

MINUTES
RARITAN & MILLSTONE RIVERS FLOOD CONTROL COMMISSION
JANUARY 25, 2017

Secretary McCarthy called the meeting to order at 7:02 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 Manville Borough Council Chambers, 325 North Main Street, Manville, NJ 08835 on January 25, 2017. 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, Montgomery, Rocky Hill, Somerville, Somerset County

Municipalities Absent: Bridgewater, Millstone, Raritan and South Bound Brook

Everyone present participated in the pledge of allegiance and a moment of silence led by Secretary McCarthy.

INTRODUCTION – OVERVIEW NOTES

Secretary McCarthy reviewed the contact information for the Raritan and Millstone Rivers Flood Control Commission. She announced the next meeting will be held on March 22, 2017 at the Hillsborough Municipal Building.

ELECTION OF 2016 OFFICERS

Chairperson

A motion by Somerville, seconded by Montgomery was made nominating Frank Jurewicz as Chairperson for a one-year term ending December 31, 2017. Said motion carried unanimously upon call of the roll.

Vice Chairperson

A motion by Manville, seconded by Somerville was made nominating Steve DeRochi as Vice Chairperson for a one-year term ending December 31, 2017.

A motion by Rocky Hill, seconded by Somerville to close the nominations for Vice Chairperson. Said motion carried unanimously upon call of the roll.

The motion to appoint Steve DeRochi as Vice Chairperson carried unanimously upon call of the roll.

Treasurer

A motion by Manville, seconded by Somerset County was made nominating Kevin Sluka as Treasurer for a one-year term ending December 31, 2017.

A motion by Montgomery, seconded by Franklin to close the nominations for Treasurer. Said motion carried unanimously upon call of the roll.

The motion to appoint Kevin Sluka as Treasurer carried unanimously upon call of the roll.

Commission Secretary

There being no nominations made for Commission Secretary, a motion by Manville, seconded by Franklin was made to table the nomination of Commission Secretary for a one-year term ending December 31, 2017. Said motion carried unanimously upon call of the roll.

1st Trustee

A motion by Manville, seconded by Montgomery was made nominating Scott Thomas as 1st Trustee for a one-year term ending December 31, 2017.

A motion by Manville, seconded by Montgomery was made to close nominations for 1st Trustee. A motion by Said motion carried unanimously upon call of the roll.

The motion to appoint Scott Thomas as 1st Trustee carried unanimously upon call of the roll.

2nd Trustee

A motion by Manville, seconded by Somerville was made nominating Robert Kaminski as 2nd Trustee for a one-year term ending December 31, 2017.

A motion by Somerville, seconded by Franklin was made to close nominations for 2nd Trustee. Said motion carried unanimously upon call of the roll.

The motion to appoint Robert Kaminski as 2nd Trustee carried unanimously upon call of the roll.

Board Attorney

A motion was made by Manville, seconded by Somerville to appoint David Singer of Vella, Singer Associates as Board Attorney for a one-year term ending December 31, 2017 at \$800.00 for the calendar year.

A motion was made de by Manville, seconded by Somerville to close nominations for Board Attorney. Said motion carried unanimously upon call of the roll.

The motion to appoint David Singer of Vella, Singer Associates as Board Attorney for a one-year term ending December 31, 2017 at \$800.00 for the calendar year carried unanimously upon call of the roll.

Board Recording Secretary

A motion was made by Somerville, seconded by Franklin to appoint Ann Marie McCarthy as Board Recording Secretary for a one-year term ending December 31, 2017 at \$200.00 per month.

A motion was made by Montgomery, seconded by Somerville to close nominations for Board Recording Secretary. Said motion carried unanimously upon call of the roll.

The motion to appoint Ann Marie McCarthy as Board Recording Secretary for a one-year term ending December 31, 2017 at \$200.00 per month carried unanimously upon call of the roll.

ADOPTION OF 2017 BUDGET

A motion was made by Manville, seconded by Somerville to table the adoption of the 2017 Budget until the March 22, 2017 meeting. Said motion carried unanimously upon call of the roll.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made by Montgomery to approve the minutes of December 14, 2016. The motion was seconded by Hillsborough and carried upon voice vote with abstentions from Rocky Hill and Somerville.

Correspondence

Chairman Jurewicz reported on the New Jersey News broadcast of the Commission's response to the Army Corps of Engineers Report on Channel 13.

Chairman Jurewicz reported on the Army Corps of Engineers response to the Commission's response to their report. He stated the Army Corps of Engineers had many comments and questions to the Commission. He stated the report is based on numbers for a small area and noted the area should have been much larger to include parts of Hillsborough and Millstone. He stated there will be no more small projects and the Commission has been guided to the NJDEP, FEMA, EPA, Somerset County and municipalities. He stated the final review of the report is to be presented to Manville sometime this year. He stated in March the Commission will send its final response.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Sluka reported letters were sent out to the participating municipalities and Somerset County regarding the 2016/17 Dues, noting the decrease in dues to \$250.00 each.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Treasurer Sluka presented the following Finance Committee Report reporting the balance of the account is \$9,199.57 as of January 25, 2017. Said Finance Report was approved upon motion by Franklin, seconded by Hillsborough and carried unanimously upon call of the roll.

