

MINUTES
Morris County-Flood Mitigation Committee (MC-FMC)
Via WebEx Training
July 20, 2020

The meeting was called to order at 5:33 p.m. by Louise Davis, Chair.

Members present:

| | |
|--------------------|--------------|
| Julie Baron | Thomas Pepe |
| Andrew Crawford | Louise Davis |
| Betty Cass-Schmidt | Gary Large |
| Joseph Pawelczyk | |

Also attending:

Joseph Barilla, Director, Office of Planning & Preservation
Virginia Michelin, Flood Mitigation Program Coordinator, Office of Planning & Preservation
Jason Rotter, Assistant Planner, Office of Planning & Preservation
John Napolitano Esq., Legal Counsel
Stephen Shaw, Freeholder Liaison

OPEN PUBLIC MEETING STATEMENT

Louise 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.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the April 20th meeting were reviewed and on a motion by Joseph Pawelczyk, seconded by Tom Pepe, the Committee approved said Minutes. The closed session minutes were reviewed and on a motion by Joseph Pawelczyk, seconded by Gary Large, the Committee approved said Minutes.

PROGRAM UPDATE

Virginia Michelin provided the following updates:

FEMA pFIRMs / Scientific Resolution Panels (SRPs) – Lincoln Park / Montville and Pequannock – Both panels decided in favor of municipalities. FEMA has 90 days to address Panels’ conclusions. Virginia stated that hopefully FEMA will adopt the other 34 municipalities’ pFIRMs without delaying to wait for resolution of the SRP decisions. It could take up to two years for those panels to get resolved and possibly longer.

CRS Users Group – Next meeting is August 11th via conference call. The speaker will talk about the County Hazard Mitigation Plan Update.

Morris County Hazard Mitigation Plan Update – Public comment period for all municipal annexes ended. Tetra Tech (MCOEM consultant) is planning on submitting the plan to the state this week. After state review it will go to FEMA. The current plan expires in August.

FEMA BCA Toolkit 6.0 – New Excel-based program is available and will replace previous version. Staff have switched to the new version as FEMA requires you to do so. It has been designed to be easier to use (once you can get it installed) and takes into account new benefits which will help improve a houses BCA score.

National Flood Conference – June 1-3 – Jason provided a brief summary of the conference. Various topics were covered, including climate change and predictions for vulnerable states including NJ, planning for disasters during an ongoing crisis, and FEMA’s investment in the private flood insurance industry as well as reforms to make public and private insurance viable for customers nationwide.

CLOSED SESSION

At 5:49 p.m. on a motion by Tom Pepe, seconded by Joseph Pawelczyk, 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 5:56 p.m. on a motion by Julie Baron, seconded by Betty Cass-Schmidt, the FMC returned to open session by unanimous vote.

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

- **Resolution 2020-04 – Lincoln Park – 1 Poplar Street – South-9 Project Area – Preliminary Approval** – Application for one property for a total of \$315,000, with an estimated match of \$78,750 from a NJDEP Green Acres grant. On a motion by Betty Cass-Schmidt, seconded by Gary Large, the Committee granted Preliminary Approval by unanimous roll call vote.
- **Resolution 2020-05 – Lincoln Park – South-7 Project Area – 14 Ash Street – Final Approval** – CORE acquisition funding in the amount of \$82,500 to cover Morris County’s 75% cost-share and a recommendation that the corresponding Grant Agreement with Lincoln Park be executed. On a motion by Joseph Pawelczyk, seconded by Julie Baron, the Committee granted Final Approval by unanimous roll call vote.
- **Flood Acquisition Plan (FLAP)** – As discussed in closed session the FLAP is proposed to be amended. On a motion by Julie Baron, seconded by Tom Pepe, the Committee voted unanimously to approve the FLAP.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Betty Cass-Schmidt, seconded by Tom Pepe, the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 5:59 p.m.

NEXT MEETING DATE

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 10th (*2nd Monday*), 2020 via WebEx Training at 5:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Virginia Michelin, CFM