

MINUTES
Morris County-Flood Mitigation Committee (MC-FMC)
Via WebEx - Events
May 16, 2022

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Louise Davis, Chair.

Members present:

Louise Davis	Julie Baron
Betty Cass-Schmidt	Joseph Pawelczyk
Gary Large	Andrew Crawford (<i>Arrived 5:34 pm</i>) *
Mark Venis	

*Members with asterik only listened in via audio

Also attending:

Virginia Michelin, Flood Mitigation Program Coordinator, Office of Planning & Preservation
Joseph Barilla, Planning Director, Office of Planning & Preservation
Mike DiGiulio, Senior Planner, Office of Planning & Preservation
Brenda Haycock, Planner Trainee, Office of Planning and Preservation
John Napolitano Esq., Legal Counsel
Stephen Shaw, Commissioner 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

Louise Davis read the Virtual Meeting Statement related to members of the public attending the meeting and/or making comments. There were no members of the public present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the February 28, 2022, meeting were reviewed and on a motion by Joseph Pawelczyk, which was seconded by Julie Baron, the Committee approved said Minutes. The closed session minutes were reviewed and on a motion by Joseph Pawelczyk, which was seconded by Gary Large, the Committee approved said Minutes.

PROGRAM UPDATE

Virginia Michelin provided the following updates:

- **FEMA Maps**
 - **pFIRMs** – FEMA indicated a few months ago that May of 2022 is the tentative release date for the Letter of Final Determination (LFD) for the 2017 pFIRMs. There are no updates, but there are conversations about the maps being delayed for some unknown time. Virginia will ask the NJDEP (DEP) at the May 17, 2022 CRS Users Group meeting if the DEP has a timeframe or additional input on the release date of the

pFIRMs.

- **SRPs and NJDEP PMR** – The tentative effect date for the SRP towns remains late 2023 and the PMR preliminary maps remain tentatively scheduled for late 2022. Expect PMR drafts at the end of 2022 or early 2023. Virginia prefers the adoption of the 2017 pFIRMs first as there is confusion surrounding the three ongoing maps for Morris County but FEMA may roll up some of these maps into a single adoption.
- **CRS Users Group – May 17** – The next CRS Users Group meeting is Tuesday, May 17, 2022. The draft agenda for the meeting was sent to the Flood Mitigation Committee via email.
 - **Ida Funding** – Three presentations are scheduled during the CRS Users Group meeting. One presentation is specifically about Ida funding. Virginia commented that the towns should take advantage of these presentations, especially the one covering Ida funding.
- **NFIP Update** – The NFIP is extended until September 2022. There are no reform updates. There is discussion about reforms, but nothing substantial is happening right now as Congress is busy with other matters. Joseph Pawelczyk agreed Congress is busy which can delay the NFIP update. Virginia reassured efforts are being made for reforms, but progress is slow.
 - **Risk Rating 2.0** – Flood insurance rates are increasing. Anyone who lives near water is considered high risk, even if their homes are elevated. People are at a lower risk, but their house insurance premium continues to go up because their house is close to water. Virginia will observe the effects of this on elevating programs.
- **ISAA Agreement** – Virginia is in contact with FEMA. FEMA headquarters is working on what to do with these data agreement requests. To get the needed information, the form must be completed by FEMA and sent back to the County for execution.

CLOSED SESSION

At 5:38 pm, on a motion by Julie Baron, seconded by Betty Cass-Schmidt, 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 5:51 pm, on a motion by Julie Baron, seconded by Joseph Pawelczyk, the FMC returned to open session by unanimous vote.

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

- **Resolution #2022-03 – Lincoln Park – South-10 Project Area – Final Approval** – CORE acquisition funding in the amount of \$191,250 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 Gary Large, seconded by Julie Baron, the committee granted Final Approval by unanimous roll call vote.

NEW BUSINESS

Commissioner Stephen Shaw announced and congratulated Virginia, Program Coordinator, on her promotion to the Assistant Planning Director of the Office of Planning and Preservation. He also thanked her for her years of service. All present congratulated Virginia.

Joseph Barilla, Planning Director, informed the committee that, throughout the year, Mike DiGiulio, Senior Planner of the Office of Planning and Preservation, will be phased in as the new Program Coordinator.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Betty-Cass Schmidt, seconded by Joseph Pawelczyk, the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 5:54 pm.

NEXT MEETING DATE

The next regular meeting is scheduled June 20, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. via WebEx.

Respectfully submitted,

Virginia Michelin, CFM, AICP, PP | Assistant Planning Director