

**Islesboro Sea Level Rise Committee
Town Office & via Zoom
Minutes June 15, 2023**

Members Present: Shey Conover, Nancy Alexander, Peter Willcox, Sue Stafford, Lauren Bruce.
Zoom: Liv Lenfestey (Island Fellow), Jennifer West (Secretary), Shri Verrill (Planner).

1. Minutes of May 11, 2023 approved.
2. Overview of Communication Plan
 - Gantt Chart on Google Docs
 - Communication section has been organized in a different manner from the Project Manager's.
 - Color Coded
 - Time line presented, but specific dates and times not noted.
 - Article for IIN written by Liv.
 - Small Group presentations with Sewing Circle, then Sporting Club and HIS.
 - Proposed scripts for small groups has been drafted.
 - Discussed potential video on project.
 - Discussion on how and what information is going to be presented, saying that sea level rise is predicted to be 1" every 8 years does not sound like anything to be worried about.
 - Suggestions include
 - showing 3.9' elevation (projected rise) to December 2023 storm.
 - Wind and storm surge are what will be the initial impacts as intensity and frequency will be increasing.
 - Spring tides are monthly highest tides
 - Highest Astronomical Tides (HAT) would be the elevation above which is measured the 3.9' rise.
 - Shri will put together a presentation for the committee on this topic.
3. Meeting with small group of landowners abutting the Narrows.
 - They will identify the landowners.
 - Possible date- July 20th. Shri will be present.
 - Who will moderate?

Next meeting July 13th at 5:30 pm.

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Educational moment brought to you by NOAA:

The elliptical orbits of the moon around the Earth and the Earth around the sun have a substantial effect on the Earth's tides. Once a month, at perigee, when the moon is closest to the Earth, tide-generating forces are higher than usual, producing above average ranges in the tides. About two weeks later, at apogee, when the moon is farthest from the Earth, the lunar tide-raising force is smaller, and the tidal ranges are less than average. When the Earth is closest to the sun (perihelion), around January 2 of the calendar year, tidal ranges are enhanced. At aphelion, when the Earth is furthest from the sun, around July 2, tidal ranges are reduced (Sumich, J.L., 1996; Thurman, H.V., 1994).

https://oceanservice.noaa.gov/education/tutorial_tides/tides06_variations.html#:~:text=Once%20a%20month%2C%20at%20perigee,average%20ranges%20in%20the%20tides

Highest Astronomical Tide

According to NOAA, the Highest Astronomical Tide is the elevation of the highest predicted astronomical tide expected to occur at a specific tide station over the National Tidal Datum Epoch, or NTDE. The NTDE is a specific 19-year period adopted by the National Ocean Service as the official time segment over which tide observations are taken and reduced to obtain mean values (e.g., mean lower low water, etc.) for tidal datums. It is necessary for standardization because of periodic and apparent secular trends in sea level. The present NTDE is 1983 through 2001 and is actively considered for revision every 20-25 years.

https://www.maine.gov/dacf/mgs/hazards/highest_tide_line/faq.htm
