

EBFC Minutes 10/28/13

In attendance: M Miller, P Ohsburg, T Pascarella, J Biruk, P Davis, K Rostad, E Wedemeyer, L Reilly, D Kearney, L Austin, K Manuel, R Griffiths, P Eskeli, G Dutcher, R Weidenbach

Mayor D. Cope was not available to attend and speak regarding the CRZ (Community Recovery Zone) but did send along paperwork with links & other pertinent information. EW spoke re: his experience as a member of M'ville's CRZ Committee: there are 40-60 CRZ Communities in NYS, a 2nd CRZ conference in Albany was held last week, where a number of affected communities spoke to their plans/actions/goals. March or April of 2014 is the due date for the plan/vision to be in place, with the help of top engineers & planners. CRZ communities are being asked to think big & out of the box – spending the funds that are available not to make long term fixes – building it back & better. Answering a question from Mayor Pascarella, EW also explained that the idea is to focus for now on M'ville & that this will have an extended, radiating effect on the community as a whole. The M'ville CRZ is having a public meeting 11/2 at 10a.m. (doors open at 9:30, w refreshments served) at the M'ville Fire Hall.

Hardenburgh Supervisor Paul Ohsberg spoke re: Hardenburgh, also a CRZ community; they are partnering with Shandaken with a focus on flood plain management, infrastructure & communicating a need to have greater ease re: getting into the streams for better local stream management. They have scheduled a public meeting for 11/9 – 1p.m. - at Belleayre.

GD & RW spoke briefly with a Soil & Water update re: EWP/NRCS Projects. Final write-off of all projects occurred last week with one project outstanding that will remain incomplete, going into 2014. On 11/14 there will be a tour of the Arkville & Flmns sites sponsored by Soil & Water & Del Cty Watershed Affairs.

PD spoke to the progress we are making on CRS (Community

Ratings System, FEMA), where we hope to enter the program as a class 9 or better, as well as serious implications re: Biggert Waters & the potential for huge insurance rate increases for local residents. PE spoke to everyone getting a letter notifying them of a change in the flood mapping & notification of impact. There will be a public meeting for affected owners during the process of map review & adoption. He suggested any documentation proving water did not enter your home during Irene is to be kept for possible presentation. Mitigation projects (a.k.a. Flmnns' EWP sites) can positively impact mapping for local property owners. PD said proof positive (flood elevation certificates, photos) are the best evidence as there is a challenge process for homeowners who feel they have been unfairly included in the flood plain etc. RW spoke re: a plan to have an open house, which Del Cty Planning & Watershed Affairs have scheduled at SUNY Delhi 12/5 at 6:30. Local banks, insurance agents, realtors and other stake holders will be invited as it is vital that as much as possible people are informed & on the same page.

KM reminded everyone that Del County Planning has a complete inventory of all housing & business properties so as to better contact & understand the new maps & their impact. PE said that letters of grant \$ awards for home elevations went out; no one was aware of any residents locally receiving a letter.

RW spoke to CWC & Soil & Water having \$\$ to do flood mitigation projects to lower flood elevations, reduce flood plain elevations including \$\$ to move buildings.

KM reported that appraisals of all FEMA buyout properties have been completed. update & Hazard Mitigation Grants – Del. County Planning

The meeting was adjourned at approx. 11:30.

N.B.: Our next Meeting is November 25th 10a.m. in Town Hall

