

**CAPE COD NATIONAL SEASHORE ADVISORY COMMISSION  
TWO HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-EIGHTH MEETING**

HELD AT CAPE COD NATIONAL SEASHORE, Marconi Station Area, Park Headquarters, South Wellfleet, Massachusetts, on Monday, March 25, 2013, commencing at 1 p.m.

SITTING:

Richard Delaney, Chairman  
Richard Philbrick  
Edward C. Sabin  
Thomas Reinhart  
Mary-Jo Avellar  
Mark Robinson  
Maureen Burgess

Don Nuendel, alternate  
Ted Thomas, alternate

Also present:

George Price, Superintendent  
Kathy Tevyaw, Deputy Superintendent  
Lauren McKean, Management Assistant  
Susan Moynihan, Chief of Interpretation & Cultural Resources  
Kat McCracken, Assistant to the Superintendent  
Jason Taylor, Chief of Natural Resources Management  
Sophia Fox, Aquatic Ecologist  
Lindsay Crouch, AmeriCorps members  
Suzanne Thomas, Wellfleet Town Beach Administrator  
Michael Garrity, Provincetown Airport  
Arthur Lisenby, Provincetown Airport

Audience members

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**P R O C E E D I N G S**

MR. DELANEY: Promptly for a change at 1 o'clock we're starting.

Welcome, everyone. I'm Richard Delaney. I'm chair of the Commission, and I would like to welcome all of you to the 288th meeting of the Cape Cod National Seashore Advisory Commission. We have a quorum, and we have a pretty ambitious agenda. And I may have to leave just before the end of it. And I think Mark Robinson will be here shortly, and he's agreed to pinch-hit as the chair at that point.

But I'd like to get started.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

MR. DELANEY: First item of business is to adopt the agenda. It was sent out to you in advance.

And right away I'd like to suggest a slight alteration to that agenda. We have three items that come up -- potentially three under New Business that we could take a position on and make a recommendation to the superintendent. I would like to have a quorum present when that happens. So if you don't mind moving those from Item 7 up to perhaps just before the Superintendent's Report, that would help expedite it and ensure us of a quorum.

1 MS. BURGESS: So moved.

2 MR. DELANEY: Any problem with that? Okay, agreed.  
3 Good.

4 I don't think that requires a motion, but I think  
5 we'll just approve the budget -- the agenda with that  
6 change.

7 **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (JANUARY 14, 2013)**

8 MR. DELANEY: Secondly, approval of minutes from  
9 our previous meeting.

10 MR. SABIN: I read them in their entirety, and I  
11 find no problem at all and would recommend they be  
12 adopted.

13 MR. DELANEY: All right, scribe emeritus has passed  
14 his approval.

15 MR. SABIN: Not an easy job, I might add.

16 MR. DELANEY: I don't think I will entertain any  
17 more comments because there's nothing else to be said.  
18 We've done it. Thank you, Ed.

19 But if there are other comments that someone has  
20 seen, I'd be happy to entertain those.

21 (No response.)

22 MR. DELANEY: Okay, a motion to adopt the minutes  
23 as written.

24 MR. PHILBRICK: So moved.

1 MS. BURGESS: Second.

2 MR. DELANEY: Second. All those in favor, signify  
3 by saying aye.

4 BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.

5 MR. DELANEY: Those opposed?

6 (No response.)

7 MR. DELANEY: Great, okay, thank you.

8 **REPORTS OF OFFICERS AND SUBCOMMITTEES**

9 MR. DELANEY: Reports of officers and subcommittee  
10 members.

11 I don't think any officers have reports. I don't  
12 have anything in particular.

13 Let me move to the subcommittees then.

14 Maureen, do you want to update us on the Pilgrim  
15 Nuclear Power Plant and your subcommittee?

16 MS. BURGESS: Yes, certainly.

17 **UPDATE OF PILGRIM NUCLEAR PLANT EMERGENCY PLANNING**

18 **SUBCOMMITTEE**

19 MS. BURGESS: Well, just to refresh your memory, in  
20 our January meeting, our chairman suggested that we  
21 might wish to form a subcommittee on the Pilgrim issue,  
22 and our charge was to mull over concerns that came up  
23 during that January meeting with our legislators and  
24 other public advocacy groups and try to come up with

1 some sort of action plan. So it was useful to review  
2 the minutes because I had forgotten some of the items.  
3 So it was helpful to refresh my memory.

4 And I guess before I just tell you what our little  
5 committee has done in the interim, I just want to ask  
6 Rich. You had asked to be authorized to be the  
7 legislative contact, and I wondered if you had anything  
8 new on those bills that were proposed by Representative  
9 Peake or Senator Wolf.

10 MR. DELANEY: Yeah, I have nothing new to report  
11 other than what you probably learned in the committee,  
12 and so I'll rely on you for that.

13 MS. BURGESS: Okay. I did write to Seth, but I  
14 didn't hear anything back. So I think you all recall  
15 what the bills were that were proposed. So we won't go  
16 over them again, but if anybody wants to have their  
17 memory refreshed, our little subcommittee would be happy  
18 to do that.

19 So let me just get into what I broke it into  
20 looking back at what Rich suggested in the minutes, was  
21 that we might try to attack things either from the  
22 source of the problem or from the public safety  
23 emergency planning angles. So our little subcommittee  
24 met twice, once in February and once in March. And just

1 to update you that there is a petition, a Barnstable  
2 County Cape-wide petition that's coming up either on  
3 warrants or ballot questions in every town asking the  
4 Governor -- asking the Governor once again -- he did  
5 write last year in opposition to relicensing Pilgrim,  
6 but there are petitions asking the Governor once again  
7 to advocate shutting down Pilgrim Nuclear Power Plant  
8 because it is not fulfilling -- because Entergy is not  
9 fulfilling its mandate to ensure the public safety.

10 And in Truro I presented the synopsis of our  
11 January meeting to our selectmen, and I can tell you  
12 that there is a warrant article in Truro regarding this  
13 petition item. And I know that Mary-Jo and Ted are  
14 here, and they can tell you what they've done in their  
15 towns regarding that.

16 If you'd like to interject.

17 MS. AVELLAR: Yeah, we have an article in the  
18 warrant that the town manager inserted. So I don't  
19 remember where it is. I should know because I'm the  
20 moderator, but I don't remember. But it is in the  
21 warrant. And if she hadn't done something, we can  
22 always count on Barbara Rushmore to put those kinds of  
23 articles in because she always does. So that's in the  
24 warrant.

1           And I did notice in the minutes when I got there,  
2           it's Representative Keating, not Senator Keating.

3           MS. BURGESS: Oh, sorry. Okay, good. Thank you.

4           MS. AVELLAR: And I've had no response, by the way,  
5           to the letter that I wrote.

6           MS. BURGESS: Okay, did you bring a copy of that  
7           letter?

8           MS. AVELLAR: No, but I will e-mail it to  
9           everybody.

10          MS. BURGESS: Okay, that was one of the things that  
11          Mary-Jo did, was write a letter to Representative  
12          Keating dealing with the lack of a nuclear waste  
13          facility.

14          So, Ted, did you want to update us on Wellfleet?

15          MR. THOMAS: Yeah, Wellfleet, we have it on our  
16          ballot, so the Monday after our town meeting it will go  
17          to vote. And I have the word in here. It's a ballot  
18          question, Question 6, a nonbinding public opinion  
19          advisory question.

20          (Mark Robinson enters the room.)

21          MR. THOMAS: Also, at our meeting I had suggested  
22          that we should know who we're battling here, if you want  
23          to call it battle. Who is Entergy? And Entergy is  
24          quite a big company. They have holdings in Argentina,

1 Peru, Chile, United Kingdom. They are the largest  
2 energy producer in the U.S. Ironically one of the CEOs  
3 was for a very short period of time a summer resident or  
4 a nonvoting taxpayer of Wellfleet.

5 Another interesting thing I found out about  
6 relicensing, you can apply 20 years in advance for  
7 relicensing of a reactor, and you can find that  
8 information on the NRC's Web site under *Fact Sheet on*  
9 *Reactor Licensing Renewal*.

10 Also, I had said -- and it was kind of playing off  
11 what Dan Wolf's representative had talked about, which  
12 was looking at the money end of. If you wanted to work  
13 on closing down or making Pilgrim a safer place, maybe  
14 going and following the money trail or that aspect. So  
15 that got me thinking, and I had suggested at our meeting  
16 that maybe we might like to write to the dean of  
17 economics to schools like Bentley or Babson or Bryant,  
18 which are business schools, and talk about the economic  
19 impact of Cape Cod due to any type of disaster at  
20 Pilgrim. So I have written a letter, which I have  
21 copied and would like to pass out -- and I'll start with  
22 George -- and see if the Commission will allow me to  
23 e-mail deans of economics of business schools. And the  
24 whole idea here is to -- I think when people see that

1           there might be an adverse action to their pocketbook,  
2           they join the crowd and say, well, maybe Pilgrim isn't a  
3           good thing to have as a neighbor.

4           MS. BURGESS:   So should we hold off on reading the  
5           letter?

6           MR. DELANEY:   Is there more to your report,  
7           Maureen?

8           MS. BURGESS:   Yes.

9           MR. DELANEY:   Why don't you continue with your  
10          report, and if there are any other actions or  
11          endorsements that you'd like from the Commission, we'll  
12          do it as a group.

13          MS. BURGESS:   Okay, great.

14          I'll just move along quickly.   Thanks, Ted.

15          At the source problem, Attorney General Coakley's  
16          appeal regarding relicensing was denied by the court.  
17          And you may be familiar with the group of the Pilgrim  
18          14, who are some of the Downwinders people who were  
19          charged with criminal trespassing last year for  
20          attempting to deliver a letter to Entergy.   Their  
21          charges were dropped by the judge recently, and several  
22          were rearrested the same day.   They're trying to keep  
23          the issue of the safety problems at Pilgrim Nuclear  
24          Power Plant alive.

1 MR. PHILBRICK: What was the basis?

2 MS. BURGESS: The basis?

3 MR. PHILBRICK: For the rearrest.

4 MS. BURGESS: What happened, Dick, was that they  
5 were charged with criminal trespassing for attempting to  
6 deliver a letter last May before the relicensing, and it  
7 took this long for the trial to come up. And the trial  
8 came up a couple of weeks ago, and the judge dismissed  
9 it. So several of them decided that they would once  
10 again attempt to deliver a letter that very same day,  
11 and they were rearrested.

12 MR. PHILBRICK: Because they tried again?

13 MS. BURGESS: Because they tried again. And I'm  
14 sorry I'm taking too long, but I will just tell you that  
15 they walked practically up to the doors of the plant  
16 before any kind of security stopped them this time. So  
17 they were rather surprised at how close they got without  
18 any security stopping them.

19 So that's pretty much it from the source. From the  
20 safety or emergency planning angle --

21 MR. PHILBRICK: Had they been working for Al Qaeda  
22 --

23 MS. BURGESS: Exactly. That's exactly what they  
24 said to the security guards, "If we had been working for

1 Al Qaeda, look how close we could have gotten."  
2 Exactly. You took the words -- those are exactly their  
3 words.

4 MR. PHILBRICK: That's (inaudible.)

5 MS. BURGESS: Yeah, it is.

6 You probably know that there have been multiple  
7 shutdowns at Pilgrim. In January they were asked by  
8 some local advocacy groups to shut down prior to Nemo.  
9 They did not do that. They lost outside power. On 2/8  
10 they were off until the following three days later on a  
11 Sunday. They went off again, and there have been  
12 several valve problems since.

13 Another interesting fact is that they were  
14 successfully able to go into emergency generator status,  
15 but it's interesting to know that the pools where the  
16 hot spent fuel rods are kept do not have to have  
17 emergency generating power. They still rely on  
18 electricity.

19 I'll cut through some of this. I have lots of  
20 information for anybody that's interested, but just so  
21 that you know, the NRC did not get a majority vote in  
22 terms of improving -- approving improved ventilation  
23 systems on the Mark I and Mark II GE boiler reactors.  
24 Their own task force post Fukushima had suggested that

1           their ventilation systems needed to be improved with  
2           filters to scrub out radioactive particles, and they did  
3           not get a majority vote on that even though Commissioner  
4           Macfarlane did support that notion. So there was a 3 to  
5           2 vote on that.

6           The NRC is holding a public meeting in Plymouth at  
7           5 p.m. on April 2, if anybody is interested. And I just  
8           wanted to put in a word for Representative Markey. I've  
9           been looking at his record on this issue, and he has a  
10          wonderful record of raising concern about safety at our  
11          nuclear power reactors. So I just put that out there  
12          because he is running for Senator of the Commonwealth  
13          coming up soon.

14          And I just wanted to respond to Mr. Philbrick's  
15          question about the pontoon bridges.

16          Remember you had suggested that as an emergency  
17          alternative evacuation plan? I did some work. I did  
18          speak with an Army Corps of Engineers ranger down at the  
19          area, and his name was John Pribilla. And also he had  
20          with him one of his maritime students. He felt that it  
21          would not -- using pontoons would not be a workable plan  
22          because, as you know, Dick, it's a tidal canal and  
23          there's only a 20-minute slack tide in between phases of  
24          the current changing and that at peak tide, around three

1 hours into the tide, it runs at about 5.2 knots. And  
2 their feeling to try to cover 800 to 1,100 feet of water  
3 surface during a slack tide would not be feasible and  
4 that the materials would be torn apart. So that was the  
5 answer that I got on that.

6 Most of the officers for the Army Corps are in  
7 Concord. I spoke with their emergency management  
8 people, and they said that to their knowledge they're  
9 not involved in this, that it would be the National  
10 Guard. So that's the information I was able to obtain  
11 on that.

12 MR. PHILBRICK: You mean actually placing them?

13 MS. BURGESS: Or any sort of evacuation planning.

14 MR. PHILBRICK: I'd still like to see if they have  
15 a written report on the structural integrity that you  
16 were talking about and tides and so forth. I'd sure  
17 like to see it.

