

**Agenda of the
Raritan and Millstone Rivers Flood Control Commission
June 26, 2013
Meeting Minutes Draft 7/8/2013**

CALL TO ORDER - WELCOME

Chairman Jurewicz called the meeting to order 6:59pm

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: Bridgewater, Franklin, Hillsborough, Manville, Millstone, Montgomery, Rocky Hill, Somerville, South Bound Brook, Somerset County
Municipalities Absent: Raritan

FLAG SALUTE

MOMENT OF SILENCE –

The Commission requests this moment to keep Dr. Judy Shaw in our thoughts.

INTRODUCTION – Overview -Notes

- Thank you Millstone for the walking tour
- MEETING Time: – Next meeting is Sept 25th in Manville
 - o will start at 7:00pm
- New Email address :
 - o rmfcc <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: **May 2013** meeting. Motion to approve moved by Somerville 2nd by Bridgewater Ayes 10 Nays 0 Abstentions 0. Minutes Approved 10 – 0 Roll Call Vote: Ayes:

10 Bridgewater, Franklin, Hillsborough, Manville, Millstone, Montgomery, Rocky Hill, Somerville, South Bound Brook, Somerset County. Nays 0. Approved 10 - 0

Correspondence:

Email and Mail sent to the Commission from:

- Emails to Representatives.
- Email from various Representatives to be discussed by Secretary with a scheduled meeting with Rush Holt on June 21, 2013.
- Various responses from governing officials to be discussed by Secretary
- Letter from Senator Menendez
- Utilizing the RMRFCC Facebook Account for upcoming events. Please like us on Facebook and Invite friends.
- Email coverage request to Media for tonight's walking tour; NJ 101.5, NJN Publishing, The Princeton Packet, Manville News, The Star Ledger, The Courier News, The Spectator and About Our Town.

Chairman Jurewicz reviews the month's activity and has noted the RMRFCC is slowly becoming the squeaky wheel and will continue making contacts with legislation. The meeting with Rush Holt was reviewed with very positive results, including supportive staff to assist the commission with seeking and writing grant applications.

TRESURER'S REPORT (Kevin Sluka)

- 1) Claims for Payment: Dan Dixon : reimbursement \$58.98
- 2) Income: (none)
- 3) Budget Encumbrances (none)
- 4) Donation of Gift to RMRFCC (none)

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT (KEVIN SLUKA)

The reconciled balance of the account as of May 31, 2103 is \$8,795.02

Motion to approve the Finance Report moved by Hillsborough 2nd by Millstone Roll Call
Vote: Ayes: 10 Bridgewater, Franklin, Hillsborough, Manville, Millstone, Montgomery, Rocky Hill, Somerville, South Bound Brook, Somerset County. Nays 0. Approved 10 - 0

ANNUAL DUES

Checks or purchase orders can be sent to:

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

BUDGET CREATION FOR 2013

The updated budget status has been e-mailed to all members on the finance committee.

RESOLUTIONS 2013

OPEN – NONE

Commission Secretary –

LEGISLATIVE and COMMUNICATION COMMITTEE REPORT (Frank Jurewicz for Dan Dixon)

Support

The Commission will continue correspondence with the supporting legislation and seek further contact with Frank Pallone, Jr., Leonard Lance, Rodney P. Frelinghuysen and Governor Chris Christie. The board is open to a meeting in Washington to express their commitment and dedication to the completion of the Army Corps of Engineers Study.

ENGINEERING COMMITTEE REPORT (Carl Andreassen)

Review the topic of interest to commission from an engineering perspective:

Mr. Andreassen commented on the walking tour of Millstone stated it was very good and informative.

MONTHLY STATUS REPORT - ARMY CORPS of ENGINEERS

Update and status report on study

Project Manager: Robert Greco

Email: Robert.Greco@usace.army.mil

Mail: 26 Federal Plaza, New York, NY 10278

- Setup a tour of Lost Valley and Franklin side of the Millstone River.
 - Try to set it up for 4th week in July.

