EBFC minutes 3/31/14

The meeting was called to order at approximately 10:05a.m. with the following present: Marge Miller, Diana Cope, Pat Davis, Henry Friedman, Dave Budin, Larry Reilly, Carol O'Beirne, Glen Faulkner, Kristin Jenke, Graydon Dutcher, Dean Frazier, Phil Eskeli, Lee Austin, Kurt Holcherr, Rich Gulde, Lauren Davis, Wes & Stanley Bates, Pete Ballard

Glen Faulkner & Carol O'Beirne, co-chairs of Margaretville's CRZ (Community Recovery Zone) committee gave updates of the program, which were as follows: the plans with a number of possible projects is now with NYS, a response is expected within 30 days, but given the changes in the process as it has gone along, this could also change. #1 Priority was a study for the choke point at Bridge Street but as the state wants shovel ready projects that can be accomplished in 18-24 months, this was an initial shift in focus with the keeping of the village whole as the top priority across the board. Shovel ready or doable in 18 - 24 months projects included work on the Bulkhead, Bull Run Bridge (undersized) Scott's Brook behind MCS (undersized culvert) as well as Economic Development plans re: Masonic Building and increasing flood resiliency of Main Street businesses. Protection and recovery plans for critical institutions (Fire Hall, MMH & village DPW along with MCS) was also a project. The submitted projects total \$7.5 million, with 3 million committed and another 3 million possible to be awarded, along with other funding from various sources. The next public outreach meeting for the CRZ process of Monday, May 5th, at the Christian Center on Main St.

Mayor Cope gave credit to Carol & Glen as well as the entire committee for doing a superb job throughout the process. Holcherr asked if more funding is available re: HR 152. Consensus was that the 3 million rec'd via CRZ is a part of that, allocated by the state to our area, and that any funding source available is being and will continue to be looked at.

Pat Davis ran through a brief history of what has been done to get all 3 municipalities applications in for FEMA's CRS (Community Ratings System) program. This has been a 4-5 year process with application being submitted last month and an ISO (Insurance audit) visit scheduled for April 10th. He anticipates we will have our score by October of 2014. This is reviewed with another visit every 5 years. Other towns in Delaware County are interested in joining CRS and can use Pat's work as a template, with a suggestion by Miller that the Board of Supervisors committee on Watershed Affairs & Eco Dev do a resolution re: consistent code enforcement and getting more CEO's in the county certified as flood plain managers. Dutcher said due to the All Hazards Mitigation Plan most communities would be eligible to enter the CRS program.

Graydon Dutcher updated briefly re: Fleischmanns' LFA (Local Flood Analysis) and there will be a public outreach meeting May 19th at 6p.m. in Skene Library regarding the LFA, which meeting will follow an April meeting to be scheduled. Miller will get several possible dates to Mayor Pascarella, Dutcher and involved parties. An expansion of the scope of the LFA to include Arkville and Kelly Corners is planned as the process progresses. Dutcher outlined the steps of phase one and two, including several public outreach meetings, to get to a very similar list of projects to the CRZ planning and projects list for the village of Margaretville.

Miller briefly spoke re: a power point prepared by Del County Watershed Affairs on the Voluntary Buyout Program. The draft rules of the program's implementation have been made available to the Mayors. Miller also mentioned that there were 57 total properties in Delaware County in the current FEMA buy-out program with 5 in Flmnns, 9 in Margaretville & 12 in Middletown as a whole.

During public comment Lauren Davis asked about the village LFA; it was explained that in order to avoid duplication, this put on hold during the CRZ process, which process has asked for a more detailed study of the East Branch focusing on the following areas: bulkhead to Bridge Street and below. The Flood Commission and Soil & Water will continue to support this process.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:35a.m.

Next Meeting is May 19th, 6p.m. at the Skene Library in Fleischmanns.