

**Agenda of the  
Raritan and Millstone Rivers Flood Control Commission  
Meeting MINUTES \*\*draft 5-14-13\*\***

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**CALL TO ORDER** Chairman Jurewicz called the meeting to order 7:06 pm

**OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT**

“This meeting is being held in compliance with the ‘OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT’, because adequate notice of this meeting has been provided by notifying the Manville News, the Courier News and the Star Ledger, and by posting notice of such meeting in the Borough Hall on a bulletin board reserved for such announcements and by filing of said notice with the Borough Clerk of the Borough of Manville. Formal Action may be taken at this meeting.”

**ROLL CALL**

Municipalities Present: Franklin, Hillsborough, Manville, Millstone, Montgomery, Raritan, Somerville, Somerset County

Municipalities Absent: Rocky Hill, Bridgewater

**FLAG SALUTE**

**MOMENT OF SILENCE –**

**INTRODUCTION – Overview -Notes**

- May’s monthly meeting will be in Hillsborough
- June’s monthly meeting will be in Millstone
  - o Start at 6pm with tour and walk to the river and impact of flooding
  - o Information for meeting will be available at the May meeting.
- 2013 MEETING Time: – All other meetings will start at 7:00pm
- Subcommittee meetings will be held the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month at 6:00 at the Manville borough hall.
- New Email address :
  - o rmfcc <[rmfcc@manvillenj.org](mailto:rmfcc@manvillenj.org)>
  - o rmfcc <[rmfcc@gmail.com](mailto:rmfcc@gmail.com)>
- Added to Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/#!/RMR FCC>
- Phone# (406) 356-6365 (floodnj)

**Recording SECRETARY’S REPORT** (Carmella Shaw)

**Approval of Minutes:**

- Approval of Minutes: **March 2013** meeting. Motion to approve moved by Somerville 2<sup>nd</sup> by Hillsborough Ayes 7 Nays 0 Abstentions 1. Minutes Approved 7 – 0

## **Correspondence:**

### Email and Mail:

- On April 17, 2013 a packet of information was delivered to President Obama, Governor Christie and all legislation of New Jersey and Somerset County. Information was delivered via Email and Regular mail. This included: cover letter, resolution for support of sandy funds, petition for support and the sign in sheets from the RVCC meeting. A sample of the deliverables is attached.
- Dan Dixon gained an opportunity to hand deliver the cover letter to Governor Christie at the Town Hall Meeting at RVCC on April 11, 2013.

Thank you to Alison Whitman for her efforts in assisting the board with a logo and letterhead for the RMRFCC.

## **TREASURER'S REPORT** (Kevin Sluka)

### 1) Claims for Payment:

- a. Payment to Carmella Shaw as per contract: 3 month fee \$300
- b. Reimbursement to Frank Jurewicz \$39.03 for workshop supplies
- c. Payment to Frank Linnus, Esq. for legal services rendered as per invoice dated February 6, 2013

Motion to approve payment of claims moved by Manville 2<sup>nd</sup> by Millstone Ayes 7 Nays 0 Abstentions 1. Payments Approved 7 – 0.

### 2) Income: \$250.00 Montgomery: Dues

### 3) Budget Encumbrances (none)

### 4) Donation of Gift to RMRFCC (none)

## **FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT** (KEVIN SLUKA)

The balance of the account as of April 23rd is \$6,415.73. The April statement has not been received as of yet therefore this is not a reconciled balance.

The account was reconciled through February

2013 Payments from all invoiced municipalities have been received. The purchase order for County of Somerset for \$4,000 have been executed and returned.

Raritan Borough will be invoiced after 30 days.

The workshop cost has been totaled at \$1,755.28 which includes school use cost, insurance, advertisement, food and supply reimbursement. There is possibly a small amount not yet accounted for.

Motion to approve the Finance Report moved by Franklin, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Millstone. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: 8 Franklin, Manville, Millstone, Montgomery, Rocky Hill, Somerville, Somerset County. Nays 0. Approved 8 – 0.

## **ANNUAL DUES**

Checks or purchase orders can be sent to:

Mail checks to:  
P.O. BOX 8736  
Somerville, NJ, 08876

## **BUDGET REVIEW**

Budget review has been submitted to Finance Committee with all updates through April 23 (included the authorized bill payments from today). A copy of the Budget report is attached hereto.

## **RESOLUTIONS 2013**

OPEN - NEW

### **Commission Secretary –**

### **LEGISLATIVE and COMMUNICATION COMMITTEE REPORT** (Dan Dixon)

#### **Support**

- 1) The Commission will follow up on the letters sent out to the Federal and State Representatives on April 17, 2013 in the next couple weeks.
- 2) The status of the Petition letter and the form for signatures were available after this meeting and attached hereto. Secretary Dixon requested that anyone who wishes to distribute in their community to take a copy and return to the Commission. The signed letters will be mailed to the appropriate representative.
- 3) The status of the meeting with our Congress and Senators in Washington is the following dates:
  - a. May 23, 2013
  - b. June 13, 2013.
  - c. June 27, 2013.

## **ENGINEERING COMMITTEE REPORT** (Carl Andreassen)

Review the topic of interest to commission from an engineering perspective:  
Setting up overview presentation of count master plan and how it fits with the flood preparative plan. Set up some point in 2013 (target May). Invite OEM to talk at the same meeting.

## **MONTHLY STATUS REPORT - ARMY CORPS of ENGINEERS**

### **Update and status report on study**

#### **David Gentile**

Email: [David.T.Gentile@usace.army.mil](mailto:David.T.Gentile@usace.army.mil) **(To be updated with new contact information at the May 22, 2013 meeting.)**

Mail: 26 Federal Plaza, 21st Floor, Room 2127, New York, NY 10278.