18 MS. BURGESS: I don't think that I can pursue this  
19 anymore. I think I've done all I can do. So if you  
20 think there's more you can get, I would put it in your  
21 capable hands because, you know, I did -- I followed up  
22 I thought as best I could.

23 MR. DELANEY: Well, I would suggest just keep that  
24 as an option, you know, as part of the potential

1 repertoire. We've investigated that pretty well right  
2 now. We'll see what happens if it comes around some  
3 other time.

4 MR. PHILBRICK: Seth, Dan Wolf's office, I gather  
5 is sufficiently aware of this effort that we are making.

6 MS. BURGESS: It was in the minutes, and he was  
7 here when you brought that up.

8 MR. PHILBRICK: We could go directly to him.

9 MS. BURGESS: Could.

10 MR. PHILBRICK: A general aid request.

11 MS. BURGESS: Yes, maybe he could direct you to the  
12 right source.

13 MR. DELANEY: Well, between the two of us -- the  
14 three of us we can probably figure that out.

15 Okay, thank you, Maureen.

16 So I've had a chance to glance through the letter  
17 that Ted has drafted, and I have no problem. This is an  
18 information gathering request. I don't think it  
19 requires any further action from us. If the  
20 subcommittee deems it worth part of their mission to  
21 gather information, I think this fits that mold -- mold.  
22 Or mode, I guess, the operation.

23 What's the right word, Mark?

24 MS. BURGESS: Modus operandi? MO?

1 MR. DELANEY: It's part of the mandate.

2 Scratch all that.

3 I think that's fine. I, for one, unless someone  
4 else on the Commission feels that we need to -- it's out  
5 of order for the subcommittee to make a request like  
6 this, speak now. Otherwise I encourage the subcommittee  
7 to go forward.

8 MS. BURGESS: I'd like to go forward.

9 MR. DELANEY: Okay, good work. Thank you. There's  
10 a lot to it, and hopefully it will continue.

11 MS. BURGESS: Big problem, little committee.

12 MR. DELANEY: That's all right.

13 George?

14 MR. PRICE: I just might make a recommendation that  
15 you include copies of the letter sent by the Commission  
16 and the one that I forwarded as well.

17 MR. THOMAS: Okay.

18 MR. PRICE: Have that be part of the package that  
19 you send.

20 MS. BURGESS: All right.

21 MR. DELANEY: Okay, thanks, Mark.

22 MR. ROBINSON: No disrespect to anybody who  
23 volunteers to do this kind of digging, but I think it's  
24 such an important letter -- I think it ought to come

1 from the chair in my opinion.

2 MR. THOMAS: I have no problem.

3 MR. DELANEY: If you would like me to sign it,  
4 that's fine. We'll put it on our stationery.

5 MS. BURGESS: The only thing is it says my name is  
6 Ted Thomas.

7 MR. ROBINSON: You can pretend, can't you?

8 MS. BURGESS: Well, could you co-sign it?

9 MR. THOMAS: Well, it doesn't matter to me. I'm  
10 not looking to get a badge here from George.

11 MR. ROBINSON: No, I understand. I understand.

12 MR. REINHART: Eagle Scout. Eagle Scout.

13 MR. DELANEY: Again, I'm willing to sign a letter  
14 of inquiry or request for information to a series of  
15 economists if the subcommittee accepts Mark's  
16 recommendation and just format it accordingly. And you  
17 can still mention Ted in the letter. If you want to  
18 just directly get it right out, I would put that back in  
19 your court, Maureen.

20 MS. BURGESS: Okay, and get it to you?

21 MR. DELANEY: Yeah, either way. Whatever expedites  
22 it or is easier. I think Mark makes a pretty good  
23 point. I'd be happy to sign it, but this is an  
24 information gathering probably.

1 MR. ROBINSON: It's not really a position paper, is  
2 it?

3 MR. DELANEY: It's not a -- yeah.

4 MR. ROBINSON: So maybe it's -- I think it's okay.

5 MR. DELANEY: Yeah, I think.

6 MR. THOMAS: It might get a response, a greater  
7 response.

8 MR. DELANEY: If you think it would --

9 MR. THOMAS: Yeah, I'm looking the bigger the bang.

10 MR. DELANEY: -- format it that way. Your call.  
11 Maureen's call and your call.

12 MS. BURGESS: Okay, so we'll talk about it.

13 MR. DELANEY: Okay, thank you.

14 HERRING COVE BEACH SUBCOMMITTEE

15 MR. DELANEY: Let's move to the Herring Cove Beach  
16 Subcommittee, which has been meeting as scheduled I  
17 think quite productively. We have looked at a number of  
18 possible options. We looked at some of the engineering  
19 aspects of each one of the options and some  
20 environmental regulatory actions, and our last meeting  
21 began to zero in on one option that is emerging as  
22 perhaps a preferred or one that at least addresses a  
23 number of concerns both sort of trading a little bit  
24 from the beach but still maintaining some of the

1 amenities that make that beach so attractive to people  
2 by having viewing of the water from the parking lot.  
3 Also, it seems to be perhaps within the regulatory  
4 framework, so it could get permitted.

5 So we're moving forward with that option, and  
6 others will still be part of the range. We have a  
7 meeting scheduled for April 9, I believe.

8 MR. ROBINSON: One o'clock.

9 MR. DELANEY: One to five?

10 MS. AVELLAR: Yeah.

11 MR. DELANEY: At the Center for Coastal Studies.  
12 So again, everyone is welcome to attend that. But it  
13 seems to be moving in a promising direction.

14 Mark or Mary-Jo, I'd ask you to add to that if  
15 there's anything else.

16 MS. AVELLAR: No, I've been feeling very encouraged  
17 by what's been happening. Mark Adams has been great.  
18 He's really just stepped right up to the plate I think  
19 and come up with a plan that I think people will  
20 positively respond to in Provincetown.

21 MR. DELANEY: Good.

22 Mark, anything else?

23 MR. ROBINSON: Well, I think that the alternative  
24 that we're most interested in is what they call a

1 graceful retreat from the shoreline, and I think that  
2 that's the way to handle improved facilities that are  
3 threatened by sea level rise and/or erosion throughout  
4 the Seashore.

5 MR. DELANEY: Yeah, I agree.

6 Okay, good. So more to come on that but making  
7 good progress.

8 Okay, I think that is it from the subcommittees.  
9 So I would like to again --

10 MS. BURGESS: I'm sorry, one thing.

11 MR. DELANEY: Oh, Maureen, go ahead.

12 NICKERSON SUBCOMMITTEE

13 MS. BURGESS: Nickerson, the Nickerson  
14 Subcommittee.

15 MR. DELANEY: Oh, yes, the Nickerson Subcommittee.  
16 What's the latest?

17 MS. BURGESS: The latest is that there is money for  
18 a \$3,000 scholarship, and the proposal -- the  
19 information went out from Dr. Tyrrell, Megan Tyrrell,  
20 and those proposals have to be in for the Nickerson  
21 Subcommittee to review by April 15.

22 MR. DELANEY: Okay.

23 MS. BURGESS: And if anybody else wants to join the  
24 Nickerson Subcommittee, it's just me and two people from

1 the Friends, so we'd be happy to have more people.

2 MR. DELANEY: And they always receive some very  
3 interesting proposals. There are a lot of good thought-  
4 out science and proposals, way more than we can possibly  
5 fund, but I've reviewed those in the past, and it's  
6 informative.

7 MS. BURGESS: They're very interesting.

8 MR. PRICE: And actually, Maureen, why don't you  
9 talk about the student that you want to invite at the  
10 next.

11 MS. BURGESS: Yes, if there's time the next time we  
12 meet, could we have the current student, Erin Healy, do  
13 a brief report on her research? She was this year's  
14 recipient.

15 MR. DELANEY: I think that would be great, yeah.  
16 Ted?

17 MR. REINHART: So what is it? It takes \$3,000 to  
18 get somebody a grant or something?

19 MS. BURGESS: It was a fund that was started years  
20 ago, and the money is -- the money was given to this  
21 group or body here, but because we can't manage money,  
22 the Friends of the Cape Cod National Seashore are  
23 registered as a nonprofit, and so they can manage the  
24 funds in the bank account. And so that's the money

1           that's used or the interest from that money to grant a  
2           scholarship to a student in an area of research that  
3           would be in line with the goals of the Park here, Cape  
4           Cod National Seashore.

5           MR. REINHART: My question is, is it \$3,000 a year?  
6           That's what these cost?

7           MS. BURGESS: They hope it is. Like we weren't  
8           even sure there was going to be money this year, and  
9           there may not be money next year because, as you know,  
10          the interest rate on any kind of savings is very, very  
11          low.

12          MR. REINHART: But is that what you need, 3,000 a  
13          year roughly?

14          MS. BURGESS: No, no, no.

15          MR. REINHART: Or do you need more than that? To  
16          sponsor a student, do you need \$3,000? Do you need  
17          \$5,000?

18          MS. BURGESS: We're not really sponsoring a  
19          student. They have to write a proposal that is reviewed  
20          to see if it's worthy of receiving this grant.

21          MR. REINHART: But is it usually \$3,000?

22          MS. BURGESS: It has been. I'm new to this, but I  
23          think it has been around three.

24          MR. DELANEY: That's been the average that's in the

1 fund that's generated.

2 MR. REINHART: That's enough to kind of get it  
3 going, yeah, okay.

4 MR. DELANEY: That's all they have. They give out  
5 the interest. That's all they have in one year on  
6 average.

7 MS. BURGESS: Right, they would love to have  
8 contributions to that fund to keep it going because this  
9 year it was very dicey whether they would even have  
10 money for a grant.

11 MR. REINHART: It seems like if you have worthy  
12 candidates and it's \$3,000, maybe you can get people to  
13 just donate another \$3,000 so somebody else could get a  
14 grant too in a year.

15 MS. BURGESS: It would go into the big fund, and  
16 then that would be invested, and they use the interest  
17 from that.

18 MR. REINHART: Never happen then. Okay.

19 MR. DELANEY: A miniscule amount comes back.

20 MR. REINHART: Yeah, all right.

21 MR. DELANEY: But the subcommittee needs  
22 fundraising expertise, so if someone would like to join  
23 the subcommittee and help some with fundraising, that  
24 would be wonderful.

1 MS. BURGESS: Oh, absolutely.

2 MR. REINHART: My fundraising expertise is writing  
3 a check.

4 (Laughter.)

5 MR. DELANEY: So at this point let's move to some  
6 other items that may require us to take some action.

7 **NEW BUSINESS**

8 **PROVINCETOWN AIRPORT EA**

9 MR. DELANEY: I'd like to start with the  
10 Provincetown Airport. We have two representatives, Mike  
11 Garrity and Butch Lisenby.

12 MR. LISEBY: Lisenby. Lisenby.

13 MR. DELANEY: Lisenby. And they are here to give  
14 us a brief presentation on the environmental assessment  
15 at this point. They will meet -- may or may not, but we  
16 might be inclined to make a recommendation to the  
17 superintendent that we feel this is moving in the right  
18 direction, that they should also accept that. I know  
19 the Park, the superintendent and his staff, are  
20 reviewing this at the same time, and George can maybe  
21 weigh in at the end of this as well.

22 So I'll turn it over to Mike, I guess.

23 MR. GARRITY: My name is Mike Garrity, and we're  
24 doing quite a few improvements at the airport. One of

1 the improvements that we are doing is the terminal  
2 building, and we did an EA on -- there are twelve  
3 different improvements, something as big as changing a  
4 taxiway where airplanes go down to something as small as  
5 one of the gravel roads to an (inaudible).

6 One of the improvements is the terminal building.  
7 The terminal building is on the north side of the  
8 airport. It gets pretty weathered. Having said that,  
9 we're also in a floodplain. This whole area (indicates)  
10 -- I'm sure you all know Hatches Harbor. Well, we're  
11 right in the middle of it, right on the edge. So  
12 basically we looked at going up the second floor on the  
13 terminal building, and after a little more refining of  
14 the design, we found out structurally we can't. So what  
15 we have to do is put in a new terminal building. To do  
16 that, we have to comply with the state, federal, and  
17 Cape Cod Commission regulations of building in a  
18 floodplain. And basically what we have to do is we have  
19 to raise the building a little under three feet, the  
20 bottom of the building, to keep it out of the  
21 floodplain. To do that, we're talking about building a  
22 two-story building on top of that. It still complies  
23 with the EA, which says we won't go -- we won't go any  
24 more than 12 feet above the existing building height

1 even on the new terminal building, which will be a two-  
2 story building. But looking at that, to keep within the  
3 ADA regulations, the American Disabilities, we'd either  
4 need a whole bunch of ramps on the front and the back or  
5 we looked at a design of grading the parking lot up to  
6 the terminal building, and that way we wouldn't have the  
7 problems with the ramps in the first place because ramps  
8 on the north side would freeze over. No matter what you  
9 do, if you have an elevated surface like that, it's more  
10 a tendency to freeze. So where the airport is open 12  
11 months out of the year, we're looking at grading the  
12 parking lot up to the terminal building at a gradual  
13 grade. So that includes putting in fill in the  
14 floodplain. So we went and we looked at the actual  
15 volume of fill, and that volume of fill in just Hatches  
16 Harbor -- the floodplain includes all of Truro and all  
17 the way down, but we looked at just the fill impacts on  
18 Hatches Harbor, and I think it's .015 percent. So the  
19 fill really is minimal and wouldn't have any impact on  
20 coastal flooding.

21 So that's basically the changes that we're looking  
22 at making after refining some of the design. So if  
23 anyone has any questions.

24 MR. REINHART: I know some rich people like heat

1           their driveways to get the snow to melt. It seems like  
2           to put a little zone -- say if you made an earthen ramp  
3           or a cement ramp and heated that in whatever days you  
4           had ice -- you know, if you shovel it off and had a  
5           little heat in there, it would melt pretty quickly. It  
6           seems like that would be a much simpler solution to heat  
7           a ramp than to fill a parking lot.

