

Town tackles plan for coastal hazards, disasters

By JONATHAN PAPPALARDO
CLIPPER CONTRIBUTOR

The Duxbury Planning Board held a public meeting March 22 to present a progress report on the process of updating the Duxbury Hazard Mitigation Plan, a measure for developing prevention strategies to reduce vulnerabilities to natural disasters including flooding, hurricanes and winter storms.

The Federal Disaster Mitigation Act requires towns to adopt and update a Hazard Mitigation Plan in order to be eligible for FEMA mitigation grants, which will be used to complete projects identified under the plan.

Martin Pillsbury, environmental planning director of the Metropolitan Area Planning Council, presented the update to a packed audience in the Mural Room of the Duxbury Town Hall. He gave an overview of the progress thus far, which includes mapping locally-identified hazard areas and the creation of a database and GIS maps of critical facilities.

"We're more than halfway through the process," he said. "We hope to wrap up by summer."

The intention of the plan, according to Pillsbury, is to break the cycle of "disaster and rebuilding" by taking a "pre-disaster point of view," which he said will allow the town to "make ourselves resilient" in the face of potentially catastrophic natural events.

"Flooding is the most common threat," Pillsbury said.

The goal is to assess what actions can be taken now versus what actions could be taken in the future to reduce risks and damages. The list of projects will be broken down by priority, ranked high to low. The public, at the next meeting, will have an opportunity to review the list and recommend changes to the rankings before the plan is officially submitted.

"I'm concerned for my grandchildren," resident Sara Wilson said about sea level rise in Duxbury. "I'm worried about the social and economic cost."

The plan itself is in effect for five years before it faces renewal. According to Pillsbury, projects will not be held to a specific timeframe. He said the agenda is simply a wish list, a plan for the purposes of taking stock. He called the list ambitious and said it's not all possible to get done within five years.

Duxbury Civic Association member Ned Lawson of Sunset Road raised concerns about rising sea levels. He offered to assist with a public presentation and said Scituate and Hull are working hard to combat the issue. He spoke about the length of time for impact and wondered what long term steps could be taken.

Sara Wilson of Bay Road agreed with Lawson on this issue and said zoning recommendations must be made for both the coastline and inner waterways. She has lived in Duxbury since 1968 and said she fears for future generations of her family.

"I'm concerned for my grandchildren," Wilson said. "I'm worried about the social and economic cost."

In his response, Pillsbury cited climate change and mentioned a plan drafted by Scituate and Duxbury. He said that plan is "drawing from different places to put in one place" and only "exacerbates the problems we have."

Frank Holden of Powder Point Avenue voiced his concerns with the process of prioritizing the list of improvements.

"Questions come to mind," he said, like "Who is involved? Our planning board or a separate group?"

Pillsbury said a division review team is doing the work. He stressed the results will be in a draft plan for the public to look at and comment on at the next public meeting in a few months.

Pillsbury outlined the next steps in the process, which include updating the recommendation of mitigation strategies, prioritizing mitigation measures, completing a draft plan to be reviewed by both MEMA and FEMA and making any revisions they may require.

Duxbury Recreation Department news

Easter Egg Hunt. Saturday, April 8. 10 a.m. Keene Street field. This is a free event for children ages toddler through second grade. The Easter Bunny will be there so bring your camera.

Registration for spring and summer programs is going on now. Sign up online or in person at the Recreation office. Visit town.duxbury.ma.us/recreation to see all programs and to register. Programs are filling up. Sign up today.

Spring programs. Girls Middle School Volleyball, April Vacation Baseball Clinic, Horseback Riding, Ice Skating, Early Bird Bootcamp for Women and Adult Tennis.

Summer programs. Kids' Summer Program, Basketball Clinic, Small Ball, Soccer Clinic, Baseball Clinic, Tennis Clinic, Mini Dragons Soccer Clinic, Kids Tennis lessons, Horseback Riding, Girls Field Hockey Clinic, Adult Tennis, Ice Skating and Early Bird Boot Camp for women.

The spring/summer brochure has been emailed to all families with an Activenet ac-

count and is available at the Rec office on the website. If you would to be mailed a copy, call the office at 781-934-7034 or email to [Duxbury.recreation@gmail.com](mailto:recreation@gmail.com).

Percy Walker Pool. Spring swim lesson registration is going on now. Sign up online or in person at the pool. Lessons begin April 24 and are available for all ages.

The pool has something for everyone. Parent and child classes, Aquacise, group classes for ages 3 and up, private lessons, adult lessons, pool afterschool club, lifeguard certification courses and Aquadux swim team.

'Friday Night Lights' is April 28. Swimming and fun for grades 2-5. 6-8 p.m. High energy fun at the pool. Music, games and pizza. Sign up online, at the pool or at the Rec office.

Lifeguard Certification Course. April 18-21. (Tuesday-Friday) 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Call the pool for more information.

Check percywalkerpool.com for a complete listing of all programs and additional information, or call 781-934-2464.

Now Accepting New Clients



Jan Butterworth
617-688-5813

An Alternative Solution to Boarding

- In-home Daily Care of your animals of all types
- Dog Walking & Playtime
- Post-surgical care offered: injections, bandage changes, meds & fluids given

Assoc. & Bachelors of Science in Animal Science

Caring for Animals in Duxbury Since 1985

WELCOMING NEW PATIENTS



Dr. Kathleen Keating, DDS

Making a Difference One Smile at a Time

57 Forest St, Marshfield | 781.834.7555 | keatingdentistry.com

WWW.PCCPDUXBURY.ORG
QUALITY PROGRAMS FOR YOUNG CHILDREN



**Where
Children
Flourish**

Apply online at
pccpduxbury.org/Admissions



404 Washington Street
781-934-8145 x 9
michelle@pccpduxbury.org

HALF DAY | SCHOOL DAY | FULL DAY

Creating Beautiful Smiles

- Invisalign
- Crowns and Bridges
- Veneers
- Dental Implants
- Dentures and Partial
- Cleanings
- Preventative Care
- Tooth Colored Fillings
- Cosmetic Dentistry
- Smile Makeovers
- Whitening



Melanie Rabeni, DDS
Tel: 508.746.4856
Fax: 508.927.4709
mrabeni@rabenedental.com

45 Resnik Rd. Suite 102
Plymouth, MA 02360



Rabeni
Dental PC.
creating beautiful smiles
www.rabenedental.com