

COMMON FENCE POINT PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE (CFPPC)  
Minutes November 1, 2023

PURPOSE: Discuss the issues, goals and purposes, along with the wonderful things which have happened and are to come.

CALL TO ORDER: Nicole Gotovich at 6:34PM

ATTENDEES: Nicole Gotovich    Ray Perry    Jim Fogerty    Tom Charbonneau  
                 Paula Connelly    Johna Spencer  
On ZOOM: Neil Hingorany    Laura Hosley    Chuck Miksis

BUSINESS:

- Review and approval of October 2023 minutes with Amendments;
  - Under the 4<sup>th</sup> bullet point of the "NEWSLETTER" Nancy Arruda Nary emailed Nicole Gotovich corrections to be added as follows: "Jeff Prater suggested 'In the Fence/CFP Preparedness Newsletter'." It is also unclear if Jeff suggested the name "The Rising Fence Line".
  - Under the last "NEWSLETTER" bullet point Nancy said to add "the CFPIA spoke to the Newsletter Committee about funding the Newsletter (mailing, printing) and the SEPAC grant can be used for it as well."
  - Under the fifth bullet point of "EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT" Ray suggested to change "Some suggestions the were made were..." to "Some suggestions the management made were..." Then under "RESILIENCE BUILDING" under the first bullet point Ray questioned what "Project NOAA or Flood" was about due to its lack of context. After researching, "Project NOAA or Flood" was some suggestions for names for the CFP Prep Newsletter.

CFPIA: Jim Fogerty;

- Jeff Prater moved to Florida and took an Army Corps of Engineers job to help with aging family.
- Barbara Jones is still working on the CFP pond remediation or pond stormwater run-off issues. She is looking into fundraising, volunteers, and grant writers. Will need grants because this looks to be at least an \$80,000 project. Jim gave Barbara Paige Myatt's information in hopes Paige can help with the grant writing process. Paige is Aquidneck Island Regional Resilience Coordinator for the RI Infrastructure Bank. Jim will also connect Johna Spencer with Barbara as well.
- Not sure when town will do a street study in order to decide if making CF Blvd a 1-way would be a good idea, but this might negatively impact The Little Corner Store's business if traffic is pulled away from them. Also discussed again a 4-way stop at the Little Corner Store and a 2-way stop at Anthony Rd coming down the hill when exiting CFP and Massasoit Ave. Brian Woodhead from Portsmouth DPW sent Nicole Gotovich a document she has not looked over yet on stop sign information.
- At the CFPIA November meeting the community will be voting on the CFPIA Bylaws.
- The Little Corner Store is staying opened for the winter this year, last year they did not.
- CFPIA meeting for December has been cancelled due to the Holiday and will meet again in January.

SEPAC: Jeff Prater

- Moved to FL to help family. Nicole will reach out to Jeff to see if he plans on still being a part of the CFPPC and SEPAC.

NEWSLETTER: Nancy Arruda Nary and Mil Kinsella

- Both Nancy and Mil were not present for updates but Nicole said everyone is still working on the Newsletter.

FORUMS: Nicole Gotovich

- Nicole said that the CFP Prep Committee was looking into hosting an education event in order to invite the Hummocks, Island Park, and Prudence Island for our December 6, 2023 meeting but Ray Perry said he could not

be ready for this date. Ray's thinking more of the mitigation side of things, MyCoast with Pam Rubinoff, a URI table, a CFPPC table, and a Prudence Island presents on Zoom. Some of the things Prudence Island has done in their Preparedness Committee were Mapped their Neighborhood, volunteer firefighting, and sheltering. Now we are looking into hosting it for our January meeting. Due to the first Wednesday of January falling on the 3<sup>rd</sup> and being so close to the holiday, Nicole will look into hosting our next meeting on Wednesday January 10, 2024.