8           MR. GARRITY: True, but one of the problems is we'd  
9           need to keep under ADA regulations. We'd need over  
10          1,200 square feet of ramp just on the north side, which  
11          kind of goes into our parking lot, which means we're  
12          looking --

13          MR. REINHART: 1,200 square feet?

14          MR. GARRITY: Yes.

15          MS. BURGESS: If I could, I think that has to do  
16          with the ADA regulation that for every inch of grade you  
17          have to go out 12 inches. So it makes for a very long  
18          ramp, and that's why you were doing the switchbacks,  
19          right?

20          MR. GARRITY: Yes, yes. So basically it impacts  
21          the number of parking spots. We'd have to find more  
22          parking spots.

23          MR. DELANEY: Mary-Jo?

24          MR. GARRITY: This would be -- oh, I'm sorry.

1 MS. AVELLAR: That's all right.

2 MR. GARRITY: The fill we're talking about would  
3 remain in the disturbed parking lot area where the  
4 parking lot is now, and it would not impact any other  
5 natural resources outside of it.

6 MS. McKEAN: In your packet, you did receive Mike's  
7 supplemental information, including the parking lot  
8 where the terminal -- I don't remember what month you  
9 were here -- maybe in the fall -- to give information on  
10 all the twelve improvements, but these are the two that  
11 have been adjusted.

12 MR. DELANEY: Mary-Jo, did you have a question?

13 MS. AVELLAR: Yeah, so are you putting up a new  
14 building, or are you putting the building on top of the  
15 old building?

16 MR. GARRITY: No, what happened is we're putting up  
17 a new building. And basically we looked at going up a  
18 story on the existing building, and to do that, it's not  
19 structurally feasible.

20 MS. AVELLAR: Right, that's what I thought I heard  
21 you say, and then I thought I heard you say that you  
22 were putting the new building on top of the -- and so  
23 then I got confused.

24 MR. GARRITY: Oh, no, I'm sorry. So we're talking

1           about building a two-story building in its place, and it  
2           will be relatively the same footprint.

3           MS. AVELLAR:   So where will they be operating out  
4           of while you're constructing the new facility?

5           MR. GARRITY:   Probably the hangar.

6           MR. LISENBY:   Probably trailers, combination  
7           trailers and hangar like we did when we built the  
8           current terminal back in the late '90s.  We had to  
9           operate out of the hangar and the trailers back then.

10          MS. AVELLAR:   We love our airport in Provincetown.  
11          We do.

12          MR. REINHART:   So the terminal is only like 15  
13          years old and it's got to be -- you've got to build a  
14          new one already?

15          MR. GARRITY:   Yeah.  Basically what happened is  
16          when they built the terminal, it was prior to the  
17          September 11 terrorist attacks, and now TSA has taken  
18          over about a third of the building.

19          MR. REINHART:   Can't we just move them out?

20          MS. AVELLAR:   Into a trailer?

21          (Laughter.)

22          MR. GARRITY:   No, I wish we could.

23          MR. LISENBY:   There are a lot of different thoughts  
24          about that.

1 (Laughter.)

2 MR. LISENBY: We deemed it (inaudible).

3 MS. McKEAN: They actually have a trailer on site  
4 that they're in, and this proposal they would still have  
5 the trailer separate, but then there's the TSA screening  
6 space. But for their office, they're outside of this.

7 MR. REINHART: They are?

8 MS. BURGESS: Because you can get screened there  
9 for Logan, right?

10 MR. GARRITY: They have direct flights.

11 MS. BURGESS: Yeah, because I've done that, right.

12 MS. AVELLAR: Who's paying for this new building?

13 MR. REINHART: TSA?

14 MS. AVELLAR: TSA?

15 MR. GARRITY: No, no. Part FAA, part state, part  
16 local.

17 MS. AVELLAR: Part local like the Town of  
18 Provincetown?

19 MR. LISENBY: Yeah, it's the usual grant split with  
20 the federal government, the state government, and  
21 Provincetown.

22 MS. AVELLAR: And when is that going to happen? I  
23 didn't see it.

24 MR. LISENBY: Well, we're not sure.

1 MR. REINHART: What is the cost?

2 MR. LISEBY: Because of the fact that we're in the  
3 planning stages now, and then because of the  
4 environmental issues, this project could jump in front  
5 of other projects that are tied up in more environmental  
6 sensitive type of things. So it could be a few years.  
7 It could be six, seven years. We don't know.

8 MR. THOMAS: How does the runway work, Bill? You  
9 were extending the runway and making that turnaround.  
10 How did that --

11 MR. GARRITY: No, that's part of this project.  
12 We're squaring off the runway. Right now the  
13 turnarounds were made for the big taildragers, so  
14 they're all cup shape, and FAA says we have to have them  
15 90-degree angles so that you can see. That's part of  
16 this whole project.

17 MR. THOMAS: So you haven't started it yet?

18 MR. GARRITY: No, we have to get past the  
19 environmental.

20 MR. DELANEY: So basically what we have in front of  
21 us is supplemental information to an ongoing, larger EA,  
22 and this new piece that we hadn't seen before is the  
23 requirement to put the terminal building up above the  
24 floodplain, the flood level.

1 MR. GARRITY: Yes, right in the parking lot.

2 MR. DELANEY: And bring the parking lot up to make  
3 the grade.

4 This will be back before us again, I'm sure,  
5 because it's an ongoing process, but this is the latest  
6 information. So we have a chance to ask questions about  
7 it, just take the information under advisement, or if we  
8 feel comfortable making a recommendation now, we could  
9 make a simple recommendation like we think this presents  
10 no additional problems and let the superintendent  
11 continue to work with the airport on the larger EA.

12 MS. AVELLAR: I have like an ethical question.  
13 Because of the town's involvement and I am the  
14 moderator, I don't think I should participate in a vote.

15 MR. DELANEY: Okay.

16 MS. AVELLAR: Because if it comes before the town  
17 meeting, I don't want to be having weighed in on it one  
18 way or the other.

19 MR. DELANEY: Yes, that's fair.

20 MS. AVELLAR: So I'm going to stand back on that.

21 MR. DELANEY: So you'd abstain.

22 Mark, question?

23 MR. ROBINSON: The extra height, 12 feet, is that  
24 going to be more visible from different places in the

1 Seashore that we're concerned about? That's a question  
2 for the staff.

3 MR. GARRITY: Right, we did some analysis on  
4 different viewsheds, one from the Visitor Center, which  
5 is up here (indicates), one from Race Point Beach  
6 parking lot, and one from the bike path, and none of  
7 that really was an impact visually at this point looking  
8 at those.

9 MR. REINHART: What does that mean?

10 MR. GARRITY: We'd handle --

11 MS. McKEAN: It's just presented in supplemental  
12 materials that the Park is still reviewing.

13 MR. GARRITY: And we're still -- we still have the  
14 Cape Cod Commission process, which also looks at the  
15 viewsheds too.

16 MR. ROBINSON: I mean, I would support taking a  
17 vote now to support this change, but I'd like to have  
18 the staff report on the viewsheds.

19 MR. DELANEY: Yeah, okay.

20 Other questions? Maureen.

21 MS. BURGESS: If I could, just following up. I  
22 understand the difficulty with the ramping, and I  
23 actually just did have a suggestion. You're going to go  
24 for a vertical platform lift for wheelchairs?

1 MR. GARRITY: Yes.

2 MS. BURGESS: And I would just suggest that when  
3 you consider that given -- because I know in your paper  
4 you addressed climate issues -- that when you go for  
5 your lift, that you might include -- should probably  
6 consider a commercial lift which is enclosed and to make  
7 sure that there's an entry and an exit because you might  
8 not be able to turn around a wheelchair in that lift.  
9 And also, the average length of a standard wheelchair  
10 front to back with a footrest is about 32 inches, but  
11 somebody in a scooter, sometimes those scooters are 38-  
12 40 inches. So it might take a little work to get that  
13 just right. And you certainly don't want to have  
14 something that's open and we're going to get corrosion  
15 from the elements.

16 MR. GARRITY: Right, yes, we'll look at all that  
17 definitely.

18 MR. DELANEY: Okay, Mike, thank you.

19 Ted?

20 MR. REINHART: One other quick question. How high  
21 did the water come in Hatches Harbor or did it in the  
22 last storms we had? Was there any saltwater incursion  
23 coming from the airport?

24 MR. LISEBY: On the airport? No.

1           MR. REINHART: Yeah. So there's no -- three feet  
2 is high enough going forward?

3           MR. GARRITY: Yes, FEMA regulations require two.

4           MR. REINHART: Right.

5           MR. GARRITY: Building code requires two feet.  
6 This is the Cape Cod Commission requires that extra foot  
7 to the lowest vertical member. So it's really -- it's  
8 up out of the way.

9           MR. REINHART: Okay. Who knows what the future  
10 will bring.

11          MR. DELANEY: That's a good point. Many agencies  
12 now have incorporated the requirement to anticipate sea  
13 level rise --

14          MR. REINHART: Right.

15          MR. DELANEY: -- calculations in these kinds of  
16 judgments. So I assume that's the extra foot.

17          MR. GARRITY: It's the extra foot, and also they're  
18 updating the FEMA map so it includes the latest data on  
19 that.

20          MR. REINHART: You'd turn it into a seaplane base.

21                 (Laughter.)

22          MR. REINHART: If need be.

23          MR. DELANEY: Okay, first of all, Mike, thank you.  
24 Butch, thank you.

1           Having heard the briefing, should it be the  
2           commissioner's wishes, we could discuss a motion to the  
3           effect that says we would advise the superintendent and  
4           staff that this additional aspect of the project seems  
5           favorable with the two points raised about viewsheds and  
6           the adequacy of handicapped lifts to be focused on as  
7           they move forward with their final design.

8           MS. McKEAN: He has a couple more sheets he might  
9           just want to show us --

10          MR. DELANEY: Oh, I'm sorry.

11          MS. McKEAN: -- so people could get an idea of the  
12          (inaudible) facility.

13          MR. DELANEY: Okay, yeah, go ahead.

14          MR. GARRITY: Here it is with the ramp going up the  
15          parking lot from that perspective, and this is the  
16          prospective view from the air side. So as you're  
17          getting on and off the airplane.

18          MR. ROBINSON: So the second story would be what?  
19          A control tower? What is the second story?

20          MR. GARRITY: Oh, no, no. It's got the offices and  
21          more public space. What it is, is unless you want to go  
22          out -- we looked at horizontal and vertical originally,  
23          and to get the space we need, we would be impacting a  
24          lot of environmental. We probably would be impacting

1 wetlands and dunes, so we're talking about going up.  
2 And right now the existing terminal building -- I don't  
3 know if you know it, but it's got one of those raised  
4 roofs. So it's almost a second story. It's part of the  
5 second story right there because it's got the high  
6 roofs, and the new building won't.

7 MR. THOMAS: (Inaudible)?

8 MR. GARRITY: That's one of the things they're  
9 looking at, is the (inaudible) building.

10 MS. McKEAN: We did have a discussion about if in  
11 the future TSA wanted to move inside, if there was room  
12 for additional or request for additional room, and this  
13 courtyard area out here would be where they would  
14 propose that. So structurally that would be designed so  
15 that that could be --

16 MR. GARRITY: Yes.

17 MS. McKEAN: -- adapted in the future if they  
18 needed more space.

19 MS. AVELLAR: Is that the second floor level that  
20 we're looking at?

21 MS. McKEAN: Yeah.

22 MR. GARRITY: Yes.

23 MS. AVELLAR: Do you have the first floor drawn  
24 out?

1 MR. GARRITY: Oh, plan of that?

2 MS. AVELLAR: For the outside, yeah.

3 MR. GARRITY: I don't. I think it was in the -- I  
4 didn't bring that.

5 MS. AVELLAR: That's okay.

6 MR. GARRITY: And this is all concept. We haven't  
7 really gotten into the design yet. So right now we're  
8 just looking at complying with regulations, and a lot of  
9 that is the materials used or the look of the building.  
10 I mean, obviously a big part of that is going to be the  
11 view of the building from where you are. Part of that  
12 that I didn't put in is going to be a landscape, you  
13 know, vegetation planting to buffer so you don't see it.

14 MS. AVELLAR: May I ask another question?

15 MR. GARRITY: Yes.

16 MS. AVELLAR: Do the selectmen know about this?  
17 Have they seen this at all?

18 MR. LISEBY: They have been explained from the  
19 original twelve projects, but we haven't got to the  
20 point yet where we're ready to bring it to the town and  
21 start to talk about specifics.

22 MS. AVELLAR: Because I usually report to them  
23 after one of these meetings, and they can't even figure  
24 out how to build a new police station or whether or not

1 to take care of the floating docks because of all of the  
2 incredible amount of money that's involved. And when  
3 they hear about this -- maybe I won't tell them today.

4 (Laughter.)

5 MS. AVELLAR: Maybe I'm not going to go tonight.

6 MR. GARRITY: They already do know about.

7 MR. LISEBY: They know the basics. They know that  
8 we have to deal with the terminal building differently  
9 from originally hoped. We hope to put a second story  
10 on.

11 MS. AVELLAR: But they know that they're going to  
12 have to cough up some money.

13 MR. LISEBY: Well, they know there's going to be  
14 their portion, yes.

15 MR. DELANEY: I don't want to cut off conversation  
16 again, but I think we need to move on.

17 George?

18 MR. PRICE: Just a couple of things. One is that  
19 you realize there are only two airports in all the  
20 national parks in the country, basically the Grand  
21 Tetons and here. And it's kind of interesting.

22 When you said you were in a floodplain, I had to  
23 snicker because you're in a wetland that was filled in  
24 to create the airport frankly, and it always presents a

1 lot of challenges to us because we have spent hours and  
2 hours and hours taking a look at the plan and trying to  
3 figure out how fencing could work or not work and  
4 building and whatnot. Basically it comes down to, do  
5 you have a viable airport or you don't. And certainly  
6 I'm committed to making sure that this airport  
7 functions. It's important to the community, and it's  
8 important to the Park. So as much as we can figure out  
9 things, I think it's going to really help everybody out.

