

MINUTES
RARITAN & MILLSTONE RIVERS FLOOD CONTROL COMMISSION
May 28, 2014

Chairman Jurewicz called the meeting to order at 7:19 p.m.

Secretary McCarthy read the following Open Public Meetings Act Statement:

“In accordance with Section 5 of the Open Public Meeting Act, Chapter 231, Public Law 1975, be advised that adequate notice of this Meeting of the Raritan and Millstone Rivers Flood Control Commission was made by the posting on the bulletin boards in the participating municipalities and transmitted to the officially designated newspapers, a list of dates, annually, indicating that this Meeting would take place at the Duke Farms, Farm Barn (Orientation Center), 1112 Dukes Parkway West, Hillsborough, NJ on Wednesday, May 28, 2014. In addition, a copy of this notice is and has been available to the public and is on file in the Office of the Municipal Clerk in the Township of Franklin.”

Municipalities Present: Bridgewater, Franklin, Hillsborough, Manville, Millstone, Rocky Hill, Somerville (arrived at 8:04 p.m.), Somerset County

Municipalities Absent: Montgomery, Raritan, South Bound Brook

Everyone present participated in the pledge of allegiance and a moment of silence led by Chairman Jurewicz.

INTRODUCTION - OVERVIEW NOTES

Chairman Jurewicz announced the current contact information for the Commission.

He announced the June meeting is scheduled for June 25, 2014 in at Franklin Township, Municipal Complex, 475 DeMott Lane, Somerset, NJ 08873 at 7:00 p.m.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Manville to approve the April 23, 2014 minutes, as submitted. Said motion was seconded by Millstone and carried as follows upon call of the roll:

Ayes:	Bridgewater, Hillsborough, Manville, Millstone, Somerset County
Nays:	None
Absent:	Montgomery, Raritan, Somerville, South Bound Brook
Abstain:	Franklin, Rocky Hill

Correspondence

Chairman Jurewicz reported that they have not been successful with setting up a meeting with their Federal Representatives to discuss funding.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Chairman Jurewicz, on behalf of Treasurer Sluka presented the following Treasurer's Report:

- 1) Claims for Payment:
 - a) Post Office Box - \$64.00 - 6-month renewal
 - b) Vella, Singer, Martinez - \$160.00
 - c) Mallery Grazin Meats - \$450.00
 - d) Frank Jurewicz - thumb drive - \$42.79
- 2) Income: \$250.00 (Township of Montgomery)
- 3) Budget Encumbrances: None
- 4) Donation of Gift to RMR FCC: None

The aforesaid Treasurer's Report was accepted upon motion by Bridgewater, seconded by Franklin and carried unanimously upon call of the roll.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Chairman Jurewicz, on behalf of Treasurer Sluka presented the following Finance Committee Report:

The balance of the account as of May 28, 2014 is \$7,768.84.

Following agency dues are paid: Bridgewater; Hillsborough; Millstone; Montgomery, Raritan; Rocky Hill; Somerville; South Bound Brook

A motion was made by Hillsborough to accept the aforesaid Finance Committee Report. Said motion was seconded by Franklin and carried unanimously upon call of the roll.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

- Setup meeting with our representatives
- Work with intern to get data on the rivers
- The Commission will continue correspondence with supporting Legislation and seek further contact with our Senators and Governor. The Board is open to meeting in

Washington DC to express its dedication to the completion of the US Army Corps of Engineers study and to mitigate the flooding in Somerset County.