- CFP Neighborhood Beach Cleanup from October 7 picked up 472 lbs of trash.
- Clean Ocean Access and SouthCoast Wind are hosting a beach cleanup under the Sakonnet River Bridge on Sat December 2 from 11 AM to 1 PM. Nicole had invited Clean Ocean Access to the CFP Neighborhood Beach Cleanup on Sat October 7 but they were already busy that day and planned their own cleanup of the area for this date.

Grant Info: Chris Thompson was not present for any updates.

- Nicole reported on Chris' behalf that he signed up for an ARC-GIS training on January 19, 2024 and Jim noticed that this training is through URI. This is a geospatial training using RI Geographic Information System (RIGIS).
- As a grant resource Ray Perry mentioned the website: <https://grants.gov/>
- Laura Hosley mentioned Organizational Development Grants; <https://rifoundation.org/grant/organizational-development-grants>
- Tom Charbonneau brought up planning vs. execution, meaning making sure the town knows our priorities and finding help with the best grant money we can get. He would like to know about our safety issues now, example; how to make our community better/safer now before a disaster, what would we like our community/shoreline to look like after a disaster, and how do we get the professionals here to CFP in order to give us advice for these questions? He would also like to see different organizations, groups, and professionals to come to CFP to assess our issues; for example Coastal Resources Management Council (CRMC) and engineers.
- Johna Spencer from Portsmouth's Conservation Commission said Portsmouth could help obtain grants from a municipality standpoint; planning vs execution money and helping with priorities. She also mentioned Sara Churgin from the RI State Conservation Commission could help refer the CFPPC to agencies that would give grants. Sara is the District Manager of Eastern RI Conservation District. Sara is helping Portsmouth with the Gull Cove problem of the road washing away. Conservation Commissions help with farms, wildlife, parks, climate issues, saltmarshes, and education about these environmental issues/topics.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT: Ray Perry

- Mentioned Mitigation Plan & Projects; Recovery & Rebuild Plans. A Recovery Plan is how to build back better after a disaster. Having a Recovery Plan in place before a disaster occurs puts our community in a better place to receive help or money quickly from outside sources after the disaster. If we have these plans documented as to what CFP would like to do prior to disasters, then more likely to receive help to recover and rebuild. Whereas a Mitigation Plan focuses on the here and now. Ray works closely with Lea Hitchen, Portsmouth's Town Planner.
- Ray will put together some ideas that he would talk about for our January 10, 2024 CFPPC get together with the Hummocks, Island Park & Prudence Island.
- Island Park has a Facebook page that was started in 2013 called Island Park Preservation Society, but no activity since 2022.
- Is curious about URI's data on Impact of Infrastructures and Nicole said she would look into it.

RESILIENCE BUILDING: Pam Rubinoff and Jen West were not present for updates or input.

OTHER:

- Nicole Gotovich mentioned that she attended an online info session called "Sea Grant NOAA Marine Debris Regional Funding Proposal (RFP) Info Session" on October 18. This information session explained two grant opportunities that she was not sure if CFP could utilize in some way;
  - 1. Marine Debris Challenge Competition: Approximately \$16,000,000 will be available to support innovative, transformational research-to-application projects that will address the prevention and removal of marine debris. This grant must be a project led by URI Sea Grant. Letter of Intent is due by 12/14/23.

- 2. Marine Debris Community Action Coalitions: Approximately \$3,000,000 will be available to support the creation of coalitions and partnerships to address marine debris prevention and removal. This grant is not a project led by Sea Grant but must have Sea Grant's involvement and the objective is to serve underserved communities. Letter of Intent is due by 1/31/24.
- Nicole Gotovich also mentioned that she has tried several times to reach Tesla for a quote on helping to make the CFP Community Hall into a warming/cooling center using solar and a generator but to no prevail.
- Johna Spencer mentioned how the Portsmouth Conservation Commission is looking to put up environmental signs throughout Portsmouth, including at Town Pond on Anthony Rd.
- Adding oyster farms were suggested to help with wave erosion on CF Blvd.

NEXT MEETING: January 10, 2023 6:30PM