10 It is the first time that I've really seen the  
11 plans here, and one of the things I might be asking more  
12 for, if you remember when Mike Leger was here --

13 MR. GARRITY: Yes.

14 MR. PRICE: -- he was very instrumental in wanting  
15 to make sure that there was some sort of a welcome to  
16 Provincetown and to the Cape Cod National Seashore.  
17 Here they are landing right in the Seashore, and we  
18 ought to follow his thinking on that. I was really  
19 impressed with that. And as you start to work down the  
20 path, we'll certainly be glad to work with you on  
21 something that would be appropriate.

22 MR. GARRITY: That would be great.

23 MR. DELANEY: Okay, any other comment from staff?  
24 Lauren, anything? Anything that was raised from George?

1 MS. McKEAN: (Shakes head.)

2 MR. DELANEY: Again, I think if we wanted to  
3 entertain -- I would be willing to entertain a motion to  
4 the effect that we appreciate the presentation and the  
5 update on the two changes to the EA, that we voiced I  
6 guess concern or brought to the consultant's attention  
7 the importance of viewshed protection and appropriate  
8 dimensions for any ADA lifts. And the minutes will  
9 reflect other conversation as well.

10 So if that's agreeable, I'll entertain a motion.

11 MR. ROBINSON: I would make that motion.

12 MR. DELANEY: Mark made that motion.

13 MR. ROBINSON: You know, I just --

14 MR. DELANEY: Let me get a second first.

15 MS. BURGESS: Second.

16 MR. DELANEY: Second, all right. Discussion?

17 MR. ROBINSON: Just when you think about design,  
18 we're not here to micromanage design, but it is a little  
19 bit taller perhaps. I see a lot of reflective surfaces.  
20 I see solar panels that are obviously going to reflect.  
21 So just I think that that's something that should be  
22 important to the extent that this is a prominent  
23 building out in the dunes.

24 MR. GARRITY: Can I answer that?

1 MR. DELANEY: Can you respond to that, Mike?

2 MR. GARRITY: Yes. The solar panels now, you can  
3 get antireflective on it so they don't reflect at all.  
4 It's an airport. We don't want reflection either.

5 MR. ROBINSON: Right.

6 MR. GARRITY: So any of this that you're looking at  
7 would all be coated with an antireflective. It's in  
8 materials that will withstand -- I mean, we're going  
9 through that process now.

10 MR. ROBINSON: So you're thinking about it. That's  
11 all.

12 MR. GARRITY: I mean, the building may change  
13 considerably. Right now what we're looking at is -- and  
14 it's hard to see on this, but it almost is what is going  
15 to go in Herring Cove. It's almost the same shape of  
16 the bathhouse. So we definitely -- this is not a final  
17 design. We're still looking at all the design  
18 preambles, including the viewshed. I mean, that's a big  
19 one with the Park Service. We've looked at all these  
20 different areas where the public might be able to see  
21 it. We most certainly have photos of it to make sure  
22 that it's agreeable.

23 MS. McKEAN: One thing that's interesting also on  
24 that is here you're seeing from the airplane side, and



1           actually two -- where we can advise the superintendent  
2           on certificates of condemnation, two properties.

3           The first one is the Outer Reach Resort, which is  
4           Adrian's Hotel -- or not hotel.

5           MR. PRICE:   Adrian's Restaurant.

6           MR. DELANEY:  Adrian's Restaurant.

7           Did everyone get this little -- is this in our  
8           packet?

9           MS. McKEAN:  Everybody got it.

10          MS. AVELLAR:  Yeah.

11          MR. DELANEY:  So I won't read it.  I'll just draw  
12          your attention to this background paper that was  
13          distributed and ask Lauren perhaps to set the stage.

14          MS. McKEAN:  Sure.

15          Are you Evan?

16          AUDIENCE MEMBER (EVAN EVANS):  I'm Evan.

17          MS. McKEAN:  Okay.

18          MR. DELANEY:  Oh, you're here.  Oh, I wasn't sure  
19          you were going to be here.  Okay, then you can chime in  
20          too.

21          MS. McKEAN:  That person in the audience is Evan  
22          Evans, and he's the manager of the Outer Reach property.  
23          Adrian's Restaurant had been operating at that property  
24          for a number of years, and they have just gone through a

1 process of asking the Town of Truro Zoning Board of  
2 Appeals for their permission to convert a restaurant use  
3 to a private function hall use, still within the  
4 restaurant category of use. The building commissioner  
5 had looked at it but felt the ZBA needed to rule on it.

6 I reviewed the Park files, and over time, over the  
7 years there have been definite operational adjustments  
8 to that facility, the liquor license or other minor  
9 changes. So our finding in looking at the town's zoning  
10 was that this was still within the restaurant use  
11 category. All the preexisting commercial properties --  
12 there are nine of them remaining -- they need to remain  
13 in commercial use or they will not continue to be  
14 eligible for a certificate of suspension from  
15 condemnation, and that's very prized by each of the  
16 property owners. It says the government won't take the  
17 property by eminent domain and that they continue to  
18 meet zoning. And so it's our finding that this is not a  
19 significant change that would affect the eligibility for  
20 the commercial certificate.

21 MR. DELANEY: Evan, would you care to share your  
22 vision of what might be happening there?

23 AUDIENCE MEMBER (MR. EVANS): It's not a visionary  
24 change. It's simply a license change. Instead of being

1 a restaurant, we're now going to be a function hall. As  
2 you know, Adrian's -- or some of you may know, it's been  
3 there for 20 years. And in 2012, which was last year,  
4 in going forward looking at all the different things we  
5 look at when we make feasibility studies and decisions,  
6 we felt a function hall seemed to fit that main  
7 building.

8 It comes under A2 use in Truro, as does the  
9 restaurant. It's going to do the same thing it did in  
10 the past. We had weddings up there. The weddings will  
11 continue. The only difference is it will be done off  
12 site as far as food preparation, which will lessen the  
13 environmental impact as far as the septic system, which  
14 we're on our final phase of upgrading to Title V. So we  
15 just felt we would still be doing the same thing we've  
16 done in the past whether it's a wedding, anniversary,  
17 birthday party. If you guys want to come up, have a  
18 meeting, it will be just a room with a nice view of Cape  
19 Cod Bay to Provincetown, and you would come up there and  
20 have your meeting or your wedding or your anniversary.  
21 So there's no change other than a lesser impact on both  
22 the environment and our footprint.

23 And as she stated, it was voted unanimously by the  
24 ZBA five/zero.

1 MR. DELANEY: Okay, thank you.

2 Questions? Mary-Jo?

3 MS. AVELLAR: People will be bringing the food in?

4 AUDIENCE MEMBER (MR. EVANS): Correct. The only  
5 way that you can have food at this property is via a  
6 licensed caterer.

7 MS. AVELLAR: Okay, so somebody like Cosmos or one  
8 of them?

9 AUDIENCE MEMBER (MR. EVANS): Exactly.

10 MS. AVELLAR: But the dishes and things will be  
11 done on sight --

12 AUDIENCE MEMBER (MR. EVANS): No, no.

13 MS. AVELLAR: -- or are the dishes going to be  
14 taken away too?

15 AUDIENCE MEMBER (MR. EVANS): Yes, just like a  
16 caterer would be doing if he's setting up. Come on, go  
17 off. We provide the room. We'll probably provide  
18 tables and chairs. The rest will be handled --

19 MS. AVELLAR: Stoves? No?

20 AUDIENCE MEMBER (MR. EVANS): No stoves. Either  
21 refrigeration for cooling or reheating. No cooking.

22 MS. AVELLAR: Okay, so there would be a stove for  
23 reheating?

24 AUDIENCE MEMBER (MR. EVANS): Just reheating. Like

1 an electric -- like a --

2 MS. AVELLAR: I know exactly what you mean, yes.

3 AUDIENCE MEMBER (MR. EVANS): Yeah, yeah.

4 MS. AVELLAR: Sounds fine to me.

5 MR. DELANEY: Other questions of Evan or Lauren?

6 (No response.)

7 MR. DELANEY: Again, we have the prerogative of  
8 making a recommendation or not. I think so far everyone  
9 seems to feel pretty positive about continuing with the  
10 change as it is. So I guess we could act. So we have a  
11 motion that we could recommend that the use of the  
12 restaurant is consistent with existing --

13 MS. AVELLAR: I'll move that.

14 MS. BURGESS: Second.

15 MR. DELANEY: Mary-Jo moved that. There's a second  
16 from Maureen. And any other discussion?

17 (No response.)

18 MR. DELANEY: All those in favor, signify by saying  
19 aye.

20 BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.

21 MR. DELANEY: Those opposed?

22 (No response.)

23 MR. DELANEY: Any abstentions?

24 (No response.)

1 MR. DELANEY: No, good. Okay.

2 Thank you, Evan, for coming in. Good luck.

3 AUDIENCE MEMBER (MR. EVANS): Thank you very much.  
4 I appreciate it. Maybe we'll see some of you up there  
5 in the future.

6 MS. AVELLAR: My senior class had a lot of fun up  
7 there at times.

8 MR. DELANEY: The last item on the agenda after you  
9 leave is to set our next meeting place.

10 AUDIENCE MEMBER (MR. EVANS): There you go. I'd be  
11 more than happy to have it.

12 MR. DELANEY: Thank you.

13 MS. BURGESS: Discount?

14 AUDIENCE MEMBER (MR. EVANS): You got it.  
15 Thank you. Thank you, Lauren.

16 MS. McKEAN: Thank you.

17 MR. DELANEY: So we have one more.

18 Lauren, why don't you continue on with Adventure  
19 Bound Campground.

20 MS. McKEAN: Yeah, all right.

21 In the case of Outer Reach, he was making that  
22 change. We didn't want to get to the end of the year  
23 when all of the certificates come up and then have you  
24 guys have a problem with the change, so that's why we

1 brought it to your attention now.

2 On the Adventure Bound Campground issue, right now  
3 their certificate of suspension expires on April 5, so  
4 we would like your action today, if possible. A year  
5 ago the current manager of the Adventure Bound  
6 Campground and/or his consultants -- I can't remember  
7 when he was here or not, but his engineering consultants  
8 came in and presented to you the hooking up of the  
9 campground on Highland Road and South Highland Road,  
10 hooking up their -- a central base water system that  
11 would serve both properties. The Highland Road property  
12 was conditioned when they bought it that they needed to  
13 put in a new central wastewater system by a certain  
14 time. And that time keeps getting extended, but at this  
15 point they are ready to build it in the fall. So that's  
16 good news.

17 And the Mass. DEP has issued those extensions. You  
18 guys have issued extensions or recommended extensions to  
19 George. And so we've reviewed some draft plans to site  
20 the new wastewater system on the old Horton's campground  
21 there on South Highland Road, and it looks like  
22 everything's moving forward. The county turned out to  
23 own both Highland and South Highland Road, so they got  
24 the approval from the county. He's been through a

1 million groups on this, and we told the manager he  
2 didn't need to come up from Florida for this meeting,  
3 but he gave us all the background material that you have  
4 in front of you and more.

5 So that's about it.

6 MR. DELANEY: Okay, sounds like progress being made  
7 again slow and steady.

8 Any questions on this particular certificate?

9 (No response.)

10 MS. AVELLAR: Sounds good to me.

11 MS. BURGESS: Sounds good. Probably be an  
12 improvement over what's happening right now.

13 MS. McKEAN: Yes.

14 MS. BURGESS: Probably big improvement.

15 MS. McKEAN: Hundreds of campsites using septic.

16 MR. DELANEY: So we could in this case actually  
17 make a recommendation to the superintendent to support a  
18 formal extension of the CSC to coincide with other  
19 commercial properties' CSCs in the area.

20 MS. AVELLAR: I'll move that.

21 MR. DELANEY: Moved by Mary-Jo.

22 MS. BURGESS: Second.

23 MR. DELANEY: Seconded by Maureen. Any discussion?

24 (No response.)

1 MR. DELANEY: All those in favor, signify by saying  
2 aye.

3 BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.

4 MR. DELANEY: Any abstentions?

5 (No response.)

6 MR. DELANEY: Good, thank you. Good.

7 All right, let's move on to the Superintendent's  
8 Report as identified in the agenda.

9 MS. AVELLAR: Rich, I have to leave.

10 MR. DELANEY: Mary-Jo, you have to head out, okay.

11 MS. AVELLAR: I'm sorry.

12 MR. DELANEY: Okay.

13 **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

14 MR. PRICE: First I'd like to introduce a new staff  
15 member, by the way. Dr. Jason Taylor has arrived. He  
16 is our new chief of natural resources management, most  
17 recently of the Bureau of Land Management, and he's had  
18 a very interesting career thus far out in the Colorado  
19 area up to Alaska and other places. I was telling him  
20 about the Advisory Commission, and I was glad he was  
21 able to be around for this particular meeting. So  
22 you'll see him around for sure.

23 So basically everything we do at the lab,  
24 everything we do with the piping plovers -- and you'll

1 hear the ponds report in a little bit -- all will come  
2 under his purview. He replaces Shelley Hall, who left  
3 to become superintendent of Kenai Fjords a little while  
4 ago, if you remember.

5 MR. DELANEY: Welcome, Jason, we look forward to  
6 working with you.

7 MR. TAYLOR: Thank you.

8 MR. PRICE: I just wanted to do two things before  
9 we talk about ponds, and unless, Rich, you wanted to --  
10 I was going to do sequestration and storm damage, but I  
11 know you have to walk out the door soon.

12 MR. DELANEY: I'm going in about ten minutes, and  
13 Mark is going to end up being the chair for a little  
14 bit. So why don't you just continue on through.

15 (Ms. Avellar leaves the room.)

16 MR. PRICE: I'm just wondering if we shouldn't jump  
17 to ponds first because, frankly, even for your ten  
18 minutes, I'd almost rather you have that.

