

MINUTES
Morris County - Flood Mitigation Committee (FMC)
30 Schuyler Place - 4th Floor, Morristown, New Jersey
July 15, 2013

The meeting was called to order at 5:45 p.m. by FMC Chair, Louise Davis.

Members present:

Julie Baron
Paula Danchuk
Louise Davis
Ted Eppel

Also attending:

Deena Leary, Director, Morris County Department of Planning & Development
Ray Chang, Director, Morris County Preservation Trust
Jennifer McCulloch, Flood Mitigation Program Coordinator, Morris County Preservation Trust
John Napolitano, Esq., Special Counsel to Flood Mitigation Program

OPEN PUBLIC MEETING STATEMENT

Chair Davis announced that in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, adequate notice of this meeting had been provided and filed with the Town of Morristown, the Morris County Clerk, the Daily Record and the Star Ledger.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no members of the public present.

MINUTES

The Minutes of the May 15, 2013 meeting were reviewed and on a motion by Julie Baron, which was seconded by Ted Eppel, the Committee unanimously approved said Minutes.

PROGRAM UPDATE

Demolitions – Ms. McCulloch presented “before and after” pictures of the demolitions which have taken place in Denville Township on three properties. The resulting land has been successfully returned to its natural state and already has a park-like appearance. Parsippany expects to begin the demolition phase in the next couple of weeks.

Presentations: Ms. McCulloch provided the following presentations in the month of June:

- Association of State Floodplain Managers (ASFPM – national organization)
 - o Plenary address
 - o Workshop presentation
- NJ State Planning Summit (hosted by NJ-OEM & OHSP) – Plenary address
- Morris County – Local OEM – provided overview of the Flood Mitigation Program at their monthly meeting

- FEMA Watershed University (in California) - Flood Acquisition Workshop – Morris County Program will be presented in absentia for Ms. McCulloch by Terry Turner

Additionally, the Chief of Staff and Program Director of the State of Connecticut - Department of Energy & Environmental Protection (CT-DEEP) requested a private presentation of the Morris County Program, which the CT-DEEP is considering implementing.

A request was received for Ms. McCulloch to present at the National Association of Development Organizations (NADO) in San Francisco; Ms. McCulloch declined the invitation.

ASFPM – No Adverse Impact Toolkit – Ms. McCulloch provided a written overview of the Morris County Flood Mitigation Program for use as a ‘model program’ in this national initiative of the ASFPM.

NJ State Floodplain Manager Conference (NJAFM) – Ms. McCulloch will be attending this conference in October, and has filed an abstract to present as well.

Meeting with Non-Profit Organizations –The Land Conservancy of NJ (TLC-NJ) has requested that Ms. McCulloch provide an overview of the Flood Mitigation Program. Morris County has decided to invite all Non-Profits who are active or interested in the field of flood mitigation to attend this information session.

Flood Mitigation Program – Acquisition Handbook – to enhance our Municipality’s understanding and comfort level with the Flood Mitigation Program’s process, Ms. McCulloch will be putting together an Acquisition Handbook for municipal use in the next several months.

CLOSED SESSION

At 5:58 p.m., on a motion by Julie Baron, seconded by Paula Danchuk, the FMC closed the open portion of the meeting pursuant to P.L. 1975 Ch. 231, the Open Public Meetings Act, and per the Committee’s standard resolution language voted to conduct a closed session wherein the subject of real property acquisition shall be discussed.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

At 6:40 p.m., on a motion by Julie Baron, seconded by Ted Eppel, the FMC returned to open session by unanimous vote.

The following actions were taken, as a result of Closed Session deliberations.

- **Borough of Lincoln Park – Flood Acquisition Plan (FLAP)** – Having reviewed all elements of this FLAP, at 6:41 p.m., on a motion by Paula Danchuk, seconded by Laura Szwak, the committee granted approval of the FLAP by unanimous roll call vote.
- **Resolution 2013-30: Lincoln Park-4021 Project Area – 46 Pequannock Avenue** – FAST TRACK acquisition funding in the amount of \$91,593.13 to cover Morris County’s 25% cost-share and a recommendation that the corresponding Grant Agreement with Lincoln Park be executed. At 6:46 p.m., on a motion by Julie Baron, seconded by

Laura Szwak, the committee granted Final Approval by unanimous roll call vote.

- **Resolution 2013-31: Lincoln Park-4021 Project Area – 65 Pequannock Avenue – FAST TRACK** acquisition funding in the amount of \$75,000 to cover Morris County’s 25% cost-share and a recommendation that the corresponding Grant Agreement with Lincoln Park be executed. At 6:47 p.m., on a motion by Julie Baron, seconded by Ted Eppel, the committee granted Final Approval by unanimous roll call vote.
- **Resolution 2013-32: Pequannock-Route 23 Project Area – 351 Route 23 – CORE** acquisition funding in the amount of \$338,790.96 to cover Morris County’s 75% cost-share, and a recommendation that the corresponding Grant Agreement with Pequannock be executed. At 6:48 p.m., on a motion by Julie Baron, seconded by Ted Eppel, the committee granted Final Approval by unanimous roll call vote.
- **Resolution 2013-33: Parsippany-4021 Project Area – 67 Lake Shore Drive – FAST TRACK** acquisition funding in the amount of \$45,607.00 to cover Morris County’s 25% cost-share, and a recommendation that the corresponding Grant Agreement with Parsippany-Troy Hills be executed. At 6:49 p.m., on a motion by Ted Eppel, seconded by Laura Szwak, the committee granted Final Approval by unanimous roll call vote.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence to review.

NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Leary informed the FMC of a bill passed by both houses of the State Legislature, that is currently awaiting action from the Governor, which authorizes approximately \$350,000 for river de-snagging in the Passaic River Basin area.

As a result of training sessions at the ASFPM conference and discussions with other conference participants, Ms. McCulloch learned that many communities nationwide are using HUD-Community Block Development Grants (CDBG) – Disaster Recovery Funds – to fund flood mitigation acquisition projects. This could be a future source of funding, especially in CORE projects.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Paula Danchuk, seconded by Ted Eppel, the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

NEXT MEETING DATE

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 16th at 5:30 p.m. in the 4th Floor Conference Room of the Offices of Planning & Development, located at 30 Schuyler Place, Schuyler Annex Building, in Morristown, New Jersey.

Respectfully submitted,
Jennifer N. McCulloch