

MINUTES
RARITAN & MILLSTONE RIVERS FLOOD CONTROL COMMISSION
October 22, 2014

Chairman Jurewicz called the meeting to order at 7:07 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 Montgomery Municipal Building, 2261 Route 206, Belle Mead, NJ 08502 on Wednesday, October 22, 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: Franklin, Hillsborough, Manville, Millstone, Montgomery, Rocky Hill, Somerville (arrived at 7:40 p.m.), Somerset County

Municipalities Absent: Bridgewater, Raritan,

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 next meeting is scheduled for December 17, 2014 at the Somerset County Administration Building, 20 Grove Street, Somerville, NJ 08876 at 7:00 p.m.

SECRETARY’S REPORT

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Franklin to approve the September 30, 2014 minutes, as submitted. Said motion was seconded by Hillsborough and carried as follows upon call of the roll:

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

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Dixon made the following report: The Commission will continue correspondence with supporting Legislation and seek further contact with our Senators and Governor. The Commission 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.

ENGINEERING COMMITTEE REPORT

Chairman Jurewicz reported the Army Corps of Engineers is relooking at the alternatives of the study and will be done with its review by Thanksgiving/early December.

PUBLIC RELATIONS & COMMUNICATION COMMITTEE REPORT

Ms. Whitman asked for volunteers for committees to help in attending local events, such as Canal Fest in East Millstone, Clean Up Days in various municipalities, 4H Fair, etc.

MONTHLY STATUS REPORT – ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

Chairman Jurewicz reported the Army Corps of Engineers is working with the NJDEP on the continuing to review these plans that were divided into 8 smaller categories with the results being presented at the December Commission meeting.

PRESENTATION

Raymond S. Murray, CMFO/CTC/CMR/QPA, Green Brook Flood Commission spoke at length on the Green Brook Flood Project. He spoke on the creation of the Green Brook Flood Commission and gave an overview of the Green Brook Flood Basin. He spoke of the federal grants awarded and noted there were many years when they were not funded by the Federal government. He spoke of the Army Corps of Engineers projects and specifically spoke on this year's funding of \$9 million that was bumped up to \$20 million. He explained the need to lobby for funding. He stated Congressmen Frelinghuysen and Holt were great supports of the project. He stated they have to get the cost/benefit ratio to work or no one will listen or fund the project. At this time there was a question and answer period between Mr. Murray and Commission members.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Sluka presented the following Treasurer's Report:

- 1) Claims for Payment:
 - a) Vella, Singer, Martinez - \$320.00 – August/September 2014
 - b) EarthCam - \$8,174.00
- 2) Income: None
- 3) Budget Encumbrances: None
- 4) Donation of Gift to RMR FCC: None

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

A motion was made to accept a shipping bill in the amount of \$87.02 by Hillsborough, seconded by Franklin and carried unanimously upon call of the roll.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Treasurer Sluka presented the following Finance Committee Report:

The balance of the account as of October 22, 2014 is \$18,536.86 (including grant money).

All dues are paid.

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

OLD BUSINESS

The Commission discussed the establishment of the Commission being a non-profit, separate government entity with its own tax identification number. A meeting was scheduled for November 20th at 7 p.m. in Manville to review the Army Corps of Engineers/NJDEP study options.

It was noted that an audit will need to be conducted in 2015.

Chairman Jurewicz directed the Secretary to send an invitation to Branchburg to join the Commission. Chairman Jurewicz spoke on the need to set up a meeting with Federal representatives regarding funding projects in 2015. He reminded participating municipalities of the increase in 2015 dues to \$500.00 and to amend their ordinances to reflect the same. He provided an overview of the American Water Grant Purchase.

NEW BUSINESS

The Reorganization Meeting is scheduled for the 4th Wednesday in January in Manville. Chairman Jurewicz asked for those interested in serving as an officer or on a committee to contact him.

He spoke on reaching out and revitalizing their relationship with municipalities. He spoke on working with other organizations regarding river clean ups and obtaining grants.

PUBLIC PORTION

A motion was made by Somerville, seconded by Manville to open the public portion of the meeting.

There being no comments from the public at this time, a motion was made by Somerville, seconded by Millstone to close the public portion of the meeting.

COMMENTS FROM THE COMMISSION MEMBERS

Mr. Sluka spoke on Somerville's rain garden that was planted across the street from the YMCA. He also spoke of the Rain Barrel Program.

Chairman Jurewicz spoke on obtaining an intern from Rutgers' University to collect information and pictures from the participating municipalities for the webpage. Mr. Sluka will send out a draft job description.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Millstone to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 p.m. Said motion was seconded by Somerville and carried unanimously upon call of the roll.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Marie McCarthy
Recording Secretary