Resolution Supporting S-139 - Establishment of Hunterdon-Somerset Flood Advisory Task Force

Chairman Jurewicz presented the following resolution for consideration:

WHEREAS, the Raritan and Millstone Rivers Flood Control Commission (RMRFCC) was initiated by a group of concerned citizens who live along the Millstone and Rivers' flood plains; and

WHEREAS, with flooding increasing in frequency and volume, the Boroughs of Manville, Millstone, Rocky Hill, Somerville, Raritan and South Bound Brook, along with the Townships of Bridgewater, Franklin, Montgomery and Hillsborough joined with Somerset County to create the Raritan and Millstone Rivers Flood Control Commission in 2011 with an organized focus on the flooding affecting their towns and trying to find ways to help its residents; and

WHEREAS, the Raritan and Millstone Rivers Flood Control Commission's mission is to collect, study and share flood data, coordinate flood mitigation efforts, and educate the public and residents about flood prevention and preparation; and

WHEREAS, today the Raritan and Millstone Rivers Flood Control Commission represents the interest of over 204,735 residents of Somerset County directly affected by the flooding and 327,707 total residents by the Millstone and Raritan Rivers' flooding; and

WHEREAS, S-139 will establish the Hunterdon-Somerset Flood Advisory Task Force which will be charged with reviewing past flooding events within Hunterdon and Somerset counties from flooding of the Delaware River and the Raritan River and their respective tributaries, and recommending measures to reduce future impacts resulting from flooding on residents, businesses, and local government units in the Delaware River and Raritan River basins; and

WHEREAS, the passage of S-139 is vital to the fostering of the Raritan and Millstone Rivers Flood Control Commission's mission; and

WHEREAS, with passage of S-139, the flooding issues affecting Somerset County will be looked at as a State wide issue and will assist each town and county that is currently trying to deal with the grave and financially costly problem on their own; and

WHEREAS, S-139 will allow for greater sharing of data and information to make the resolution of the State wide flooding problem faster for all residents of New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, passage of S-139 would demonstrate the State understands of the perils that our constituents face each time it rains;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Raritan and Millstone Rivers Flood Control Commission strongly supports the passage of S-139 and calls upon the State Legislature to take action on the same.

The aforesaid resolution was moved by Millstone, seconded by Manville and carried unanimously upon call of the roll.

ENGINEERING COMMITTEE REPORT

Chairman Jurewicz announced that the overview of each proposed plan at the NJDEP will be discussed at the June meeting.

PUBLIC RELATIONS & COMMUNICATION COMMITTEE REPORT

Ms. Whitman launched the Commission's new website. She thanked Sara Malone, Rutgers's University and Merisa Gilman, Rutgers's intern for their help and their invaluable advice with the website.

Ms. Whitman asked for volunteers from the Commission to attend on behalf of the Commission at the 4H Fair in August, Raritan River Duck Race in September and Canal Fest in Franklin in October.

MONTHLY STATUS REPORT - ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

Robert Greco, Army Corps of Engineers provided a status report on the three proposed plans submitted to the NJDEP. He announced that a discussion and report would be conducted at the Commission's June meeting.

PRESENTATION

Chairman Jurewicz and Treasurer Sluka presented the PowerPoint presentation made to the Somerset County Board of Chosen Freeholders on May 27th.

OLD BUSINESS

- Go over Goal and objectives for 2014.
- Reach out to Branchburg to joint commission - **Pending - Greg Bonin**
- Can we be setup to raise money? (DS). - **Pending - Change status to 501(c)(4)**
- Letter to Federal representative for funding project for 2014.
 - Setup a meeting to talk to our representative in Washington. - **Pending**
- Setup meeting to present our point of view of the 3 plans with our State representatives, NJDEP and Army Corp of engineers. - **Pending**

NEW BUSINESS

Chairman Jurewicz announced that commendations are to be sent to the following: Rebecca Perkins for her work on the PowerPoint presentation; Sara Malone and Merisa Gilman for their work on the website.

PUBLIC PORTION

A discussion with the public ensued regards the river cleanups; the Governor's appearance on Radio 101.5 and removal of the dams in Raritan.

COMMENTS FROM THE COMMISSION MEMBERS

None were made at this time.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Rocky Hill to adjourn the meeting at 9:25 p.m. Said motion was seconded by Millstone and carried unanimously upon call of the roll.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Marie McCarthy
Recording Secretary

June 24, 2014