19 MR. DELANEY: Okay.

20 MR. PRICE: And I can do the rest because you and I  
21 have talked about sequestration events.

22 UPDATE ON PONDS STATUS

23 MR. PRICE: One of the reasons we asked Sophia to  
24 come and give a presentation had to do, frankly, with

1 your question at the last meeting about the drawdowns of  
2 the Wellfleet ponds vis-à-vis the town water systems.

3 So we really had three pieces that we asked Sophia  
4 to take a look at. One was respond to that, one was to  
5 talk about the state of the ponds in general, and the  
6 third was a little bit about a program about what we've  
7 been doing in conjunction with the towns on the Ponds  
8 Committee, which is really trying to be a proactive way.

9 And, Rich, when I was speaking to you, I think you,  
10 like myself, were really kind of surprised at the  
11 deteriorated nature of a lot of the ponds and how  
12 important I think this topic is at this point.

13 Sophia?

14 MS. FOX: Well, George, thank you for inviting me  
15 to speak about this today. I am the aquatic ecologist  
16 here at the Park, and it is my job to be aware of what  
17 is happening in our freshwater and saltwater resources.  
18 And upon arriving here about three years ago, I  
19 inherited the kettle ponds, and I have been spending a  
20 lot of time with them since then.

21 I want to just tell you a little bit about what we  
22 do to monitor our ponds and what kind of information we  
23 get from that and how we might respond from a management  
24 perspective. And one of the main things that has come

1 out of this work is we have developed a working group  
2 with the Town of Wellfleet in particular to address some  
3 of our pond issues, and Lauren and I are involved as  
4 well as Suzanne Thomas from the beach department, who's  
5 here in back.

6 So the two major impacts to our kettle ponds that I  
7 want to talk about today are the atmospheric impacts  
8 from industrialization and climate and the local impacts  
9 of human uses. And some of this you all probably know.  
10 We have atmospheric changes due to industrialization,  
11 particularly the increase of carbon dioxide in our  
12 atmosphere, but there are other compounds that are also  
13 associated with industrialization that are increasing  
14 long scene pattern. And these changes have been going  
15 on -- these patterns have been in the record for  
16 hundreds of thousands of years, but in recent years  
17 we've seen them go higher than we've seen before at a  
18 rapid rate.

19 Why do we care about that for Cape Cod kettle  
20 ponds? Well, first of all, we see these changes in New  
21 England, and in particular in New England, we've  
22 actually seen some improvements in our emissions. And  
23 this is mainly due to more natural gas and less coal  
24 burning that we do here. So these are emissions of

1 sulfur compounds and nitrogen compounds, and over the  
2 past 20 years or so, they've been declining.

3 MR. REINHART: Question?

4 MS. FOX: Yes.

5 MR. REINHART: Don't we get a lot of this stuff  
6 from the Midwest? So is that really a good graph of  
7 what's actually going on here?

8 MS. FOX: These are --

9 MR. REINHART: These are New England facilities.

10 MS. FOX: These are just New England facilities,  
11 but there is this trend across the nation.

12 MR. REINHART: Same trend?

13 MS. FOX: Similar. They may not be as drastic, but  
14 yes, our atmosphere is connected to -- a lot of our  
15 compounds are coming from a lot farther away than New  
16 England.

17 So what are we seeing on Cape Cod which is  
18 connected to the rest of our nation and globe? We have  
19 an atmospheric monitoring site in the Seashore here in  
20 North Truro where we have been monitoring deposition of  
21 sulfur compounds from the atmosphere. And since the  
22 '80s we have been seeing this decline that reflects what  
23 I showed in that previous graph, and along with that  
24 we've seen an increase in the pH of our coming down in

1 rain. So that means that our rain is becoming less  
2 acidic.

3 MR. REINHART: That's really acidic.

4 MS. FOX: Yes. However, it's getting --  
5 approaching five.

6 So one of the things that we want to know is, how  
7 is this affecting our ponds which are receiving this  
8 atmospheric deposition? So here at the Seashore we have  
9 a kettle pond water quality monitoring program that has  
10 been going on since the '70s to different degrees, and  
11 this long-term data set provides us with a great  
12 opportunity to measure changes in the ponds. It's very  
13 unusual for a program or a scientist to have 40 years of  
14 data to work with, so it can be a blessing and a curse.  
15 However, I hope to show you that there are some big  
16 advantages.

17 The goal of this monitoring program is to assess  
18 trends in water quality and the trophic status of the  
19 ponds related to climate and human uses. And what we do  
20 is we go out -- we go out to the ponds from March to  
21 November, and we sample a set of environmental  
22 parameters, the same ones every other week in our ponds.  
23 And we sample twenty ponds in the Seashore, ten of them  
24 biweekly and ten of them seasonally.

1           I'm just going to jump right into some data that we  
2           have that our ponds are recording our atmosphere  
3           changes, and these are data from the water of our ponds  
4           from 1980 to a couple of years ago. And what we've seen  
5           is that in several of our ponds in Wellfleet here --  
6           we've seen an increase in pH reflecting that change in  
7           the acidity of our rain, and that's because in part due  
8           to this decreasing sulfate compounds coming down from  
9           the atmosphere. And these patterns mirror very well  
10          what we see at our atmospheric deposition site.

11          So these ponds are connected to these very larger  
12          regional and national global level events.

13          (Mr. Delaney leaves the room.)

14          MS. FOX: The ponds are also recording atmospheric  
15          conditions in their sediments because as something falls  
16          on the surface, it percolates down through the water  
17          column and collects in the sediments. And cores that  
18          were done several years ago were dated back to about  
19          1500. And moving this direction is going towards the  
20          present (indicates), and they were looking at some heavy  
21          metals in the sediments at Snow Pond in Truro. And what  
22          they found was that 500 years ago there were very little  
23          -- there was very little in the way of metals in the  
24          atmosphere. And then the Industrial Revolution

1       happened, and they could record the increase in these  
2       metals in the sediments of Snow Pond in Truro. Here we  
3       have the automobile, and we see lead take off, and then  
4       here we went to unleaded gasoline, and we see a decline.  
5       So these ponds are really showing us what's going on,  
6       what we're doing from much further away than Truro. So  
7       we know that there are atmospheric effects.

8               What are some impacts of climate on the ponds?  
9       Some of the climate change prediction scenarios include  
10       increases in air temperatures which have already been  
11       measured, changes in weather patterns, increases in  
12       storm frequency and intensity, which we're beginning to  
13       experience an increased occurrence of summer droughts.  
14       And so I wanted to see could I see any effect of these  
15       in the data that we've been collecting. So are the pond  
16       water temperatures increasing as these air temperatures  
17       have increased?

18               Here is some data from Gull Pond in Wellfleet. And  
19       what we've seen is that in the summer and fall our  
20       temperatures have been increasing over the past 20 or so  
21       years, and this trend is true of all the Wellfleet  
22       ponds. And these increases amount to about a 2 to 7 1/2  
23       degree Fahrenheit increase over 30 years, which is  
24       really big.

1 MS. BURGESS: Wow, wow.

2 MR. REINHART: It's like unbelievable in a way.

3 MS. FOX: And so how else can we look at the  
4 relationship of our ponds to larger climatic issues?  
5 Here I have a figure that shows the Palmer Hydrological  
6 Drought Index, and that is in blue. And the water level  
7 at Great Pond in Truro. And what we see is that our  
8 water levels track the wet and dry patterns of the  
9 regional climate. And so if we have a dry year, our  
10 pond water levels are low. If we have a wet year,  
11 they're high. So they're very linked to these  
12 parameters. And this figure actually comes out of the  
13 municipal well drawdown report, which I believe is in  
14 your packet.

15 MS. McKEAN: Today's packet.

16 MS. FOX: Today's packet.

17 So I think that I've shown that there are these  
18 clear connections between the ponds and the atmospheric  
19 conditions and changes in our climate. And what I  
20 wanted to also look at with this data is, what are the  
21 impacts of local uses, recreation for our beaches,  
22 swimming and boating, and municipally with the water  
23 supply?

24 So some of the things that we see that are really

1 obvious impacts of human uses on the ponds are shoreline  
2 erosion. Here we have an area with many exposed roots.  
3 This topsoil is all -- or sandy soil is all lost. With  
4 each rainstorm it runs down to the pond, which is right  
5 here (indicates). We're losing trees because they're  
6 being undermined and their roots no longer have any soil  
7 to sit in. And this is happening at several of our  
8 ponds.

9 In addition, inside the water near the shoreline,  
10 as people come in, they clear the vegetation. These are  
11 paths coming out from people's houses on Gull Pond.  
12 This should all be dark, if not for people. Here this  
13 is Long Pond (indicates). This is a trail that people  
14 have made from the public beach over here all the way  
15 around the pond disturbing the vegetation. And these  
16 have impacts on our ponds. And the major one that I've  
17 found is that we've seen a change in water clarity in  
18 our ponds over the last several decades.

19 Here we have Secchi depth, which is our most  
20 simplest measure of water clarity where we drop a black-  
21 and-white disc through the water column, and when we  
22 can't see it anymore, we record the depth, and it  
23 actually works really well. And what I've found is that  
24 in summer and early fall particularly we have a major

1 decline in water clarity where back in the '50s and '70s  
2 you could almost see to the bottom of the pond, and as  
3 we get to today, in midsummer you can only see a few  
4 meters down into the pond. And these are the rates of  
5 decline, about .16 meters a year decline, which is --  
6 let's see. That is -- it's several inches a year.

7 MR. REINHART: Four inches.

8 MS. FOX: Yeah.

9 MR. REINHART: Four or five.

10 MS. FOX: And Duck Pond is our most impacted in  
11 terms of water clarity. And other ponds like Great  
12 Wellfleet are also showing similar trends, although the  
13 rates are much slower.

14 So this kind of raises some concern for us that --  
15 and the pond water clarity is one of the major features  
16 of our kettle ponds. They're supposed to be clear.  
17 They're supposed to be low -- low nutrients, low  
18 productivity, that that's what makes them what they are.

19 MR. REINHART: What's the clarity of, say, Great  
20 Pond in the middle of -- maybe in February? What would  
21 that index be?

22 MS. FOX: Usually you can see to the bottom.

23 MR. REINHART: And it clears up each winter and  
24 then gets dirtier in the summer progressively, yeah.

1           What's that -- how do you account for that? Is  
2           that next?

3           MS. FOX: I'm working on accounting for that.

4           MR. REINHART: Okay.

5           MS. FOX: But there are many factors that would  
6           affect clarity; production, phytoplankton, growing in  
7           the water column, erosion, more particles coming in from  
8           land, and nonliving particles in the water column, other  
9           dissolved compounds that are coming from the watersheds,  
10          increased nutrients. It seems like we don't have a big  
11          change in nutrients. We don't have a big change in  
12          productivity over these periods of time. So one of the  
13          things that we're trying to tease out is, how could  
14          particles from the watersheds be impacting these ponds,  
15          and, particularly, have we seen an increase in erosion  
16          around these ponds? I think in general we haven't seen  
17          an increase. There's been a lot of activity on these  
18          ponds, particularly Duck Pond for the period of time.  
19          However, there may be some cumulative effects going on  
20          here.

21          And then some ponds like Great Pond in Truro have  
22          actually shown some improvement, becoming a little more  
23          clear.

24          MR. REINHART: Spectacle also?

1 MS. FOX: And Spectacle, yeah. However, Spectacle  
2 is a minor, minor --

3 MR. REINHART: Yeah, yeah.

4 MS. FOX: Actually, Spectacle is very unique  
5 because we think its clarity issues are due to acids  
6 coming from land, and it's actually a color issue rather  
7 than a particle issue. Each pond needs to be treated as  
8 an individual, which makes this challenging.

9 So we've seen some change in the water clarity that  
10 is raising some alarm for us in terms of how do we  
11 manage them. These ponds are very small, they're very  
12 sensitive, and there may be a point where they've gone  
13 too far and we cannot help them. So we want to get  
14 involved and to use what we know now before we get to  
15 that place.

16 So another human use that is affecting our ponds  
17 might be water supply, taking water from the aquifer  
18 which would draw down the pond water level, and there  
19 has been some concern about the water levels at  
20 Wellfleet ponds following the municipal well going  
21 online in 2011. And like I said, I've included a report  
22 in your packet that was done by Larry Martin, the Park  
23 Service in Denver, Colorado, and Kelly Medeiros here at  
24 the Seashore. And I'm going to start with the

1 conclusion, that there's no effect of the municipal well  
2 on water levels at the ponds or our monitoring wells.

3 And these are some data from the report that  
4 essentially all I want you to see here is that these are  
5 pond water levels at Duck Pond and Dyer Pond, which are  
6 very close to the municipal well in red and green, and  
7 Great Pond in Truro, which is about 15,000 feet from the  
8 well.

9 MR. REINHART: It's a different watershed, isn't  
10 it?

11 MS. FOX: Totally different watershed, so it  
12 shouldn't be impacted by the well at all.

13 And what I want you to see is that all of these  
14 ponds are following the same pattern. So that's saying  
15 that there's nothing particularly happening near the  
16 municipal well in terms of the water levels. There's  
17 something else affecting the water levels. And the same  
18 is true for our Wellfleet monitoring wells, and one of  
19 these wells -- I believe the one in orange here -- is at  
20 Great Pond in Truro, and they are all -- the differences  
21 here are just based on their elevation in the water  
22 table, but they're all following the same pattern  
23 relative to each other. The municipal well went online  
24 at this dotted line, and there's no change. And we

1           wouldn't really expect there to be any effect at this  
2           well because it's pumping very little water at this  
3           time. So it's good that we don't see anything.

4           MR. REINHART: When did you take these  
5           measurements?

6           MS. FOX: These are taken monthly.

7           MR. REINHART: So they're kind of average?

8           MS. FOX: This is from 1999 to 2012.

9           MR. REINHART: The water level measurements are  
10          taken monthly and it's reflected in these numbers there?  
11          That's the way it moves, okay. I think our municipal  
12          system needs a lot more water in the summer than it does  
13          the winter.

