

MINUTES
Morris County-Flood Mitigation Committee (MC-FMC)
30 Schuyler Place - 4th Floor, Morristown, New Jersey
April 16, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 5:27 p.m. by Louise Davis, Chair.

Members present:

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

Members with an excused absence

None.

Also attending:

Christine Marion, Director, Office of Planning & Preservation
Virginia Michelin, Flood Mitigation Program Coordinator, Office of Planning & Preservation
Barbara Murray, Open Space Program Coordinator, Office of Planning & Preservation
Deena Leary, Assistant County Administrator

OPEN PUBLIC MEETING STATEMENT

Chair 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 January 22, 2018 meeting were reviewed and on a motion by Julie Baron, which was seconded by Betty Cass-Schmidt, the Committee approved said Minutes.

PROGRAM UPDATE

Virginia Michelin provided the following updates:

- **Preliminary Flood Insurance Rate Maps (pFIRMs)** –Virginia Michelin has indicated the 90 day appeal period started February 15 and will end May 15, 2018. FEMA had meetings in the Fall of 017. All appeals get submitted thru the municipalities (engineer). In Tab 18 there is a copy of the notice sent out by FEMA. FEMA also did notices in the local papers about the 90 day appeal process for the FIRMS. Staff have been fielding calls from the public and towns about this process. Information has been posted on our website and has also been emailed to the municipalities. Mountain Lakes and Chester Borough don't have FIRMS.

- **CRS Assistance Program** – the CRS User Group is scheduled to meet on May 15, 2018. A draft CRS Users website is up. It is currently password protected until the CRS group provides comments and approves it. Four other counties have CRS usersgroups. Two other groups have websites, others are working on it. NJDEP will be presenting on their ArcGIS online mapping application for the Tier A and B municipalities, storm water inventory.
- **Storm water permit/ArcGIS online application** - The NJDEP adopted the Tier A & B storm water permits on January 1, 2018 for municipalities. Municipalities need to map their stormwater inventory in GIS, most municipalities inventoried it in 2004, but haven't updated it. No weblink to the application yet, will get and forward on to municipalities.
- A new staff person started and then quit. We will begin looking for a new person.
- There is a new updated Voluntary Participation Form on our website and is included in tab 2 of your books. It clearly indicates what date should be used in an appraisal (pre Irene vs post) and better defines subsequent owner.
- NFIP was extended to July 31st by Congress. Congress working on debt restructuring. Rates went up 8% on insurance, plus surcharge and rate increase is compounding. It will bring more people to the program as insurance rates go up, could reach what people pay in property taxes, making these types of home less affordable and more likely to seek a buyout. (Tab 2)
- A Volunteers reception is being held by the Freeholders on May 15th. Letters will be going out shortly to all board volunteers. 5:30 to 7:30 pm at the arboretum.

CLOSED SESSION

At 5:50 p.m., on a motion by Thomas Pepe, 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 6:00 p.m., on a motion by Julie Baron, 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:

- **Resolution 2018-01 – Lincoln Park –North-2 Project Area – 56 Pequannock Avenue – Preliminary Approval** – Application for one property for a total of \$328,125, with an estimated match of \$87,500 from a NJDEP Green Acres grant. On a motion by Julie Baron, seconded by Thomas Pepe, the committee granted unanimous Preliminary Approval.
- **Resolution 2018-02- Lincoln Park – South-4 Project Area – Preliminary Approval** – Application for five properties for a total of \$768,710, with an estimated match of \$204,989 from a NJDEP Green Acres grant. On a motion by Joseph Pawelczyk, seconded by Andrew Crawford, the committee granted unanimous Preliminary Approval.

- **Resolution 2018-03-Lincoln Park – Central Project Area – 79 Woodlawn Road - Modified Preliminary Approval** – Christine Marion indicated that the soft costs we are proposing to encumber for this application might be too low, as demolition costs now need to be accounted for. The draft resolution was modified prior to approval to be changed from \$6563 to \$26563 for soft costs. No other changes were made to the draft resolution. Application for one property for a total of \$52,813, with an estimated match of \$8,750 from a NJDEP Green Acres grant. On a motion by Joseph Pawelczyk, seconded by Andrew Crawford, the committee granted unanimous Preliminary Approval.

CORRESPONDENCE

Morris Twp (Tab 18) sent out copies of the FEMA appeal process was sent out to homeowners and the county was copied. FEMA sent copies of the municipal flood hazard determination letters to the county as well.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business to review.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Thomas Pepe, seconded by Joseph Pawelczyk, the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

NEXT MEETING DATE

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 21st at 5:30 pm in the 4th Floor Conference Room of the Offices of Planning & Preservation, located at 30 Schuyler Place, Schuyler Annex Building, in Morristown, New Jersey.

Respectfully submitted,

Virginia Michelin, CFM