Robert Greco reviewed current status of funds and report:

The budget is at \$399,000 making it a total of at least \$800,000 including matching funds. Mr. Greco reviewed the 3 plans in process and expected completion timeframes. The Feasibility Plan, the Benefit Cost Ratio (BC Ratio) and the Non-Structural Plan. The feasibility plan and benefit cost ratio plan: available Sept. 13, 2013 and a meeting for Sept. 25 for review. Channelization plan: June 7, 2013 complete. The Non-structural plan is still open - draft on June 28, 2013 with a review on July 19, 2013. The Army Corps is looking for a 2015 completion – no date.

Mr. Greco has been in communication with Senator Menendez, as referenced in the letter dated May 31, 2013 from Senator Menendez to the RMRFCC. The Army Corps is pushing as hard as they can and advises to continue to scream.

A Q&A session opened as Public Portion:

1. Kevin Sluka, requested information on how cost values and purchased homes will affect the BC Ratio. Mr. Greco will forward email directly to Kevin.
2. Lawrence Tarentino, Millstone: expressed concern that towns are expected to rebuild but there isn't a strong attempt to control water. Mr. Greco explained how the studies addressed this topic but any changes can only cause an impact of 2/10 of a foot to opposite bank.
3. RJ Robinson, Manville: Asked the Army Corps of Engineers to please consider the fact that the standing water in flooding areas had no way to exit and sat for days. The mold is a serious health issue for the community.
4. Henry Wierzbowski, Millstone: would like to know if there is information on the extent of the model and confirm where there is no impact. Carl Andreassen explained the study confirms there is no more than 2/10 of a foot of impact.
5. Ron Morris, Millstone: asked about the upstream affect. Mr. Jurewicz explained that activity would not make upstream worse.
6. Lawrence Tarentino, Millstone: expressed concern that there is activity going on at smaller scales, without a permit and not monitored that are impacting the overall flooding issues.
7. Jan Tenbrooke, Millstone: would like to remind the Army Corps of Engineers to remediate but also consider the historical value and condition of the affected areas.

PRESENTATION and SPECIAL GUEST

None

OLD BUSINESS

- State creation of a flood task force update – Still not voted on.
- Webpage – Setting up meeting with the county, host our webpage and email accounts?
- Working with Rutgers on getting help on projects in 2013/2014

Mr. Jurewicz added the need for a voice in Washington with strong support from Assemblyman Jack Ciattarelli. Three members were to represent the commission: Brian D. Levine, Mayor of Franklin, Angelo Corradino, Mayor of Manville and Chairman Frank Jurewicz. The goal is to communicate being penalized for not getting hit by Sandy.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Gain new leads and gain an appointment with Rodney P. Frelinghuysen.
2. DEP approved to clean out river, but they need manpower.
3. Vote to approve a \$75 fee for a booth at the Raritan Duck Festival, Sept. 2013, if the board can find people to staff. Motion to approve moved by Manville 2nd by Millstone
Roll Call Vote: Ayes: 10 Bridgewater, Franklin, Hillsborough, Manville, Millstone, Montgomery, Rocky Hill, Somerville, South Bound Brook, Somerset County. Nays 0.
Approved 10 – 0

4. Councilman James Vassanella asked to include RMRFCC at the Canal Fest in Franklin Twp.

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.

Steven DeRochi, AIA, offered to assist in flyers/brochures for RMRFCC.
Councilman James Vassanella offered to assist in production of a film for RMRFCC.
The goal is to continue getting out to the public and to legislation.

PUBLIC PORTION

- Motion to open to the Public

Public Portion was addressed during the monthly status report for the Army Corps of Engineers. No motion was required.

COMMENTS FROM THE COMMISSION MEMBERS

- Q/A

No comments from the Commission Members.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to Adjourn moved by Rocky Hill, 2nd by Manville. Unanimous Aye vote to Adjourn.
7:59 pm.

Submitted:

CJShaw
Carmella Shaw

Date: 7/08/13