**Table # 6**

**Panel 2, Political, Psychological, Public Health and Ethical Response to SLR**

**Note taker name – Joanne Fish**

**Moderator – Joseph Bouchard**

***Question 1****: Politically, how can the U.S. and the EU move beyond gridlock in addressing sea level rise?*

***Answer:*** Actions at the local level can have an impact. There is both pluses and minuses to being small. Although local levels may lack resources they have more control over their actions.

The situations vary by location so the solutions/policies must also vary.

***Notes:*** Regional efforts in Hampton Roads have been useful in sharing information but are only able to make recommendations. Individual municipalities must make decisions.

***Question 2:*** *In what ways can the discussion move beyond politics* *in order to address environmental, social, spatial, and economic risks?*

***Answer:*** Actions that have real impact on people.

Organizations that can raise funds and provide data and planning tools are helpful, but the people in the communities must be involved in implementing the solutions. Demonstration projects can illustrate adaptations that work.

Need to build momentum upon momentum… need a way to communicate successes.

Website similar to the Ready.gov for Emergency Management – Emergency management is more operationally focused on reaction as opposed to proactive action.

***Notes:***

***Question 3:*** *What role should citizens’ perceptions of risk play in the conversation about sea level rise, its impacts and in adapting to it and how can we broaden their understanding of the issues?*

***Answer:*** Planning development Committees can have a role. A way to share good/effective ideas across those committees would be useful.

***Notes:***

***General Question:*** *Given what you've learned during this panel, what types of collaborative research and action might be most useful in affecting adaptive policy?*

***Answer:*** The economic impacts are real. Eelco’s comment about the Netherlands response to Al Gore’s Inconvenient Truth prediction for Netherlands impacted the willingness of investors. Similarly (but interestingly with the opposite impact) State and local governments have prevented an honest discussion about SRL for fear of the impact on property values.

***Notes:***

*Consensus Points:* The politics of the issues have not been helpful – passionate, vocal naysayers

*Takeaways/Action Items:*

*Points of dissent:*

*Miscellaneous/Interesting:*

*Again the discussion was somewhat rushed and we did not have adequate time to fully address every question.*