

**Agenda of the
Raritan and Millstone Rivers Flood Control Commission
September 25, 2013
Meeting Minutes Draft 10/10/2013**

CALL TO ORDER - WELCOME

Chairman Jurewicz called the meeting to order 7:02pm

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, Rocky Hill, Somerville (arrival 7:12pm), South Bound Brook, Somerset County
Municipalities Absent: Bridgewater, Raritan

FLAG SALUTE

MOMENT OF SILENCE –

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

INTRODUCTION – Overview -Notes

- MEETING Time: – Next meeting is Oct 23th in Bridgewater
 - o will start at 7:00pm
- New Email address :
 - o rmrfcc <rmrfcc@gmail.com>
- Added to Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/#!/RMR FCC>
- Phone# (406) 356-6365 (floodnj)
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Recording SECRETARY’S REPORT (Carmella Shaw)

Approval of Minutes:

Approval of Minutes: **June 2013** meeting. Motion to approve moved by Rocky Hill 2nd by Hillsborough Ayes 9 Nays 0 Abstentions 0. Minutes Approved 9 – 0 Roll Call Vote: Ayes: 9 Franklin, Hillsborough, Manville, Millstone, Montgomery, Rocky Hill, Somerville, South Bound Brook, Somerset County.

Correspondence:

Email and Mail sent to the Commission from:

Chairman Jurewicz reviews the activity over the summer and has noted the RMRFCC squeaky wheel is gaining attention and they will continue making contacts with legislation. He also informed the group of the walking tour with the Army Corps of Engineers Representatives.

TRESURER'S REPORT (Kevin Sluka)

- 1) Claims for Payment: Carmella Shaw
2nd Quarter Invoice \$300 April/May/June
- 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 August 30, 2013 is \$8,736.04

Motion to approve the Finance Report moved by Franklin 2nd by Manville Roll Call Vote: Ayes: 9 Franklin, Hillsborough, Manville, Millstone, Montgomery, Rocky Hill, Somerville, South Bound Brook, Somerset County. Nays 0. Approved 9 - 0

Motion to approve claims for payment to Carmella Shaw: moved by Rocky Hill 2nd by Manville Roll Call Vote: Ayes: 9 Franklin, Hillsborough, Manville, Millstone, Montgomery, Rocky Hill, Somerville, South Bound Brook, Somerset County. Nays 0. Approved 9 - 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 (Dan Dixon)

Support

The Commission will continue correspondence with the supporting legislation and gain more meetings to support the RMR FCC.

ENGINEERING COMMITTEE REPORT (Carl Andreassen)

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

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

- Overview of tour of Lost Valley and Franklin side of the Millstone River.
- 2013 funding for study
- Go over 3 options from the outcome of the study.
- Ratio number
- Next steps (NJDEP, Governor, approvals)

Robert Greco reviewed current status of funds:

The board was provided with a spreadsheet of the current funding and overview since inception. In 2001, there was \$6.8 million. As of 2013, 3.5 million has been spent with 3.258 million remaining. Mr. Greco explained that the USACE may not need all the money to complete the study.

Chairman Jurewicz explained that no funds have been allocated for 2014. However, continued efforts by the supporting legislation, the commission and the people of the town writing their representatives will continue to gain attention and help gain support.

PRESENTATION and SPECIAL GUEST

Army Corp and DEP

(Robert Greco, Alek Petersen, Andre Chancey, Jr. and Elina Manno)

Robert Greco and team presented a thorough review of the 3 alternative plans in process by the USACE (Levee and Flood Walls, Channelization and Non-Structural). Each plan was thoroughly discussed and explained with interjection by the board and the public. The team encouraged feedback from the point of view of those who have experienced the flooding in these areas.

The Q & A session included the following feedback:

1. Kevin Relner, Manville: Feels the Levee and Flood walls will not stop the water.
2. Mr. Saharko, Manville: Feels the plan should move out further into Hillsborough.

3. Linda Marshalek, Manville: questioned what will stop water from coming through the under path with the Levee and Flood wall plan.
4. Martin Marshalek, Manville: Concerned height of wall isn't high enough as he had 10-14ft. of water in his yard during Irene.
5. Ray Charneski, Manville: Works on the river and felt dredging would be a benefit.
6. Mayor Corradino, Manville: observes the Channelization plan as having less impact is still damage.
7. Ray Charneski, Manville: works along the rivers and claims there are gates that should be opened during heavy rains. Mr. Greco stated that they were not informed by the Water Authority of any gates and they need to follow up on this topic.
8. Lizbeth Haines, Rocky Hill: Questioned the benefit of any of these plans for Rocky Hill and upstream towns.

Mr. Greco closed the session with a timeline of approximately October 4, 2013 for the studies to be submitted to the NJDEP for their review of each plan. He further explained that there would be a status update each month with supporting material.

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?
- Rutgers to design Webpage after we get the system from the county
- Working with Rutgers on getting help on projects in 2013/2014
- Review the Brochure and Power Point Loop (prepared by Steven DeRochi) to be used at the fair.
- Table coverage for the Duck raise in Raritan :
- Raritan River Fest and Rubber Duck Race is taking place on Sunday, September 29, 2013 from 12:00 PM to 5:00 PM between Canal Street Park

Sara Malone was present for Judy Shaw in her absence. The board is looking to move forward with Rutgers assistance with the Website.

NEW BUSINESS

- Work with Rutgers to identify grant projects attainable by the RMRFCC.
 - Cleanup of the Millstone River.
 - Plant and grass planning in open space
 - Etc...
- Letter from Senator Menendez.
 - Contact Senator = <http://www.menendez.senate.gov/contact/>
- NJ Flood Buyout and Elevation Grant Program
 - The State of New Jersey will be administering programs for the possible buyout or elevation of flood-affected homes. Although the funding for these programs comes from Super Storm Sandy, the Towns in Somerset County are also eligible as Somerset County was a declared disaster area after the storm. While the applications are pointed at coastal communities, please contact your local administrator to complete them anyway.

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.

PUBLIC PORTION

- Motion to open to the Public

Motion to Open to the Public moved by Manville, 2nd by Millstone. Opened at 9:48 pm.

COMMENTS FROM THE COMMISSION MEMBERS

- Q/A

No comments from the Commission Members.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to Adjourn moved by Manville, 2nd by Millstone. Unanimous Aye vote to Adjourn. 9:50 pm.

Submitted:

____CJShaw____
Carmella Shaw

Date: 10/12/13