, and communication before/during/after storm events.

The group mentioned a decades-old “Grand Plan” to move the ferry docks away from Maple Avenue, which never happened. The group was unaware of this plan’s relevance to NY Rising or of its availability for review.

Decisions/Motions/Votes:

NA

Action Items	Person Responsible	Due Date
Alert the Consultants to any additional Critical Issues	Committee	ASAP

Agenda Item 5: Risk to Community Assets **Presenter: J. Dowling**

Summary of Discussion:

The Consultants described the NY Rising Risk Assessment Tool and its components (Community Value, Hazard, Landscape, Susceptibility to Damage, etc.) to the Committee. Higher Risk Scores = riskier locations. This process will yield Resiliency Projects, and then the Consultants will re-run the Risk Tool to see the change in risk score.

The Committee will see the Risk Scores when they are ready.

J. Dowling handed out the Community Value exercise. The Committee will need to rate each asset as being High, Medium, or Low value. Please keep these ratings as community priorities. The Consultants will combine each Committee member’s response to yield individual asset risk scores.

The Consultants added “water” to the electric/gas utility line item.

Decisions/Motions/Votes:

NA

Action Items	Person Responsible	Due Date
Fill out the Asset Classification Charts	Committee	ASAP
Determine overall Community Values	Consultants	Upon receipt of charts

Agenda Item 6: Needs & Opportunities Working Session **Presenter: J. Dowling**

Summary of Discussion:

The Plan starts with identifying Assets, then the needs for protecting assets and the opportunities to accomplish this. Upon identifying Needs and Opportunities, the Team will develop Resiliency Strategies and Projects.

J. Dowling handed out sample Needs & Opportunities from other Suffolk County plans. The six Recovery Support Functions (RSFs) are based on federal labels and are meant to help the Committee see the overall picture. Bay Shore is two years post-Sandy and we need to identify needs (immediate and long-term) that relate to reducing risk and increasing resiliency. The group discussed a similar Suffolk County community (Fire Island) where one potential project involved a local Planning Forum, for future ongoing resiliency planning/project development). The team also talked about opportunities after a natural disaster. For example, San Antonio in Texas responded to a major flood in 1921 with flood control measures resulting in The Riverwalk, a flood control facility that also improves the local economy, culture, and aesthetics.

RSF 1: Community Planning

Bay Shore needs a pre-planned Action Plan to handle emergencies and a leader to run it. This is similar to other NY Rising Communities: each Suffolk County NY Rising Reconstruction Plan has at least one communication-related project. The group agreed that everyone utilizes the High School as shelter (which is fine, as long as the school has power). Local and non-local first responders need information, housing, and food. Responders can also require specialized equipment for long-term periods.

The Consultants will talk to the Town of Islip regarding code issues and the floodplain.

RSF 2: Economic Revitalization

Bay Shore needs to maintain/grow its local economy: Main Street (few vacancies today), marinas, Southside Hospital (many doctors have occupied storefronts for medical offices).

There is a need to promote and enhance tourism, and advertise Bay Shore’s tourist-related businesses (marinas, restaurants). Bay Shore has to capitalize on the people who today simply pass through. Also, Bay Shore has

recently improved economically, but many feel it still suffers an image of “not being safe for families.” Bay Shore needs a walkable waterfront, outdoor destinations, and improved safety/security.

“Supporting industry” is another need. The closure of the Bay Shore Entenmann's factory is significant, though some people remain employed there. Bay Shore has no commercial fishing. Local marinas are mainly for repairs, fuel, boat sales, ferry activity, dredging equipment, and other support services. Marina properties were among the worst hit by Sandy.

There is the opportunity for the Maple Avenue corridor (LIRR to ferry docks) to have public spaces for visitors to gather and eat.

RSF 3: Health and Human Services

Special needs populations include seniors and people who speak English as a second language. There are already assistance measures in place (food pantries, etc.) Local charities already know to work together (Family Service League, Catholic Charities, etc.) The Committee does not want to recreate the wheel: use the existing organization network, provide equipment for first responders (rafts, generators, etc.)

After Superstorm Sandy, people’s overriding desire was to stay in place, even in dire conditions (no roof, no water) rather than leave, even if they had a place to go. This Plan should help the organizations that are already here on the ground. After Sandy, getting donations was not the issue; distributing them, was.

RSF 4: Housing

Is there a need for a program to buy abandoned properties? Should people move away from the water/elevate their homes? Much of the affordable housing by the water fared poorly during Sandy: water damage, currently boarded up, in the area that should be a waterfront gateway. Many homes are built right on wetlands.

RSF 5: Infrastructure

The group discussed various critical items:

- Keep an open physical connection between the waterfront and Main Street (Maple Avenue corridor from LIRR Station to the docks)
- Minimize flooding on roads, especially around Southside Hospital (future proposed expansion is an economic driver for the Community)
- Ocean Avenue and Maple Avenue pump-out stations for stormwater management
- Electric power
- Resiliency of mechanical facilities
- Sidewalks and pedestrian amenities

During their separate tour with the Bay Shore Fire Department Chief, the Consultants had seen some of the pier/bulkhead in the Village of Brightwaters has fallen away.

RSF 6: National and Cultural Resources

There is a need for stream restoration: underground streams are causing flooding, and they may be silted in or blocked, with less ability to take in additional water. One Committee member mentioned the immediate need to fix Watchogue Creek. Streams have different jurisdiction based on ownership (Town DPW; NYSDEC; etc.) We need to find out which streams cause the most damage.

The Consultant should look into land use policies related to historic resources. There are historical homes near the water (e.g. Sagtikos Manor, a County property).
 The group mentioned the Great Cove Watershed Study of 2012.

Decisions/Motions/Votes:

NA

Action Items	Person Responsible	Due Date
Review and make comments on the Needs and Opp.	Committee	ASAP
Talk to the Town of Islip about code issues & the floodplain	Consultants	Ongoing

Agenda Item 7: Upcoming Committee Meeting Schedule **Presenter: J. Dowling**

Summary of Discussion:

J. Dowling handed out the draft schedule for future meetings (Committee, public engagement, and Final Plan deadline) and the group suggested edits. J. Dowling will email the proposed schedule to the Committee. Some meetings might change: September 11 will be moved 1-2 days up or back; September 25 [Rosh Hashanah, 4-day weekend for public schools] may also need to change but will remain for now pending Committee availability.

Decisions/Motions/Votes:

NA

Action Items	Person Responsible	Due Date
Email proposed schedule to Committee	Jacobs	ASAP
Review and comment/approve proposed meeting schedule	Committee	ASAP

Agenda Item 8: Chair and Co-Chair Selection **Presenter: J. Dowling**

Summary of Discussion:

The chair and co-chair have been nominated, but there were not enough Committee members at this meeting to vote or add nominations. The Chair/Co-chair vote will be done at the next meeting.

Decisions/Motions/Votes:

NA

Action Items	Person Responsible	Due Date
NA	NA	NA

Agenda Item 9: Ethics Statement **Presenter: J. Dowling**

Summary of Discussion:

Every Planning Committee member needs to sign the Ethics Statement.

Decisions/Motions/Votes:

NA

Action Items	Person Responsible	Due Date
Sign the Ethics Statement	Committee	ASAP