14          MS. FOX: Yes, it does. It primarily is pumping in  
15          the summer. Yes, these cover all seasons, and there's  
16          no change in pattern.

17          MR. REINHART: That's great, excellent. So the  
18          drought was the big thing that drew the ponds?

19          MS. FOX: Right, and as I showed you earlier  
20          relative to that drought index, that was what tied most  
21          of this to.

22          MR. REINHART: Okay.

23          MS. FOX: So, yeah, it's climatic. We've  
24          experienced a drought basically since the fall of 2011,

1 and our water levels are lower than we've seen in a long  
2 time.

3 MR. REINHART: It's improved a lot in the last  
4 month and a half, though. The shoreline has sort of  
5 disappeared now and is starting to climb up the banks a  
6 little bit.

7 MS. FOX: Yeah, yeah, and that isn't -- we didn't  
8 quite get there, although there's an uptick starting at  
9 the end there.

10 MR. THOMAS: When Tom voiced that a meeting ago  
11 about Dyer, I went right in there to take a look because  
12 I hadn't been in there. It was drastic. Dyer was very  
13 low.

14 MS. FOX: They're very low.

15 MR. THOMAS: I went in this morning.

16 MS. FOX: Not so low.

17 MR. THOMAS: No.

18 MR. REINHART: It's back within the low -- it's in  
19 the lower range for this time of year, but it's still  
20 pretty good.

21 MR. THOMAS: It made a major recovery.

22 MS. FOX: Yeah.

23 MR. REINHART: Yeah, yeah. You know, we've  
24 probably gotten ten inches of rain since --

1           MR. THOMAS: Major recovery. Huge beach around  
2 that whole pond.

3           MS. FOX: Yeah, and Duck is. I mean, the amount of  
4 shoreline is amazing, but I would chalk it up to  
5 interannual variation and some of the climate effects  
6 that we're seeing. So in conclusion the kettle ponds  
7 are sensitive to local regional and global changes. The  
8 atmospheric changes that we see are occurring at all the  
9 ponds. This is one of the ways that we can tell the  
10 atmosphere changes apart from the local changes, is that  
11 we see it at all the ponds. It's less likely to be a  
12 human use impact.

13           The major atmospheric impacts are the increasing  
14 water temperatures and the lower acidity of the waters,  
15 and these will have major impacts on the chemistry and  
16 biology of our ponds. The local changes we see are --  
17 due to human uses are pond specific, and the major  
18 impact that we're seeing is the declining water clarity.

19           These are water shorelines (indicates).

20           MR. REINHART: The forest family.

21           MS. FOX: Yes. And I just want to say again kettle  
22 ponds are critical habitats. They're really sensitive  
23 natural resources, and our continued monitoring and  
24 research are really important to understand and protect

1           them.

2                     So next, do you want to do it?

3           MS. McKEAN:  You can keep going.

4                     I'll just say on the ponds work group that we're  
5           also joined by Lindsay Crouch, our AmeriCorps member  
6           who's working with us, and she does a lot of write-up,  
7           all the work that's done by the work group, and has been  
8           helping Sophia with mapping.  And we're having a workday  
9           on Monday if anybody wants to join us.

10                    MR. REINHART:  Question?  Has there been any  
11           checking of the condition of the septic systems around  
12           the ponds that they're updated and upgraded because I  
13           think there would be some interest in Wellfleet and  
14           probably some of the other towns?  We have a lot of the  
15           ponds.  To maybe even start to move to pass some board  
16           of health regulations that people have to make sure  
17           their systems are at least Title V and functioning  
18           properly.

19                    MS. BURGESS:  That's exactly what I was wondering.  
20           Do they have Title V's?

21                    MR. REINHART:  I mean, it seems crazy.  And should  
22           we also have some regulations on what people can use for  
23           detergents even and stuff like that?  Just start to  
24           think about that.  I know my wife mentioned that some of

1 the things that are appearing in people's water in other  
2 towns like Eastham are things that are in stuff they  
3 pour down their sinks, you know, and now they've got to  
4 put in a water system because of it.

5 MS. FOX: Well, the Eastham problem is bigger as  
6 far as the disposal.

7 MR. REINHART: Well, it's part of the town's  
8 disposal area, but can we help you by looking at this in  
9 Wellfleet?

10 MS. FOX: We actually don't know where people's  
11 septic are, the condition of them. A lot of people are  
12 still on cesspools. That is not information that we  
13 have. And some people have voluntarily actually moved  
14 their septic from the pond side of their house to the  
15 street side, but in general I think there are still a  
16 lot of really poor septic systems around these ponds.

17 One of the things that we do know, there was a  
18 study done I think in the early two thousands of the  
19 groundwater movement around our ponds and kind of  
20 delineating the watersheds of the ponds, and luckily the  
21 watersheds are actually quite small. So a lot of the  
22 houses around the ponds are not contributing to the  
23 pond. Their waste is not going to the pond. Even when  
24 they're right on the pond, the groundwater might be

1 moving through their property away from the pond. So  
2 everybody who may seem like a contributor may not be,  
3 but we do have that information as well to determine  
4 which properties are likely to have an impact. But  
5 yeah, that is -- that is an issue.

6 MR. REINHART: Well, if you wanted to advocate for  
7 it, you know, say send a letter to the board of health  
8 saying we'd like to know what -- you know, what's going  
9 on around the ponds, I'm sure they would get people to  
10 start to think about this stuff. It doesn't make sense  
11 that we're not thinking about it.

12 Could that be something that would be reasonable  
13 for the Seashore to do?

14 MR. PRICE: Well, I think a couple of things. As  
15 we get into this next piece, you can see that here we're  
16 talking about substantial human damage that's very  
17 visible having to do with the access and the erosion  
18 along the beach lines, and I think we've been taking a  
19 more active approach working with the towns,  
20 specifically in Wellfleet.

21 And do we have a similar ponds group in Truro?

22 MS. BURGESS: Not that I'm aware of. Do we?

23 MS. McKEAN: No, and this year we decided we would  
24 focus on Wellfleet, and Suzanne and others have been

1 meeting with us, Hillary at the conservation department  
2 and John Ryerson who works for --

3 MR. PRICE: It's my understanding -- I mean, this  
4 isn't the first time around. Suzanne says that this is  
5 deja vu again because you all did a ponds committee-type  
6 focus probably a decade or so ago, and in some cases  
7 there was just not a lot of support even for trying to  
8 head off this kind of damage. So jumping into people's  
9 --

10 MR. REINHART: Different generation.

11 MR. PRICE: It is a different generation, and we've  
12 got all that much more time and degradation around the  
13 ponds that we can point to for a lack of action. So I  
14 think we can probably go in a lot of different  
15 directions. I think if you're going to start going on  
16 personal property and taking a look at septic, my  
17 assumption is that we need to have that show up in the  
18 data so that we would know that that is a contributing  
19 factor. I think that's come up especially in some of  
20 the ponds in the Mid-Cape, as I understand it. I'm not  
21 sure that that's exactly what we're finding in our  
22 ponds, but as far as I'm concerned, you all have  
23 expressed how important the ponds are. I certainly have  
24 been made aware that even the Park management

1 responsibility hasn't been as diligent as it had been at  
2 one time, which is why I've approached Sophia and Lauren  
3 to continue to work with the towns on trying to improve  
4 at least our responsibility as best as we can and to  
5 work with the town staff and officials to make a major  
6 change at this point.

7 So, Lauren, why don't you quickly just do a couple  
8 bits on this end of it.

9 MS. McKEAN: Okay, and then one of the things that  
10 I did ask Lindsay to do, we've been trying to figure out  
11 what will her summary report be from all the work that  
12 we did together, and what we are going to have her do is  
13 a work plan so that it isn't sort of on an ad hoc basis,  
14 that we are getting around to it in a work plan, and one  
15 of the elements of the work plan will be to focus on  
16 vernal ponds next year with the AmeriCorps member that I  
17 hope to get next year that we've just put in for. So  
18 that's what we're hoping for, but Wellfleet sort of  
19 stepped to the table and said, "We want to do it with  
20 you this year." We're focusing on Wellfleet ponds that  
21 are just Seashore ownership but then a couple with  
22 Suzanne, and we'll have her chime in.

23 MS. FOX: Yeah, I think that it's nice to kind of  
24 ride the wave of support that there is right now for it,

1           so we're trying to keep that energy going as long as we  
2           can so that people are interested in it.  There's a sort  
3           of general community approach to it.

4           MS. McKEAN:  So we have a couple of things that we  
5           have them doing.  We have one before and after at Duck  
6           Pond.  You'll see a couple different images.  You see  
7           here again exposed roots and all the sediment that has  
8           been draining down these trails into the pond.  And this  
9           was one application on the right of the biodegradable  
10          jute netting, and we had actually added to that and put  
11          in more since this date, and it's really helped.  Sophia  
12          and I were there about a month ago, and it's now --  
13          there isn't a big rut draining into the pond now like  
14          there was.

15          MS. FOX:  Yeah, there was a big gully going right  
16          down into the pond.

17          MS. BURGESS:  Is that from foot traffic?

18          MS. McKEAN:  Yeah, from foot traffic taking away  
19          the sediment basically.

20          MS. FOX:  And then people just sitting.  Actually,  
21          we lost this tree about a month ago.

22          MR. ROBINSON:  Is it just the netting you're  
23          putting down or something else with it?

24          MS. FOX:  Right now we just put -- this is sort of

1 a phase one. We just put down the netting to try and  
2 trap some soil as it runs down, and then we're hoping  
3 that we can trap enough that we can plant. But when we  
4 started, there was nothing to plant, and we would have  
5 had to bring in and fill, and we really don't want to do  
6 that.

7 MR. REINHART: It sort of stinks because it is a  
8 nice wooded walk, but do you think we need stairs or  
9 something there ultimately and then we could really  
10 remediate the path? Or do you think this will -- that  
11 path has really degraded over the years. It's  
12 unbelievable. I mean, I've been going there for 30  
13 years.

14 MS. McKEAN: We'll show you as we go up the trail  
15 how we've addressed that.

16 MS. FOX: Yeah, we've tried to -- we're trying to  
17 use the jute and see how well it recovers, but so far  
18 we've been really happy. We put the first batch down in  
19 August, last August, and we've been out there twice  
20 since then and added more. It seems to be doing a  
21 pretty good job of stabilizing things. And we've also  
22 put up fencing to put -- to tell people where to walk  
23 and where not to walk to try and protect it. So we've  
24 juted this whole area (indicates).

1 MR. REINHART: Yeah, it looks great.

2 MS. FOX: And fenced so that people know where to  
3 go. We've put up signs. We had new signs done, and  
4 we're putting these up everywhere. So I think we can  
5 get away without putting in structures at this point.

6 MS. McKEAN: Yeah, we're cordoning off the worst of  
7 the paths.

8 MR. REINHART: It looks way better. Of course  
9 having some leaves on the jute helps too.

10 MS. McKEAN: Yes, it does.

11 MS. FOX: Yeah, and it didn't take long for it to  
12 blend in.

13 MR. PHILBRICK: Do we have a chairman?

14 MR. ROBINSON: I'm acting as chair. Go ahead,  
15 Dick.

16 MR. PHILBRICK: I have a question.

17 MR. ROBINSON: Yes.

18 MR. PHILBRICK: In checking these ponds, do you dig  
19 into the history of the pond about possibly the chance  
20 that a pond that started as your kind might have drifted  
21 away and no longer qualifies? I'm told by some that  
22 Meetinghouse Pond at least in part used to be a pond  
23 that was caused by a big hunk of ice that melted and  
24 left a wall and so forth. But conceivably the reverse

1           could happen. A piece of estuary could get closed off  
2           and begin to look like one of your ponds.

3           MS. FOX: A lot of the coastal salt ponds are  
4           formed in a similar way. They're just close enough to  
5           the coast that they fill up with seawater rather than  
6           freshwater, and if they did close off, probably with sea  
7           level rise and everything, they probably wouldn't become  
8           fresh at this point.

9           MR. PHILBRICK: That's the thing I'm getting to.

10          MS. FOX: These ponds -- for example, Duck Pond is  
11          about 18-19 meters deep, so it's a deep freshwater pond.  
12          There is no salt water. It's far from the coast,  
13          relatively far from the coast.

14          MR. REINHART: So far.

15          (Laughter.)

16          MS. FOX: At the rate we're losing coast. So I  
17          think that there is some sort of geological time scale  
18          that these change, but these ponds as far as we know  
19          have been here since the glaciers retreated, and we  
20          don't see any sign that they're going to change from  
21          what they were originally formed as; just whether their  
22          quality will be maintained is the concern with both  
23          human uses and climate changes.

24          MR. PHILBRICK: Thank you.

1 MS. McKEAN: So again, back to Duck Pond, this is  
2 Duck Pond Landing, which is actually a town parking lot,  
3 and Suzanne brought the materials and AmeriCorps and a  
4 work group with DPW and Park maintenance, and Sophia, et  
5 cetera installed this again this fall. So we'll test it  
6 out this summer.

7 MS. FOX: We limited -- Suzanne told us how many  
8 parking spots she wanted there, and we made sure there  
9 was only that number.

10 MS. McKEAN: So that kind of approach we're taking  
11 with the next couple. So we'll just have one slide for  
12 the next few ponds. Dyer Pond, here is Sophia at the  
13 top of the main trail, which on Monday we'll be putting  
14 in the jute netting. We actually will be putting in the  
15 plants in this particular location. We're going to be  
16 planting some bearberry and some other natives in an  
17 area along the pond.

18 We have a map here of just each of the individual  
19 improvements. We needed to go to the State Historic  
20 Preservation Office to tell them what we were doing, and  
21 it was a good way to organize and figure out the  
22 materials that we needed. So there are several areas at  
23 Duck Pond. One is this major area. Where Sophia's  
24 standing is that pond.

