

MINUTES
Morris County-Flood Mitigation Committee (MC-FMC)
30 Schuyler Place - 4th Floor, Morristown, New Jersey
May 15, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Vice Chair Tom Pepe.

Members present:

Betty Cass-Schmidt	Joseph Pawelczyk
Andrew Crawford	Thomas Pepe
Michael Obremski	

Members with an excused absence

Louise Davis
Gary Large

Also attending:

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

OPEN PUBLIC MEETING STATEMENT

Vice Chair Tom Pepe 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 January 23, 2017 meeting were reviewed and on a motion by Betty Cass-Schmidt, which was seconded by Andrew Crawford, the Committee approved said Minutes.

PROGRAM UPDATE

Ms. McCulloch provided the following updates:

- **CRS Assistance Program** – All five Morris County municipalities in the CRS program (Denville, Lincoln Park, Long Hill, Pequannock and Riverdale) are active in the CRS Users Group [Group]; we have had two meetings thus far.

At the first Group meeting in March, we set a quarterly meeting schedule and the determined the Group's goals. On May 9th, we held our first regularly scheduled meeting; it was well attended including representatives from FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency), NJ-DEP (Department of Environmental Protection) and the NFIP (National Flood Insurance Program).

There were three educational presentations in all. The NFIP representative reviewed changes found in the new 2017 NFIP Coordinator's manual. Lincoln Park's consultant gave a presentation on the value of creating a Program for Public Information (PPI). The Group discussed forming a PPI sub-committee to garner additional points in this category. Lastly, Ms. McCulloch spoke about the elements of a Watershed Master Plan, which is a very challenging NFIP requirement to achieve a class rating of 4 or better.

Ms. McCulloch also presented a spreadsheet reflecting the individual CRS categories and points garnered by each MC community. Point distribution was not as uniform as expected, which led to discussions of collaboration between the Group's members.

- **Expectations for Floodplain Management under new Federal Administration** [*doc A*] – copy provided to FMC. Ms. McCulloch attended a presentation hosted by the NJ Association for Floodplain Management wherein John Miller of Princeton Hydro spoke about the new federal administration's views on floodplain management based on his role as a U.S. Senate Fellow working on legislation for the NFIP.
- **Assembly – bill A4661** [*doc B*] – copy provided to FMC. New bill proposes the exclusion of flood-prone lands from affordable housing vacant land analysis.
- **Association of State Floodplain Managers (ASFPM) re: FY 18 Federal Budget** [*doc C*] – copy provided to FMC. The ASFPM opposes the proposed federal budget because of significant cuts to FEMA's flood mapping program, the pre-disaster mitigation program, the Army Corps of Engineers, the Environmental Protection Agency and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association grant program.

CLOSED SESSION

At 6:05 p.m., on a motion by Joe Pawelczyk, 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 6:20 p.m., on a motion by Joe Pawelczyk, 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 2017-02 – Lincoln Park - Central Project Area – 73 Woodlawn Road – Final Approval** - CORE acquisition funding in the amount of \$32,250 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 Andrew Crawford, seconded by Betty Cass-Schmidt, the committee granted Final Approval by unanimous roll call vote.

- **Resolution 2017-03 – Parsippany-Troy Hills – East Parsippany-2 Project Area – 19 Mohican Place – Final Approval** - CORE acquisition funding in the amount of \$157,500 to cover Morris County's 75% cost-share and a recommendation that the corresponding Grant Agreement with Parsippany-Troy Hills be executed. On a motion by Betty Cass-Schmidt, seconded by Andrew Crawford, the committee granted Final Approval by unanimous roll call vote.
- **Rules and Regulations amendment** – on a motion by Joe Pawelczyk, seconded by Mike Obremski, the FMC voted in favor of changing 6.11, item G in the Flood Mitigation Program Rules and Regulations. Andrew Crawford abstained from this vote.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Proposed Change to Rules and Regulations** - *[doc D]* – please see attached report for details
- Ms. McCulloch reminded the FMC of the **Volunteer Reception** to be held on May 16th at the Frelinghuysen Arboretum and provided a copy of the invitation *[doc E]*.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Andrew Crawford, seconded by Joe Pawelczyk, the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 6:31 p.m.

NEXT MEETING DATE

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 20, 2017 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