

Arrowsic Climate Resilience Committee Meeting
February 15, 2023, 6:00 p.m.–7:30 p.m.
Draft Notes

Attendees: Aleisha Khan (Co-Chair) Jody Jones (Co-Chair), Jack Carr, Jesse Nankin McMahon, Tom Spear, Karin Sadtler, Dan Cassidy, Pamela Wischkaemper, Jennifer Geiger, Barbara Futter, Jenna Howard, Judy Colby-George (consultant), Madeline Tripp (consultant)

1. Mission Statement Proposal

- a. The group reviewed the proposed vision and mission statements and edits proposed by Jesse, below.

Draft Vision

We aspire to be a sustainable, resilient and equitable community that acts to prepare its residents for the effects of the changing climate and reduce its greenhouse gas emissions.

Draft Mission

We aim to identify actions and resources that support the island of Arrowsic and its residents in preparing for the changing climate and reducing the community's greenhouse gas emissions. We will work closely with the community to prioritize and implement effective strategies to help achieve these goals.

b. Discussion:

- i. Jack suggested making the vision more active by changing “that acts” to “acting.” He also suggested changing “and in reducing” to “while reducing.” The group agreed.
- ii. There was a discussion on whether to specifically state that the group will create a climate plan in the mission statement. On one hand, listing it may be beneficial for grant reporting. However, the ACRC may continue beyond the climate planning process to guide the Town's climate actions. The group settled on leaving it out, agreeing that “identifying actions and resources” includes creating a plan, while keeping it concise.
- iii. There was a discussion about whether the mission statement should include “the island of Arrowsic.” Taking it out would be more concise, but several in the group pointed out that islands have unique considerations when dealing with climate change. The group decided to leave it in to draw attention to this facet of Arrowsic.
- iv. Aleisha proposed that that group take time to edit the current vision and mission statements over email, and vote on the final versions at the next meeting.

c. Current Versions:

Draft Vision

We aspire to be a sustainable, resilient and equitable community, acting to prepare its residents for the effects of the changing climate and reducing its greenhouse gas emissions.

Draft Mission

We aim to identify actions and resources that support the island of Arrowsic and its residents in preparing for the changing climate, while reducing the community's greenhouse gas emissions. We will work closely with the community to prioritize and implement effective strategies to help achieve these goals.

2. Revised *Community Action Plan* Schedule

- a. Judy opened it up for feedback on the updated schedule (sent out 2/14/2023), with the public meeting in September/October and a survey afterwards.
- b. Discussion:
 - i. The group agreed that a fall public workshop would work.
 - ii. There was a discussion about the timing and process of meeting with other Town Committees about the draft plan. Some suggestions included briefing each committee individually, holding a committee open house, holding a meeting with other committee chairs, etc. The group decided to have ACRC members attend other committee meetings to brief them on the plan and invite them to the townwide meeting in the fall.
 - iii. Jack suggested that an official list be made to assign ACRC members as contacts for all the other town committees, and that a protocol be developed for the outreach. The group agreed.

3. Review of Existing Data

- a. Madeline gave the group a tour of the web map with the existing state data for Arrowsic:
<https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/067811ca922c4edd9f37b54ccd177fdb/>
- b. Using the web app committee members can click layers on and off, measure areas and distances, and search areas to view more closely. Judy reminded the group that Viewshed can add other tools, including printing, changing basemaps, etc. upon request.
- c. There are several areas, especially roads, that may be impacted by sea level rise and marsh migration. There are areas in danger of being cut off from the rest of town.
- d. Data Needs: Judy pointed out that there are several datasets that currently do not exist, that the Town could use to prepare for climate change. These include:
 - i. Wells
 - ii. Septic systems and leach fields

- iii. Parcels
 - iv. New marsh migration data
 - e. Creating these data layers could be a recommendation of the plan and/or a candidate for a grant-funded project. Viewshed could create a sample of these datasets in a few parcels.
 - f. Karin suggested that a hydrologic study could be a good candidate for grant funding, and that it could include mapping wells, septic fields, and improving our understanding of where rising groundwater may impact roads.
 - g. Creating well and septic system layers is time-intensive but could be a good college or high school intern project, with supervision. Dan volunteered to supervise an intern using mapping tools he has worked with, if the group decides to pursue data creation.
- 4. New Business – Sub-committee Report-outs
 - a. Education (Pam & Margaret):
 - i. Pam updated the group on the progress with hiring an intern. Bowdoin has accepted their application, the financial side of things has been taken care of, and a job description has been posted. The Subcommittee is developing interview questions, and Pam asked the group to send any suggestions to her or Margaret.
 - ii. Tom asked about the content and accessibility of the handbook, and suggested that asset vulnerability data be included. The subcommittee hopes to create an accessible, actionable handbook that warns the community about future impacts of climate change and steps that individuals can take to prepare.
 - iii. Aleisha suggested that the intern spend time in Arrowsic, getting to know the community and then perhaps developing case studies to make the handbook more relatable.
 - b. Regional Projects – Jack, Dan, & Jennifer
 - i. No updates.
 - c. Grant Opportunities – Barbara & Jenna (see attachments)
 - i. The Subcommittee has met twice, in addition to attending several funding opportunity webinars. They have created a list of funding opportunities.
 - 1. Most of these grants favor projects involving regional collaboration and communities with Climate Action Plans.
 - 2. Aleisha offered to share some federal funding opportunities
 - 3. Barbara requested that Jody help connect the subcommittee with contacts in the surrounding communities.
 - 4. The subcommittee was asked to share the database with the group on the shared drive.
 - ii. The Subcommittee requested that the ACRC think of ideas/directions for grant-funded projects as the planning process goes forward.

- d. Community Workshops – Jack, Margaret, Jesse, & Karin
 - i. No updates.
 - ii. Jody asked the group if they could take on narrowing down dates for the September/October Public Workshop.
 - iii. Judy suggested the group think about the location and availability, best timing for different demographics (weeknight vs. weekend, time of day, etc.), and whether childcare could be provided for parents who want to attend.
 - e. Communications – Jennifer, Jesse, Mona, & Karin (clarify roles)
 - i. Karin will send meeting dates and notes to Denise, the Town Administrator.
 - f. Progress reports (quarterly) – Dan, Margaret, & Aleisha (see attached grants & billing process)
 - i. No updates.
 - ii. Jody has the progress/reporting forms in the shared Google drive, and has been filling them out as needed. She will share this and the reward information with the Subcommittee, so that they can clarify the reporting timeline/requirements.
5. Other New Business (5 minutes)
6. Draft Agenda for next meeting:
- a. Approve Minutes
 - b. Subcommittee Reports
 - c. Mission Statement Vote
 - d. Viewshed: Climate Action Plan Outline
 - e. New Business

Meeting adjourned around 7:30 p.m.