

**Arrowsic Climate Resilience Committee Meeting Notes**  
**Thursday – March 30. 6:00 – 7:45 pm**

**Recording:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LElMy1jXgfw>

**Attendees:** Karin Sadtler, Jessi Nankin McMahon, Pam Wischkaemper, Jack Carr, Dan Cassidy, Jennifer Geiger, Thomas Spear, Jody Jones

**Absent:** Aleisha Khan, Jenna Howard, Margaret Coughlin (Mona Schlein is away until spring).

**Meeting Goals**

- Approve vision & mission statements.
- Finalize date for community workshop.
- Discuss expectations and protocols for outreach to Town Committees.
- Learn about & discuss updates from sub-committees.

**Action Steps**

1. Approved Feb. 15<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes
2. Approved Mission & Vision Statements
  - Vision: We aspire to be a sustainable, resilient, and equitable community, acting to prepare its residents for the effects of the changing climate while reducing our greenhouse gas emissions.
  - 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.
3. First choice for public workshop: Tuesday Sept. 26 at 6:00pm in the fire barn since an alternative date (Tuesday Sept. 19 is ACC meeting). Jody reached out to Phine and she will consult with her committee.
4. Town Committee outreach agreement to sign up with the goal of sharing progress and getting feedback.

**Discussion**

5. MDOT Planning Partnership Initiative: Dan (15 min)
  - Project along Rte 127 is totally funded and on schedule for completion within the next 3 years including culvert replacement & 4/10 mi of road raised at the north and ¼ mi in the south. Public hearing in the fall will be announced. Dan will keep us posted. Tom suggested to loop in Allison & Eloise to keep track of project.
  - Municipal Planning Initiative MPI has some funding for town infrastructure. Significant cost-sharing (30-50% or more). Town Roads Spinney Mill Rd, Sirois Rd and Indian Rest Rd have been identified as priorities. Dan suggested to check further into MPI funding for future town road projects.
  - Tom offered to help with these topics
6. Hydrology study in Arrowsic (Karin)

Synthesized the meeting with Melissa regarding a study in 2015 on Great Island in Harpswell: [Three-way Assessment of Aquifer Vulnerability to Saltwater Intrusion driven by Climate Change in Casco Bay, Maine](#)

Major finding was that the recharge rate has a more significant impact on saltwater intrusion than sea level rise, study used census data suggesting a decrease in population. Melissa could do a similar modeling study over summer (May-August) of 2023 in Arrowsic at no charge. Question – what kind of

study would be most helpful? MGS survey shows 105 wells in Arrowsic, data is incomplete in terms of depth & flow rate. 1988 study has information about 90 wells, both surveys may include identical well locations. A survey sent out to homeowners will identify additional wells, depending on return rates. Study design could include:

- Assimilate data & identify incompletions and data conflicts, make recommendations for on-the-ground acquisition of the data most important for constraining a detailed model of Arrowsic groundwater for a FUTURE, more granular study.

- Model influence of recharge rate, population density and sea level rise on saltwater intrusion  
Possible Benefits:

- Improving the town well data base
- Present results at workshop in fall
- Study results can be included in the handbook.
- The study is an opportunity for an Arrowsic high school student - **who could help with identifying an interested student resident?**

Generalities known of coastal aquifers in Maine:

- Well draw down and recharge is local, on the scale of a hundred meters/yards in most cases.
- Deeper wells closer to shore are more susceptible to saltwater intrusion.
- During severe rainfall events, much of the precipitation is lost to runoff limiting overall annual aquifer recharge.

Work for ACRC and interested Arrowsic residents:

- Locate 1988 survey results, start comparison with MGS and Arrowsic list of occupied dwellings.
- Adjust Westport Survey

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1Yoz6Txh4D9Tlen7hkS3NF6loQQOg8HpU>

to Arrowsic's study questions including possible future study ideas

- disseminate (town email with online survey link, mail, neighbor to neighbor with printed copies)
- Use app to define location/elevation of participating wells (and septic systems?)
- It was suggested to include basic water testing, salinity, Sodium content, funding?

**DECISION:** Move forward with study with Melissa's student and adapt Westport's survey for Arrowsic including option for online responses. Consider incentives to get folks to participate in survey.

#### 7. Sub-committee Report-outs (25 minutes)

- **Regional Projects** – Town projects: Solar panels for fire barn, new heating system for town hall. Preservation Society is visiting to review how to preserve & while making improvements. Highlighted building issues (e.g. basement moisture, windows, insulation) which are beyond our purview.
- **Grant Opportunities** – Dan volunteers to help investigate MDOT funding but needs additional help.
- **Community Workshops** – Jesse to look into whether childcare would make a difference and perhaps identify possible provider. Maybe setting up a corner in the fire barn so parents are available if needed.
- **Communications** – Jennifer to work with Tom, Jesse, Mona, & Karin, Arrows has been published. Jack suggests "Arrowsic can't wait" as title of action plan.
- **Community meetings** - Community Partnership Check-in (March 16 and the Casco Bay Coastal Academy workshop (March 23) were attended by Jody.
- **Education** – Pam shared info on Camille Beaulieu our newly hired intern. Start date in late May. Aleisha to work on content & Pam to manage work plan with goal of handbook being concise and accessible to all.

- **Quarterly Progress report** completed. Decision to send to committee chairs and select board with request for input on upcoming draft action plan (Jody to do), consensus on ACRC and liaison being perceived as resource available to other town committees.
- Meeting notes: to be compiled by Jody & Karin

8. Next meetings:

- April 26th – ACRC (Jody will ask for input in agenda)
- May 17th – ACRC & Viewshed (A few sections of Climate Action Plan will already have been written. Please review outline and submit your comments  
[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1L54H\\_uug3zXnAdVVeK1WJQ1YvBcBoOL7yIPu49\\_SaD4/edit](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1L54H_uug3zXnAdVVeK1WJQ1YvBcBoOL7yIPu49_SaD4/edit)

9. Adjourn

Minutes respectfully submitted by Jody Jones and Karin Sadtler