

East Branch Flood Commission 11/26/12 Minutes

Present were: Marge Miller, Innes Kasanof, Todd Pascarella, John Biruk, Pat Davis, Susanna Finch, Larry Reilly, Dave Budin, Henry Friedman, Lee Austin, Geoff Samuels, Frank Canavan, Joyce St. George, Mike Jestremski, Dean Frazier, Ric Weidenbach, Graydon Dutcher, Lauren Davis

I Kasanof gave regrets for and from the absent SEMO rep., who is now handling the entire disaster caseload from Sandy on the Port Authority of NYS. It is hoped he might be able to join us for an overview of the SEMO/FEMA/local municipalities' relationships and procedures at a later date.

Miller presented Kasanoff, Pascarella & Friedman with bid sheets rec'd by Middletown, which bid prices are available for all to use altho prevailing wage and availability are potential issues. Biruk explained that in future Middletown will, like Delaware County, be doing regular bidding IN Marhc of each year, awarding in April, on equipment as a part of disaster preparedness efforts. Miller gave Pascarella, Friedman, Kasanof and St. George/Canavan Middletown Emergency phone number magnets for distribution to citizens in the villages as well as at the Food Pantry.

A general discussion was held regarding LTCRS Grants, with a concern being raised re: general municipal law for the RFP or Lead Agency process for the work on this grant. Miller agreed to consult w Town & Village/s Attorney John Fairbairn regarding this potential issue and how best to deal w it prior to a resolution naming MARK lead agency. A brief point was made about Middletown's desire to make affordable housing off the flood plain and flood mitigation planning top priorities for the grant, whereas for the villages the priority is more in the economic development line. Weidenbach spoke to the long term planning needed for funding as well as creating community-wide support for any plans, especially given the potential for difficult decisions re: flood mitigation. Pat Davis also spoke to the difficult challenges re: tax base and for the community on larger issues given the reoccurrence of flooding as well as new flood maps and changes in flood insurance. Dave Budin spoke to concerns about Margaretville's viability without Freshtown, the creation of an enterprise zone on 28, and the possibility of annexing parts of Middletown to the village.

There was a brief review of the draft of a resolution for all of the

municipalities and the county in support of the continuance of NFIP subsidies. Mike Jestermski will review and return comments after he has met w the Flood Plain Managers group in two weeks and M Miller will also show the draft to Glen Nealis at Delaware County Economic Development for his input and bring it to the January Flood Commission meeting so that, in a better form, all of the municipalities can use it for greater impact. In January we will also have a full EWP update from Graydon Dutcher as well as a memo and list of potential point gathering actions and strategy for FEMA's CRS program from M Jestremski.

Schedule meetings in 2013 will be as follows: the last Monday of each month @ 10a.m. in Town Hall with the exception of Thursday, May 30, when we will have a 7p.m. Public Event w EWP & CRS updates @ Town Hall (unless we determine a larger space is needed) and in August on Thrusday the 29th when we will have a Community Picnic beginning at 4p.m. in Fleischmanns, commemorating Irene's 2nd Anniversary as well as the Celebrating the Renovation & Renewal of the Village Park. Those last Monday of the month dates are as follows – all at Town Hall, although it is also agreed that we will meet in Fleischmanns as well during the year, that can be arranged and scheduled during the early 2013 winter/spring meetings:

1/28, 2/25, 3/25, 4/29, 6/24, 7/29, 9/30, 10/28, 11/25.

It was decided that a December 2012 meeting was not necessary. Happy Holidays, all.

Public input came from Lauren Davis, who spoke of a program he has subsidized at Clarkson U, wherein scientific models can potentially be of use locally regarding what is 'going on in the rivers'.

The Commission will next meet January 28th at Town Hall, 10a.m.