

York River Stewardship Committee

Meeting minutes

December 21, 2023 at York Public Library

Voting members present: Karen Arsenault, Sally Harold, Karl Honkonen, Joan LeBlanc, David Marshall, Mary Marshall, Jim Smith, Judy Spiller

Other members present: Alternates: Philip Brekke, Stefan Claesson, Beth Cromwell, and Deane Rykerson; Emma Lord, Jim MacCartney, and Hannah Volk (NPS); Jennifer Hunter (coordinator)

Guests: Presenters Jeremy Gabrielson and Tatia Bauer (MCHT); Jerry Beekman (York Conservation Commission), Wayne Boardman (York Planning Board/YLT trustee/York Climate Action Committee), Keith Fletcher (MCHT), Gail Gilchrist (YLT Board), Myrilla Hartkopf (YLT staff), Doreen MacGillis (YLT staff/YRCA board), Kiki Tidwell (York Climate Action Committee), Lynn Zacharias (riverfront landowner)

1. Committee Chair Judy Spiller opened the meeting at 5:30 and asked that we go around the room to introduce ourselves.
2. Jenn Hunter, Stewardship Committee Coordinator introduced and thanked MCHT presenters Jeremy Gabrielson and Tatia Bauer for their presentation on "[Salt Marsh Restoration: Planning and Implementation](#)." She remarked that seven years ago the Study Committee hosted a meeting on marsh migration and Jeremy was a presenter then too. There is new work being done in the areas of marsh restoration and resilience. MCHT is working with many groups to gather ideas and information and implement restoration projects.

Copies of the presentation will be provided to all meeting participants after the meeting.

Questions and discussion followed the presentation.

3. Other business and future meetings: Review of minutes was bumped to next meeting. Judy Spiller told the group that at the next meeting we would revisit this topic in more depth. She also told the group that the Executive Committee had met and was committed to being a consensus driven group although there might be times when it may have to move more quickly. Regarding plans for a Saturday workshop in January or February to set priorities, still trying to find a suitable date. The ad hoc committee reviewing public access options at the Grant House gave an update including the need to target the November ballot for any ordinance changes.

Meeting adjourned at 7 p.m.

Submitted by Karen Arsenault, Secretary