

MINUTES
Morris County-Flood Mitigation Committee (MC-FMC)
30 Schuyler Place - 4th Floor, Morristown, New Jersey
August 15, 2016

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

Members present:

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| Julie Baron | Louise Davis |
| Gary Large | Michael Obremski |
| Joseph Pawelczyk | Thomas Pepe |
| Laura Szwak | |

Also attending:

Deena Leary, Director – Planning & Public Works Department
Christine Marion, Director - Planning & Preservation Division
Jennifer McCulloch, Program Coordinator – Flood Mitigation Program (FMP)

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.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the April 18, 2016 meeting were reviewed and on a motion by Julie Baron, which was seconded by Joe Pawelczyk, the Committee approved said Minutes.

PROGRAM UPDATE

Ms. McCulloch provided the following updates:

- **Preliminary Flood Insurance Rate Maps (p-FIRMs) Status** – the Morris County map adoption process is now delayed as a result of re-mapping in Passaic County along the shared border with Morris County. FEMA has indicated that maps revisions should be complete by September.

The Morris County’s p-FIRM website has had excellent traffic from the public and municipalities - over 1,100 hits in the first 2 weeks. Some municipalities are providing a direct link to it from their own website.

- **Rules and Regulations – proposed amendment to Section 6.16 – Survey Requirements** – Staff proposes the addition of two items: 1) the use of older surveys accompanied by an “Affidavit of No Change” which is a currently allowed practice; and 2) in addition to the current requirement that a survey must be done by a NJ licensed surveyor, the citation of the

NJ Administrative Code provides the details of required elements for a complete survey. The FMP survey requirements match that of the Open Space Program, which also has this language. Please see [doc. A] for details.

- **Revised Voluntary Participation form** – language was added to take into account foreclosure situations, which have different rules regarding appraisals. Please see [doc. B] for details.
- **Potential Community Rating System (CRS) Assistance Program** – Ms. McCulloch presented the concept of Morris County providing a CRS Assistance program for its municipalities. Said program would provide technical, mapping and organizational assistance to municipalities, including the formation of a Morris County User Group – which would attract federal, state and local resources. See [doc. C] for details.

Staff recommends the creation of this program; it is a natural next step in Morris County’s efforts to mitigate flooding and could provide significantly reduced flood insurance rates to our business sector, as well as homeowners and local governments.

After a period of discussion, a motion was made by Tom Pepe, which was seconded by Julie Baron, to make a recommendation to the Freeholders in support of the creation of a CRS Assistance Program within the FMP. The motion was unanimously passed.

CLOSED SESSION

At 6:01 p.m., on a motion by Julie Baron, seconded by Joe 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 6:22 p.m., on a motion by Gary Large, seconded by Tom Pepe, the FMC returned to open session by unanimous vote.

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

- **Rules and Regulations –amendment to Section 6.16 – Survey Requirements** – On a motion by Gary Large, seconded by Tom Pepe, the committee unanimously approved making a recommendation to the Freeholders to revise the rules and regulations accordingly.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence.

NEW BUSINESS

- **State Flood Legislation Spreadsheet**– Ms. McCulloch discussed the five bills which have progressed in the state legislature, which are highlighted on the spreadsheet. See [doc. D] for details.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Gary Large, seconded by Tom Pepe, the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 6:33 p.m.

NEXT MEETING DATE

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 19, 2016 at 5:30 pm in the 4th Floor Conference Room of the Offices of Planning & Public Works, located at 30 Schuyler Place, Schuyler Annex Building, in Morristown, New Jersey.

Respectfully submitted,
Jennifer N. McCulloch