1 MR. REINHART: Is that the rope swing area?

2 MS. FOX: No, this is the main entrance.

3 MR. REINHART: Oh, yeah, yeah.

4 MS. McKEAN: Yeah, and down where you can pull up  
5 to a circle, the log stabilizing wall area, that's the  
6 rope swing area.

7 MS. FOX: This is the rope swing (indicates).

8 MS. McKEAN: So there will be some more roped  
9 fencing as well as split rail. We're trying to keep the  
10 cost down with the rope fencing and seeing if it works.

11 MS. FOX: And I think the idea with the rope  
12 fencing too is that it's not so intrusive. I  
13 recommended these a lot.

14 MS. McKEAN: That's fine.

15 So Spectacle Pond you can see again we have trees  
16 that are losing their roots to the point where the tree  
17 that is shown behind the canoe has fallen in. Both of  
18 them actually have now fallen over. So our approach is  
19 a two-phased approach. One phase will be next week  
20 where we will be doing the rope fencing, and we're also  
21 talking about putting a stair in for the summer and  
22 really focusing the use to one location, funneling  
23 people to basically where Lindsay's crouching down there  
24 in that photo. And because the shoreline is so heavily

1 eroded, in phase two we are looking at possibly putting  
2 in some fill next year and some additional work, but we  
3 just need to get through all the permitting to do that  
4 for this spring.

5 MS. FOX: Yeah, our phase two was to -- so let me  
6 just back up. So from 2004 -- this is the shoreline in  
7 2004 to 2012. The shoreline went from this to this  
8 (indicates), which is a big change. And then what we'd  
9 like to do in our phase two restoration is actually  
10 restore to the original shoreline, which would have been  
11 the typical round kettle pond, and try to save what's  
12 left of the trees that are there because all of these  
13 trees around the edge are about to go. And once they  
14 go, it's just going to slope off. And this area is a  
15 big cut-in now, so we're hoping to restore it to the  
16 original shoreline.

17 MS. McKEAN: We also did some parking lot fencing  
18 in that area as well.

19 We have two things that we're also working on  
20 additionally with the Town of Wellfleet. The Gull Pond  
21 Landing, the beach administrator, conservation agent,  
22 and recreation director are working on coming up with a  
23 plan for really revising the whole area at Gull Pond  
24 Landing, and we've been, just because we're also working

1 on other items, working with them and conferring with  
2 them and that kind of thing.

3 And then additionally at the other side of the  
4 landing is the sluiceway, and perhaps you can point that  
5 out. The sluiceway parking -- there is a two-car  
6 parking area there. There are a couple of town spaces.

7 MS. FOX: Right here (indicates).

8 MS. McKEAN: And what we're proposing here is to  
9 relocate the two spaces on the Seashore property away  
10 from the pond, so I think about ten cars park there  
11 routinely right on the edge of the pond and practically  
12 in the pond.

13 MS. FOX: In the pond.

14 MS. McKEAN: So the town is interested in working  
15 on this next. We've talked about them getting their  
16 plan for the sluiceway together in April since we're  
17 focusing on Gull Pond Landing in March. So stay tuned  
18 on that. This is our attempt to assist the town in  
19 that. They would no longer be town spaces. The town  
20 doesn't need the spaces. There are only two spaces, so  
21 they'd be open to anyone. But it would just be these  
22 two spaces back in an already disturbed area that you  
23 can see on the slide.

24 That's about where we are.

1           Suzanne, do you want to chime in a little bit?

2           MS. THOMAS: No, I think you did a really good job.  
3 I just want to emphasize the fact that it is very  
4 productive working in concert with the Seashore and the  
5 conservation commission because they're in charge of  
6 research areas. I think it's actually going to go  
7 forward.

8           The board of selectmen did vote a year ago to  
9 discontinue the boat rental at the end of the current  
10 contract, which is this September, to allow for  
11 restoration of the bank and reconfiguration of Gull  
12 Pond. So the board of selectmen are also supporting  
13 this effort.

14          MR. ROBINSON: Thank you, Lauren and Sophia. This  
15 is a nice presentation.

16          Do you put these shows up anywhere on the Web that  
17 people can go back and look at it?

18          MS. McKEAN: We can. We'll probably need to look  
19 at whether or not there's enough text to explain the  
20 slides.

21          MR. ROBINSON: I'm thinking of the first  
22 presentation primarily.

23          MS. McKEAN: Yes.

24          MR. ROBINSON: The other comments I would have as

1           somebody who deals with management issues in other parts  
2           of the Cape, the jute netting, you've really got to keep  
3           after it because as soon as the foot traffic comes back  
4           in the summer, it tends to get scuffed up, and then it  
5           bunches and becomes almost a footing hazard.

6           MS. FOX:   Yeah, sure.

7           MS. McKEAN:  Yeah.

8           MR. ROBINSON:  Some people are maybe perhaps more  
9           sensitive to footing issues, but we did --

10          MS. FOX:  We did overstaple.

11          MR. ROBINSON:  Yeah.  The other thing is I noticed  
12          there was a rope swing at -- is that Spectacle?

13          MS. FOX:  Yes, that was in 2004.  There isn't  
14          anymore.

15          MR. ROBINSON:  My experience has been that rope  
16          swings bring out as much passion on the pro- and anti-  
17          rope swing crowds as the dog parks in Brewster.

18          (Laughter.)

19          MR. ROBINSON:  But the places that I've seen on  
20          ponds that have the most shoreside erosion are the steep  
21          banks where they want to put the rope swings, and it's  
22          almost inevitable that the most severely eroded parts of  
23          pond shores are where the rope swings are.  Some of that  
24          is that they're trying to get a takeoff zone.  So they

1 want to cut back all the brush right down to the ground  
2 and not have bushes in the way, and then the other thing  
3 is just the running up and down of the -- pulling  
4 yourself back up the bank. But it's hard. Everybody  
5 likes a rope swing. My kids like a rope swing. But  
6 it's very difficult to deal with that unless you're  
7 going to keep after the swings, it seems to me.

8 MS. McKEAN: Well, one of the things that George  
9 helped us put together was a work group that included  
10 others, and so one of the rangers, Park Service rangers,  
11 is on the case with us and did a report today actually  
12 on one of the ponds and is monitoring the situation.  
13 He's the one that goes out there and cuts down that rope  
14 swing every year and whatnot.

15 MR. ROBINSON: Sometimes it needs to be done on a  
16 weekly basis.

17 MS. McKEAN: And then Sue has also helped with some  
18 of the interpretive materials and whatnot.

19 MR. PRICE: A couple of things. Tom, I think you  
20 were the one that asked about the pond levels at the  
21 last meeting, and I really appreciated Sophia putting  
22 this work together and getting that report, which we're  
23 going to submit to the town manager and health agent  
24 just so everybody is up to speed on it, at least what

1 we're producing.

2 It was fairly definitive. I think it was a great  
3 question, and then it gave us the opportunity to  
4 highlight a little bit about what's been going on with  
5 the ponds. As I've been introduced to them, when Sophia  
6 first showed me those slides of the heavy metals and  
7 some of the other pollutants, which I'm very concerned  
8 about -- as you all know, I've been shocked about -- I  
9 think we have nine ponds now listed as no -- don't eat  
10 the fish if you're pregnant or if you have young  
11 children because of the mercury content, and I was kind  
12 of wondering where the outrage was on that. And again,  
13 I was not familiar that that's the case of almost all  
14 the freshwater ponds in New England. So we're not  
15 unique. It's just that it happened out here with  
16 pollutants coming in from across the continent, so I was  
17 actually gratified to see some of the positive things.

18 As Lauren took me around and the rangers took me  
19 around and showed me the ponds, it just was apparent  
20 that a lot of us have neglected them for a long time,  
21 either intentionally or actively, actively meaning  
22 people resisted trying to manage them or, in our case, I  
23 could see split rail fences that hadn't been maintained  
24 in decades and signs not -- you know, if you were an

1 outsider, you wouldn't think anybody cared. And I think  
2 that's the very first thing we're trying to show. We  
3 care here. It's going to be difficult, and you may all  
4 have to speak up in your towns because a lot of the  
5 opportunity for neglect with the split rail fences and  
6 whatnot just allowed overparking and overuse of these  
7 places. So as we try to remanage and reestablish these  
8 spots, I imagine we're going to have some pushback, if  
9 not at least, you know, some passive aggressive stuff  
10 going on.

11 MR. REINHART: Yeah, sure.

12 MR. PRICE: So we'll have to be very vigilant, but  
13 I certainly appreciate being introduced to the world of  
14 the ponds by Lauren and Sophia and learning about what  
15 we should be doing. And I appreciate the fact the towns  
16 are interested in this at the same time.

17 MR. REINHART: Yeah, I would like to see, Suzanne,  
18 this brought up at the selectmen's meeting. We go  
19 anyway. You know, and make it an issue and an  
20 educational issue too that we need to protect them. And  
21 some of the things that you're doing there to regulate  
22 traffic spaces is for the good of the pond. And  
23 everybody loves the ponds, so we have to take care of  
24 them.

1           And also there's a lot of vandalism around the  
2 ponds. Some of the reasons why your fences aren't up  
3 are because people knock them down and tear the signs  
4 down right away, which is pretty offensive, and maybe we  
5 could publicly start appealing to people to really be  
6 more aware of that type of behavior.

7           MS. THOMAS: For the past 20 years, my concern has  
8 been that you can't bring a pond back, so we have to be  
9 proactive in putting out protections that some people  
10 consider rigid and unnecessary. Wellfleet has done  
11 several -- for Wellfleet several major things over the  
12 years. Number one, the Long Pond parking lot was moved  
13 from pond side across Long Pond Road, and also we  
14 eliminated street side parking at Great Pond to cut the  
15 number of vehicles in half. So they move slowly, but  
16 they do listen and respond appropriately.

17           MR. PRICE: I attended one of the joint pond  
18 meetings, and Sophia, you were talking about how Duck  
19 Pond, you're very concerned about the health of that and  
20 is that teetering on the edge and can it -- are we  
21 already too late. I mean, that's pretty scary. And  
22 hopefully it will allow us to bring all the force to  
23 bear that we can to try to turn that around.

24           But anyway, thank you for coming today.



1           continue the continuing resolution until the end of the  
2           year and will keep the sequestration cuts. So at this  
3           point what that means for the Seashore is \$376,000  
4           between now and the end of September. As I've said --  
5           and I sent you all some crib notes about what we're  
6           thinking -- is that almost all of that has to come out  
7           of our seasonal budget because that's the only place we  
8           have that kind of flexibility. So for us it would be  
9           twenty-two seasonals that we would have hired; fourteen  
10          of them would be interpretation, four out of law  
11          enforcement, two out of natural resources, and two out  
12          of maintenance. Part of the direction of that has to do  
13          with where the funding comes from, and those are the  
14          most available and vulnerable because they were all  
15          funded out of our base budget. A lot of our seasonals  
16          are funded out of other funding sources. So, for  
17          instance, the beaches, the lifeguards, some of the law  
18          enforcement people that tend to them, some of the  
19          maintenance people that tend to them were all paid out  
20          of fees that come in from the folks that park there, and  
21          the same thing is true for the off-road vehicle  
22          corridor. The staff that deals with that, including the  
23          natural resources staff that does the bird monitoring,  
24          they're all paid for out of fees. So a budget cut to

1 our base budget does not affect that group.

2 So we'll still have the beaches. We'll still have  
3 the off-road vehicle corridor. We will still have some  
4 interpretive programming. We have a fee program related  
5 to the canoe program down here at Salt Pond. We also  
6 have volunteers that do things like the Old Harbor  
7 Lifesaving Station. They do some interpretive programs.  
8 They also do some programs at the Three Sisters as well  
9 as the Penniman House. So it's going to be a mix-and-  
10 match. A lot of our interpretive program will be either  
11 reduced or suspended for this particular summer, and at  
12 this point it looks like the single biggest facility  
13 impact will be the closure of the Province Lands Visitor  
14 Center. We also will be suspending our fall children's  
15 program -- excuse me -- school program, curriculum-based  
16 education program.

17 And is that six thousand students or nine, Sue?

18 MS. MOYNIHAN: I don't know for the fall. It's  
19 about nine thousand when you combine spring and fall.

20 MR. PRICE: And then for the Province Lands Visitor  
21 Center, we count about 261,000 visits to that area.

22 MS. BURGESS: Was that Margaret Dugan's program?

23 MR. PRICE: Yes.

24 MS. BURGESS: So they bring them down to Coast

1 Guard, that building at Coast Guard; is that right?

2 MS. MOYNIHAN: Well, they do a combination of  
3 classroom programs, and they take them to field sites.  
4 So we did retain the spring program. We felt that it  
5 was not a good idea with such short notice to cancel all  
6 of those field trips, so the education program is  
7 proceeding out of the operating money for the spring,  
8 but we don't have the operating money in the fall for  
9 when those students return for those programs.

10 MR. REINHART: So 260,000 visitors times two  
11 dollars is \$520,000 at the Visitor Center up there. Or  
12 even a dollar a person, but Janet was talking about why  
13 don't they charge money for going into these things.

14 MR. PRICE: Well, the whole charging for parks is a  
15 long-term discussion. Right now we do charge, as you  
16 know, for what we charge for, and we bring in about a  
17 million five in recreation fees, which goes for  
18 everything from paying those individuals as well as  
19 being put towards a lot of projects that we actually do.  
20 We retain about 80 percent of the money that we collect,  
21 and then we also have access to the 20 percent money,  
22 which actually it's the 20 percent money that's paid for  
23 the Herring Cove bathhouse that we visited this morning.  
24 So that's \$5.2 million out of that national piece.

1           So the whole issue with fees, where do you charge  
2           them, when do you charge them is a big thing to set up.  
3           Obviously this is what I consider to be a short-term  
4           issue and fix. We'll have to wait to see what our  
5           instructions and direction will be for next year. If  
6           the sequestration holds for next year, as I understand  
7           it, the full year percentage point will be nine percent  
8           instead of the five that we've dealt with this year.