2017 COMMITTEE REPORTS

Legislative Committee

A motion was made by Manville, seconded by Somerville to nominate Dan Dixon (Chair) and Robert Kaminski to the Legislative Committee for a one-year term ending December 31, 2017.

A motion was made by Somerville, seconded by Manville to close nominations for members of the Legislative Committee. Said motion carried unanimously upon call of the roll.

The motion to appoint Dan Dixon (Chair) and Robert Kaminski to the Legislative Committee carried unanimously upon call of roll.

Public Relations & Communications Committee

A motion was made by Manville, seconded by Somerville to nominate Steve DeRochi (Chair) and Alison Whitman to the Public Relations & Communications Committee for a one-year term ending December 31, 2017.

A motion was made by Manville, seconded by Somerville to close the nominations for members of the Public Relations & Communications Committee. Said motion carried unanimously upon call of the roll.

The motion to appoint Steve DeRochi and Alison Whitman to the Public Relations & Communications Committee carried unanimously upon call of the roll.

Engineering Committee

A motion was made by Somerville, seconded by Hillsborough to nominate Carl Andreassen (Chair), Thomas Belanger, Scott Thomas, Thomas Forsythe and Robert Kaminski to the Engineering Committee for a one-year term ending December 31, 2017.

A motion was made by Montgomery, seconded by Somerville to close nominations for members of the Engineering Committee. Said motion carried unanimously upon call of the roll.

The motion to appoint Carl Andreassen (Chair), Thomas Belanger, Scott Thomas, Thomas Forsythe and Robert Kaminski to the Engineering Committee carried unanimously upon call of the roll.

OLD BUSINESS

RMRFCC Presentation to Municipalities

Chairman Jurewicz asked the Public Relations & Communications Committee to update the presentation that was done three years ago. He stated they need to go to every municipality to get the Commission known. He recommended the presentation be set up in February and voted on in March.

Army Corps of Engineers Response to the RMRFCC Letter

Chairman Jurewicz reiterated the presentation on the final report should be in Manville in April or May. The Army Corps of Engineers will no longer do smaller projects as they have changed their scope for projects. He stated the Commission needs to reach out to legislators and other agencies to find funding for smaller, shovel ready projects. He stated they should prioritize the projects from the Somerset County's project. It was discussed to get presentation on the OEM agenda. Chairman Jurewicz suggested the Commission advocate to the municipalities for projects and then the Commission would assist in facilitating and brokering the projects.

American Water Grant Application

After a brief discussion, it was the consensus to apply for an American Water Company grant to provide funding for their EarthCam in the amount of \$5,000.00.

June Event

The Commission discussed partnering with other agencies to put together a June event. Agencies recommended included Rutgers, Stony By-Way Watershed Association, Sustainable Raritan, County Parks Commission and NJ Flood Plain Managers.

NEW BUSINESS

Chairman Jurewicz spoke on the need to reach out to Raritan and South Bound Brook regarding attending meetings and participating in the Commission.

Mr. Kaminski suggested the website be updated. Mr. Kaminski spoke on the positive results from the weir removal on Old York Road. He spoke of the problems of the Island Farm Weir in Manville and the need for it to be removed. He spoke of the Weston Causeway being next and that it will bring little help to Manville.

Mr. Kaminski asked for a copy of the Army Corps of Engineers' final report.

PUBLIC PORTION

A motion was made to open the meeting to the public for any matter of concern by Somerville. Said motion was seconded by Hillsborough and carried unanimously upon call of the roll.

Mayor Richard Onderko, 921 Louis Street, Manville, thanked the Commission for continuing and noted it is a benefit to those participating municipalities. He asked that the website be updated in a timelier manner. He reported on a NJ Flood Plain Managers and FEMA meeting where topics discussed were the new administration and the dedication for FEMA assistance. Mayor Onderko asked if the Commission questioned the numbers in the ACE Report. Chairman Jurewicz replied yes. Mayor Onderko spoke on green infrastructure projects, rain barrel and rain garden programs. He stated the river needs to be straighten on the North side of

Manville. He stated the Island Farm Weir needs to be removed and it is unacceptable if nothing is done. He stated they need a piece of the \$1 trillion of federal infrastructure funds. He stated he refuses to accept nothing can be done for Manville.

Mr. Kaminski agreed with Mayor Onderko that the Island Farm Weir needs to be removed. He spoke of the negative impact to his property from the weir.

There being no further comments from the public, a motion was made by Somerville to close the meeting to the public on any matter of concern. Said motion was seconded by Hillsborough and carried unanimously upon call of the roll.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Manville to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 p.m. Said motion was seconded by Franklin and carried unanimously upon call of the roll.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Marie McCarthy
Recording Secretary