

MINUTES
Morris County - Flood Mitigation Committee (FMC)
30 Schuyler Place - 4th Floor, Morristown, New Jersey
September 16, 2013

The meeting was called to order at 5:32 p.m. by FMC Chair, Louise Davis.

Members present:

Julie Baron
Paula Danchuk
Louise Davis
Ted Eppel

Members with an excused absence:

Laura Szwak

Also attending:

Ray Chang, Director, Morris County Preservation Trust
Jennifer McCulloch, Flood Mitigation Program Coordinator, Morris County Preservation Trust
John Napolitano, Esq., Special Counsel to Flood Mitigation Program

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.

MINUTES

The Minutes of the July 15, 2013 meeting were reviewed and on a motion by Julie Baron, which was seconded by Paula Danchuk, the Committee unanimously approved said Minutes.

PROGRAM UPDATE

Preservation Trust Fund – Strategic Report – At the request of the BCF, an RFP has been sent out for a consulting firm to analyze the use of the Preservation Trust Fund (PTF) to date, and create a strategic plan for the PTF going forward. The consulting firm will work closely with Morris County staff and municipalities. The final report is expected within a year, and may lead to a ballot question in November 2014.

Corrective Resolutions: Pequannock and Riverdale - The Board of Chosen Freeholders (BCF) passed four resolutions increasing the funding amounts provided for two CORE Project Areas each in Riverdale and Pequannock. The initial appraisals submitted for these projects, upon which Preliminary Approval funding amounts were determined, were not done as per FMP Rules and Regulations; they did not consider the value of the housing structures on-site. As

such, the appraisals had to be re-done, and the resulting values were higher.

Demolitions: Denville and Parsippany – These two towns have completed demolitions on over half of their completed projects. Demolition should be complete for all of their closed projects by the end of the year.

NJ State Floodplain Manager Conference (NJAFM) – Ms. McCulloch will be attending this conference from October 15th – 17th, and has been asked to present the Morris County Flood Mitigation Program during Concurrent Sessions, at the Acquisition Workshop, on October 16th.

Parsippany – Outreach Letters – Parsippany has sent letters to 7 repetitive loss homeowners encouraging them to consider flood mitigation acquisition through the Morris County FMP’s CORE program. This is the first time a town has pro-actively solicited homeowners to apply to the Program.

FEMA – new BCA model 2014 – FEMA is developing a new BCA model that is expected to be rolled out in 2014. The new model will be more streamlined, and will calculate environmental benefits as well as financial ones. Additionally, FEMA is considering a “pre-determined cost-effectiveness tool”. This tool would waive the need to run a BCA on properties that meet the specific criteria set forth in an upcoming policy memo.

CLOSED SESSION

At 5:45 p.m., on a motion by Paula Danchuk, seconded by Ted Eppel, 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 6:30 p.m., on a motion by Julie Baron, seconded by Ted Eppel, the FMC returned to open session by unanimous vote.

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

- **Resolution 2013-34: Lincoln Park-4021 Project Area – 10 Walnut Street** – FAST TRACK acquisition funding in the amount of \$38,799.17 to cover Morris County’s 25% cost-share and a recommendation that the corresponding Grant Agreement with Lincoln Park be executed. At 6:32 p.m., on a motion by Julie Baron, seconded by Paula Danchuk, the committee granted Final Approval by unanimous roll call vote.
- **Resolution 2013-35: Township of Long Hill – Stirling-2 Project Area** - CORE Application for phase 2 funding in the “Stirling Project Area”, to be named “Stirling-2” which is in the amount of \$281,865 with an estimated match of \$81,700 derived from homeowner’s donation of value. At 6:34 p.m., on a motion by Julie Baron, seconded by Ted Eppel, the committee granted Preliminary Approval of this CORE application by unanimous roll call vote.

- **Resolution 2013-36: Town of Boonton – Rockaway Street Project Area - CORE** Application for the funding of 4 homes in the amount of \$1,543,789 with an estimated match of \$447,475 derived from homeowner’s donation of value. At 6:35 p.m., on a motion by Ted Eppel, seconded by Paula Danchuk, the committee denied, without prejudice, Preliminary Approval of this CORE application by unanimous roll call vote.
- **FMP Rules & Regulations: FMC Membership** – revisions to the rules regarding membership on the Flood Mitigation Committee were unanimously approved via roll call vote at 6:36 p.m. on a motion by Julie Baron, seconded by Paula Danchuk.
- **FMP Rules & Regulations: Foreclosures** – Creation of a rule regarding foreclosure situations were unanimously approved via roll call vote at 6:37 p.m. on a motion by Julie Baron, seconded by Ted Eppel.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence to review.

NEW BUSINESS

Ms. McCulloch informed the FMC of a bill introduced to the Assembly, No 4343, sponsored by John Wisniewski of Middlesex County, that allows for the sale of municipally-owned, preserved open space under certain circumstances to homeowners displaced as a result of severe repetitive loss events.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Julie Baron, seconded by Ted Eppel, the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 6:39 p.m.

NEXT MEETING DATE

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

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer N. McCulloch