9           MR. REINHART: Yeah, it's big money.

10          MR. PRICE: So I certainly have no intention of  
11          keeping the Province Lands Visitor Center closed in the  
12          future, but given a full year of opportunity to plan,  
13          we'll be able to take a look at our program and decide  
14          how we'll have to redistribute our resources.

15          One of the things that I mentioned to a lot of  
16          people is that this park has been very fortunate to  
17          retain a very robust interpretive program and have  
18          active programs which we're very proud of. The staff we  
19          have that comes back each year and monitors them does a  
20          great job. A lot of parks and a lot of my colleagues in  
21          other parks, these cuts were made years ago with  
22          previous cuts, especially in recent times. The Park  
23          Service has had about a five percent reduction over the  
24          last three years, so this comes on top of that.

1           So at this point we're still in the process of  
2           finalizing our plans, still trying to see hope against  
3           hope if there's any opportunity for any possibilities,  
4           but it's not looking good.

5           MR. ROBINSON: Is there any potential for increased  
6           use of volunteers to staff certain things?

7           MR. PRICE: The volunteers have already offered to  
8           help us out, the Friends, and we certainly appreciate  
9           that. We take pretty strong advantage of the volunteers  
10          as we do now, and even volunteers still require time and  
11          attention when it comes to the management of the  
12          program.

13          MR. ROBINSON: Supervision.

14          MR. PRICE: Right. So we're still trying to do  
15          that.

16          MR. SABIN: The volunteers work very well for  
17          standard programs such as we handle at Three Sisters and  
18          at the Penniman House, but the walks you do along the  
19          shore, we are not trained biologists or anything like  
20          that. We're coming from insurance or whatever kind of  
21          different fields that we worked before retirement.  
22          We're retired people mostly. You can use them  
23          effectively on very standard programs but not the kind  
24          the fully trained rangers run.

1           MR. PRICE: Right. So that's about the wrap-up,  
2           and we're just trying to figure things out. Certainly  
3           by the May meeting, we'll know definitively what our  
4           write-up will be for the summer.

5           I've communicated with the towns to let them know  
6           about this. Obviously we've received some press about  
7           what's been going on, and I've been approached by the  
8           tourist community in Provincetown. I'll probably be  
9           sitting down, having a face-to-face meeting with them as  
10          to what the impacts are. And, of course, the irony in  
11          Provincetown is we might be closing the Visitor Center  
12          for the summer, but we're going to be having a ribbon-  
13          cutting for the brand-new bathhouse facilities. As you  
14          know, \$5.2 million for the demolition of the previous  
15          bathhouse and the construction of the one that's going  
16          to be there starting this summer, so it really is  
17          confusing to people sometimes.

18          MR. ROBINSON: Is there a breakout for the cost of  
19          running the Province Lands Visitor Center?

20          MR. PRICE: Yes.

21          MR. REINHART: What is that, George?

22          MR. PRICE: Well, it varies. I actually don't have  
23          off the top of my head. The normal operating program  
24          goes from May 1 till the end of October, and we usually

1 hire people in April in order to make that happen. Even  
2 if we were to come up with reduced hours, say, Memorial  
3 Day to Labor Day, a seven-day-a-week operation would be  
4 like an additional \$28,000, and a five-day-a-week  
5 operation would be in the \$16,000 range.

6 MR. REINHART: So to have the Visitor Center open  
7 up there for June to September would cost \$28,000?

8 MR. PRICE: That's seven days, but that's still a  
9 reduced program. That's not all the programming that  
10 they usually do, but that would at least keep the  
11 facility open.

12 MR. REINHART: So is it really -- I mean, I mention  
13 this fee thing because it seems like a natural --

14 MR. PRICE: We're not going to be able to introduce  
15 it this quickly.

16 MR. REINHART: Yeah, is it something that from your  
17 experience in the Park would take like ten years to get  
18 this to happen?

19 MR. PRICE: Well, there's also the philosophical  
20 issue of access and that it's one thing to charge fees  
21 for special things like going to the beach or going on a  
22 special program, but philosophically we believe that  
23 citizens should have access to the basic information  
24 that you see a visitor center would bring.

1           MR. REINHART: I know but it's closed now, so it's  
2 lost in the practicality of the --

3           MR. PRICE: So they can go to the Salt Pond Visitor  
4 Center.

5           MR. ROBINSON: What about if there's a lot of  
6 pushback from the tourist boards? Maybe they could  
7 offer to fund this year, a collection of them.

8           MR. PRICE: That would be nice if it's --

9           MR. ROBINSON: Local.

10          MR. PRICE: I can't solicit.

11          MR. ROBINSON: Local and regional Chamber of  
12 Commerce and tourist boards and cultural councils, any  
13 of those groups. Of course, they have no money either,  
14 but if a small collection from a number of them maybe --

15          MR. PRICE: It's a tough one, especially when you  
16 see our -- I was just talking to somebody recently about  
17 all the visitor contact stations along our highways that  
18 were built with a lot of enthusiasm to hit the visitors  
19 as they come in, and they're all now closed. As you  
20 approach up on 95, 93, and 25 --

21          MR. REINHART: Yeah, yeah, that's right.

22          MR. ROBINSON: Are the sales at Province Lands in  
23 the gift shop significant compared to Salt Pond?

24          MR. PRICE: Well, it's a reduced -- it's probably



1 direction. So the east really was battered, both the  
2 stairs and totally transforming places like Coast Guard  
3 Beach. It exposed that enormous ancient peat bog that  
4 had been a cedar swamp once upon a time, and it undercut  
5 a lot of the bluffs so that now we have some serious  
6 situations where it's very unstable on the top. And our  
7 maintenance people and other staff have been taking a  
8 close look because the telltale sign is a seam at the  
9 top of the bluff, and the seam could be as far back as  
10 15 feet. And what that means is maybe there's a lens of  
11 clay or some sort of water that's just sort of severed  
12 and that whole thing could slump over. And if you're  
13 standing on top or you're standing underneath, it's  
14 going to be a very dangerous situation, so we're  
15 concerned about that.

16 MR. ROBINSON: Is there signage going up?

17 MR. PRICE: We have signs all over the place, and  
18 we have -- obviously the other places are closed down.

19 You see a number of our other list of topics that I  
20 don't really have anything to report on, although --

21 MR. ROBINSON: Before you move to that, though,  
22 isn't it true that one of the cottages was lost on North  
23 Beach?

24 MR. PRICE: Well, one cottage was damaged I think

1 after the Blizzard of '13, and they had that demolished.  
2 I understand there was another one damaged, but I'm not  
3 sure. And one of these days Mark Adams will go up and  
4 do a re-mark of the coastline so we can see what's going  
5 on, but if you've seen the pictures that have been in  
6 the news, it continues to deteriorate on Beach Island.

7 MS. BURGESS: Just thinking about what happened at  
8 Ballston too and thinking about our pond presentation,  
9 those folks where it broke through have been asked by  
10 the Town of Truro Board of Health to have their septic  
11 checked and their wells.

12 MR. PRICE: Yes.

13 MS. BURGESS: Because of saltwater contamination.

14 MR. PRICE: We actually met with the town, and we  
15 met with a number of other people, including John  
16 Portnoy, who's a retired scientist from our group, and  
17 John produced a report that was done in the '90s that  
18 was a result of the '91 overwash. And the people from  
19 the town, the county, and the Corps of Engineers did a  
20 lot of work and really proposed a wetland restoration  
21 project there. And one of the things that was an  
22 outcome of that that's in the report that we discussed  
23 at the board of selectmen meeting last Tuesday night was  
24 that actually the hydrologist from the Cape Cod

1 Commission determined that there really was not going to  
2 be inundation of the wells or the septic system, and  
3 part of that has to do with the intensity of the lens,  
4 the freshwater lens that's in that particular area. And  
5 back in '91 when it was inundated in a similar manner  
6 and they had two weeks of standing salt water, none of  
7 the wells were affected. So I thought that was new  
8 information for them.

9 The town is going to temporarily put in this  
10 barrier on their property. The National Park Service  
11 actually owns where the breach is, and right behind it  
12 is the former road. And the town to help protect their  
13 citizens wanted to put up a temporary barrier, and they  
14 were going to work with the state on that. And then we  
15 offered to work with them and their conservation  
16 commission on coming up with a workshop sometime in the  
17 late spring, early summer when some of the residents  
18 return and talk about the benefits of what a restoration  
19 project might look like. I think now especially with  
20 the success of Hatches Harbor, East Harbor, and all the  
21 work the towns have been doing on the Herring River  
22 wetland restoration project, people now are much more  
23 comfortable and confident in what those reports have to  
24 say and what the modeling can look like. So I think

1 this is probably a good opportunity for the folks in  
2 Truro to maybe relook at that concept that was proposed  
3 back in the '90s.

4 MS. BURGESS: Thank you.

5 MR. PRICE: One more thing I just want to mention  
6 because I'm so excited about it. I can't believe it,  
7 but Lauren told me. So you all remember what that two-  
8 story block house looked like, which was the bathhouse  
9 that was built by the state in the 1950s. In the  
10 contract, the contractors were required to try to  
11 recycle as much material as they were able to. Over 99  
12 percent of that structure was recycled.

13 MS. BURGESS: Wow.

14 MR. PRICE: I'm baffled by it. If you saw the  
15 construction debris and the piles as they were piling it  
16 up as it was coming down, just enormous amount of  
17 material, and it just dwarfs a lot of other stuff we do.  
18 I mean, we all try to save the plastic bottle, we turn  
19 the lights off when we leave the building, but can you  
20 imagine if our society and our culture can change things  
21 so that that much, say, building debris which would  
22 normally just go into the landfill can actually be  
23 recycled? So it's something I'm going to be bragging  
24 about.

1 MR. REINHART: How was it recycled?

2 MR. PRICE: In different ways. It was filled with  
3 rebar, so the metal was recycled. The wood was all  
4 taken out and recycled. The copper plumbing was all  
5 taken out. The cement was all pulverized and reused.

6 MR. REINHART: That's great.

7 MR. PRICE: It was just I think an amazing  
8 accomplishment. We'll have to talk more about it, more  
9 and more about that next time we have someone do a  
10 Climate Friendly Park update.

11 And that's it.

12 MR. ROBINSON: Thank you.

13 Are there any questions for the superintendent?

14 (No response.)

15 **OLD BUSINESS**

16 MR. ROBINSON: Hearing none, is there any old  
17 business to come before the Commission?

18 (No response.)

19 **NEW BUSINESS (CONT'D.)**

20 MR. ROBINSON: Any new business?

21 (No response.)

22 MR. ROBINSON: Hearing none.

23 **DATE AND AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING**

24 MR. ROBINSON: We talked about the commercial

1 applications, so we need to set a date and agenda for  
2 the next meeting.

3 MR. PRICE: Rich was talking about May 13.

4 MR. ROBINSON: May 13 is a Monday. Any problems  
5 with May 13 at one o'clock here?

6 MS. BURGESS: It's okay with me.

7 MR. REINHART: Hopefully we'll all be here.

8 MR. ROBINSON: People who aren't present --

9 MR. REINHART: You might not be.

10 MS. FOX: I will not be.

11 (Laughter.)

12 MR. ROBINSON: Is there a motion to meet on the  
13 13th?

14 MS. BURGESS: So moved.

15 MR. ROBINSON: Second?

16 MR. PHILBRICK: Second.

17 MR. ROBINSON: All in favor?

18 BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.

19 MR. ROBINSON: At one o'clock.

20 MR. SABIN: Will we have a program before?

21 MR. PRICE: Well, I guess a couple of things would  
22 be, number one, are there any particular items on the  
23 agenda you'd like to see? I will remind you that that  
24 is a meeting scheduled to really take a look at the

1 findings of the EA of the Herring River --

2 MR. ROBINSON: Herring Cove.

3 MR. PRICE: Excuse me. Herring Cove parking lot  
4 and revetment project.

5 MR. ROBINSON: So maybe we'll try to save as  
6 much time as possible for that because it is  
7 complicated.

8 MR. PRICE: Yeah. And then as far as a field trip,  
9 I don't know. Would it be valuable to have that be the  
10 field trip that morning?

11 MR. ROBINSON: Well, I've seen it a few times.  
12 Others interested?

13 MR. REINHART: I'll probably just drive up on my  
14 own.

15 MR. PRICE: Or is there another topic that might be  
16 --

17 MR. ROBINSON: Is the new bike trail going out to  
18 Nauset -- is that under --

19 MS. McKEAN: That will be under construction, so it  
20 will be limited access.

21 MR. PRICE: That will be under construction.

22 MR. ROBINSON: Limited access to it. Well, maybe  
23 we can think about this. Someone can make a suggestion  
24 for then.

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**PUBLIC COMMENT**

MR. ROBINSON: Is there any public comment to come before the committee today? I'd be happy to entertain that. Any of the subjects that we talked about or other things that are pressing?

(No response.)

MR. ROBINSON: We thank Suzanne for coming, representing the --

MS. THOMAS: You're welcome. The ponds are important.

MR. ROBINSON: The ponds are important. We love our ponds.

**ADJOURNMENT**

MR. ROBINSON: I would take a motion to adjourn.

MR. SABIN: You got it.

MS. BURGESS: Second.

MR. ROBINSON: All in favor?

BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.

MR. ROBINSON: Opposed?

(No response.)

MR. ROBINSON: Thank you very much.

(Whereupon, at 3:10 p.m. the proceedings were adjourned.)

**REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE**

PLYMOUTH, SS

I, Linda M. Corcoran, a Court Reporter and Notary Public in and for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, do hereby certify that:

The foregoing 105 pages comprises a true, complete, and accurate transcript to the best of my knowledge, skill, and ability of the proceedings of the meeting of the Cape Cod National Seashore Advisory Commission at Marconi Station Area, Park Headquarters, South Wellfleet, Massachusetts, on Monday, March 25, 2013, commencing at 1 p.m.

I further certify that I am a disinterested person to these proceedings.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and notarial seal this 29th day of April, 2013.

---

Linda M. Corcoran - Court Reporter  
My commission expires:  
September 13, 2013