

# Iverson Task Force Meeting Notes

## 6/28/16

### Attendance

Jerry Nielsen (FOCIP)	Deborah Engel (Homeowner)
Jim McDavid (IC Parks)	Carol Gillespie (WRAC, FOCIP)
Jay Lawrence (Homeowner, Mosquito Control District & WRAC)	Doug Celeen (Homeowner)
Val Schroeder (FOCIP)	Dawn Pucci (Island County Dept of Natural Resources - DNR)
Rob Howie (Homeowner)	

### Introductions

- Meeting opened with introductions of the 8 members present. No one on webex.
- The field was sprayed in the last few days. Jay consulted with Dept. of Ecology and was informed it was lime and the application was legal. Lime is a fertilizer that alters the acidity of the soil.
- Garbage left on the field after the storm was removed by flatbed truck.

### Update on Request for Proposals for Sedimentation and Hydrology Study

The contract and scope of work for the sedimentation and hydrology study is moving through the Island County review process and is scheduled to be approved July 18 pending recommendation after the public meeting of the Board of Island County Commissioners on July 6. Work can begin after July 18 as soon as all parties sign the contract.

The draft scope of work was forwarded to the landowners that requested the opportunity at the last meeting. Rob asked about the effects of the Leque restoration on sedimentation patterns at Iverson/Long Beach and if water levels in the residential areas were going to be included in the study. Eric Grossman (USGS/WWU) replied by email that it is possible that the Leque restoration will have an effect on Port Susan, Livingston Bay, Iverson and Long Beach but that the effect would be hard to determine without extensive and expensive modeling. The work that is proposed will provide more information on sediment circulation and may provide enough insight to allow for an educated guess on potential effects.

With regards to the monitoring of water levels in residential areas, Eric replied that it may be possible to the extent that there are existing wells or other opportunities on private property and that the property owners allow access. Doug mentioned that he has 2 external sump pumps that sit in a well and may be useful. Deb offered to ask other community members at the upcoming annual Water Systems meeting if there are other homeowners with external sump pumps that would be willing to allow access if that provides useful to the study.

Deb asked if the studies will explain the change in the beach since it has gone from walkable sand to muck that can't be walked on. We discussed some of the changes over time. Juniper and Livingston has always been softer substrate but it is a recent change for the beach along Long Beach. There has also been a recent increase in the volume of seaweed and empty clam shells (purple, possibly invasive varnish clams) and less barnacles. The historical knowledge of the beach changes will be a good supplement to the study and should be documented on a map.

## Meetings – Topics and Scheduling

In early July (date TBD), the Long Beach Water District will have their annual meeting. Deb and Rob are going. Can we offer any information or assistance?

Target next year for large community meeting after the annual Long Beach Water District meeting. Can provide a synopsis of what we know to homeowners via that meeting and prior to the large community meeting so they can digest the info. It was agreed upon that it would not be useful convening a large community meeting until the study results are back and we have something to discuss. However, a newsletter that discusses what has been done so far and the schedule of the meetings over the next year and a summary of the study's scope would be useful and can be distributed through email and posted on the Neighborhood site and the County's website. Jay said the south water systems association board meeting is usually on Labor Day.

We discussed what topics should be discussed over the next year to support discussions of effective and creative solutions to drainage issues.

- Army Corps of Engineers (ACoE) – How possible is the work that we may be suggesting or recommending? What does it take to get the work (dredging or tight lining or tidal inundation) done? We discussed having 2-3 extreme scenarios to prime the conversation.
- Drainage Engineer – Can the ditches be redone to facilitate better drainage? Do they have to be so wide and deep (like the one that parallels the road)? How do we design them so they will drain?
- Christiansens – Can we regrade the fields to eliminate hollows and troughs (that aren't related to drainage system) so we can prevent standing water? How can the task force help the Christiansens so that there is a benefit to everyone? Is making more of the field farmable helpful to drainage? How is that achieved?
- Nichols or planning staff – How doable is raising houses? Cost? Complications and barriers? Does the County require basements on raised structures and is this a barrier to construction because of increased costs and reduced flow-through of overwash?
- Examples from other parts of US and how coastal resiliency is planned for with buildings. What are they doing to protect homes and coastal structures from increasing storm surge? What barriers did other jurisdictions face? *Dawn and Lori need help with the research for this topic.* Which task force members are willing to help research and possibly call others to ask questions and get advice? We will seek volunteers at the next meeting.
- Eric Brooks, Dept of Emergency Management – Can an early warning system be developed when there are high tides, low barometric pressure and high winds predicted? It could be robo-called like the school systems do. Rob said there was a warning prior to the March 6 storms that he received via the Neighborhood site. Are there other emergency response measures that would be useful that the Task Force could help advise on?
- FEMA – How does insurance work? How will it work with the tide and storm surge changes? What opportunities does FEMA provide for individuals and for communities? We should try to have this information prior to the annual water systems meetings in July 2017.
- Septics – What is the long term diagnosis for septic and drain fields on beaches? What needs to be done now by homeowners? What can the County do to assist (programs, permitting)?
- Other restoration projects for flood control and habitat – What are the examples of restoration projects that have been built to address flood control in the Puget Sound?

## *Next Steps & Next Meeting*

- Ask Eric if sump pump wells will be useful for the study and inform Deb, hopefully prior the Long Beach Water District meeting.
- Produce a newsletter for the large community.
- Schedule Kathleen for July to discuss on site septics.
- Enquire with FEMA and ACoE on meeting attendance in the spring.
- Enquire with Brian Wood and Nichols about coming to discuss house raising and barriers (Permitting? Timing?).
- Enquire with Christiansen's about coming to discuss leveling the field and other management considerations that the Task Force could support them.

Get volunteers from the Task Force who can research and report back on resiliency projects from across the country.

### **Next Meeting:**

July 26th, 1-3pm, Camano Island Library

- On Site Septics (OSS), Kathleen Parvin (Island County Environmental Health)
- If Kathleen is unavailable, the TF members agreed to postpone the July meeting.

		<b>Meeting Topics *May change depending on speaker availability. Meetings to discuss study results TBD</b>
<b>2016</b>	<b>July</b>	<b>Septics</b> - What is long term diagnosis in face of SLR, What will we need to make them work
	<b>Aug</b>	<b>Sea Level Rise and Storm Surge Maps</b> (UW Sea Grant), Resiliency Planning Examples (structural mitigation)  Eric Brooks (DEM) warning system?
	<b>Sept</b>	<b>House raising</b> - costs and permitting
	<b>Oct</b>	<b>Existing restoration projects that were constructed to control flooding</b>
	<b>Nov</b>	no meeting
	<b>Dec</b>	no meeting
	<b>2017</b>	<b>Jan</b>
<b>Feb</b>		<b>FEMA</b> - Insurance and opportunities
<b>Mar</b>		(Back up date for FEMA or Corps)
<b>Apr</b>		<b>Army Corps</b> -How possible is the work, What will it take to get work done, Dredging?
<b>May</b>		(Back up date for FEMA or Corps)
<b>June</b>		
<b>July</b>		<b>DRAINAGE ENGINEER to discuss potential design</b> Idea generation & engineering feedback
<b>Aug</b>		
<b>Sep</b>		
<b>Oct</b>		Review draft of recommendations developed by Task Force, Identify next steps and focus group that will help with final report development
<b>Nov</b>		
<b>Dec</b>		