David Gentile communicated that he is being transferred off of this study and said it was a pleasure to work with the Commission. Robert Grecco has been assigned new Project Manager for the RMRFCC Study. Mr. Grecco gave a basic timeline of expectation for the study, which included: Channelization plan and Nonstructural plan by June 21, 2013. The date for allocation of the BC Ratios is mid August but shooting for July 31, 2013. He stated this is important for the three different alternatives to be provided. Mr. Grecco confirmed that none of the President's budget was designated for this study. He suggested asking your representatives to push the topic.

Members of the Commission thanked Mr. Gentile for his service and welcomed Mr. Grecco.

## **PRESENTATION and SPECIAL GUEST**

Dr. Judy Shaw will go over an opportunity for the flood commission to work with the Rutgers studio to benefit programs the commission may want to do in 2013/2014.

Here is as quick overview of what it is:

First, what do we hope the studio might provide?

Rutgers' Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy trains the leaders of tomorrow. The students in our Masters program apply their planning education to real projects as a requirement for graduation. Each year we select cutting-edge projects for these studio classes. As the client, the RMFCC would direct the student 'firm' as they craft a plan for flood risk reduction in your region.

The project would assemble data for each of the partner communities and the final product would be an implementation plan for flood mitigation on a regional level.

We would hope this project would be presented to you at your December meeting of the Commission. We would provide you with a full description of the project at your September meeting and hold at least one mid-course client meeting.

There is no standard fee for this, but of the Commission would like to make a donation toward the studio, that would be fine.

[Judy Shaw, Ph.D., AICP/PP](#)  
[Environmental Analysis and Communications Group](#)  
[E.J. Bloustein School of Planning & Public Policy](#)  
[Rutgers University](#)  
[33 Livingston Avenue](#)

Attached, please find the information provided by Dr. Judy Shaw on the Raritan Scholars Internship Proposal via email.

The Commission voted on authorization to proceed with the Internship Proposal with Rutgers University with a donation of \$750 to the Rutgers project with the understanding that all donations are put into the RMRFCC project.

Motion to approve a donation of \$750 to the Rutgers Internship Proposal moved by Franklin, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Montgomery. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: 8 Franklin, Hillsborough, Manville, Millstone, Montgomery, Somerville, South Bound Brook, Somerset County. Nays 0. Approved 8 – 0.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

- State creation of a flood task force update – Still not voted on.
- Status of Raritan to join the Commission in 2013.
  - Raritan has accepted our invitation to join the Flood Commission (Welcome!)
- Webpage – Setting up meeting with the county, host our webpage and email accounts?
- Work shop overview at RVCC – Review: take a ways good and the bad.
  - Excellent speakers, room and food by RVCC.
  - Negative: Poor representation from Newspapers/Media.
  - Work on public contact
  - Pictures on Facebook of event.
  - Create a video to share with Towns.
- Accept report from executive committee meeting that was held at Senator Bateman's office with the DEP. (Vote to accept the report or make Resolution)

Motion to accept the Report from the meeting at Senator Bateman's office with the DEP moved by Franklin, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Manville. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: 8 Franklin, Hillsborough, Manville, Millstone, Montgomery, Raritan, Somerville, South Bound Brook, Somerset County. Nays 0. Approved 8 – 0.

The Committee discussed the need for a Resolution to the acceptance of what was stated at the meeting with DEP and the Executive Committee. The Commission agreed there was no need for a Resolution on this topic.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

- Additional funding from the State and Federal Government for buy out and long term mitigation for area hit by Sandy and Irene.

The Commission discussed contacting the Former Executive Assistant Attorney General Marc Ferzan who Governor Christie tasked to manage Hurricane Sandy Storm Recovery.

## **Goals and Objectives**

- Goal and objectives for 2013
  - To be official
    - Have official stationary.
      - Letter head with address and representatives of the Commission.
      - Envelopes with return address.
    - Official business cards for executive board.
    - Official website.
    - Official phone number.
    - Official spokesperson for the Commission. This way we can send one message. Example would include press releases and interviews.
  - What is our objective for 2013?
    - How to implement our plan to accomplish our objectives?
  - What is our message?
    - How do we get our message heard?
    - Can we get people to act from our message?
  - Build a working relationship with our representative.

The goals are in process as discussed by the Chairman, Secretary and Recording Secretary.

**PUBLIC PORTION** 9:30 pm - Motion to Open Public Comment; moved by Manville 2<sup>nd</sup> by Franklin

1. Mike Chavra, Manville, N.J. Questions why the \$9 billion designated for flooding events is only going to Sandy. He furthers that there is a May 1, 2013 deadline to be able to acquire any funding.

Public Comment ended 9:36 pm

## **COMMENTS FROM THE COMMISSION MEMBERS**

- Q/A

Pat Walsh, Somerset County Freeholder expressed her concerns that the Army Corps of Engineers would continually replace the acting representative every year or so causing a major delay in the completion of the study.

She also commented on how far the RMRFCC has come and thanked them for their support.

The commission members express their concern that the Federal Government and the State buy into the 30 year timeframe. We need to get the study done.

Mr. Clyde hopes the commission will reach every representative on the funding of the study.

**ADJOURNMENT** Motion to Adjourn moved by Somerset County, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Manville. Unanimous 8 Aye vote to Adjourn 8:40 pm.

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CJShaw  
Carmella Shaw  
Recording Secretary  
RMRFCC

Date: \_\_\_\_\_5/14/13\_\_\_\_\_