

East Branch Flood Commission Minutes – 7/26/12

The following were present @ Middletown Town Hall for the meeting, which began at 6:05p.m.: M Miller, I Kasanoff, T Pascarella, D Budin, H Friedman, P Davis, K Rostad, Y Day, C & P O'Beirne, K Holcherr, K Manuel, D Frazier

Patrick Davis did a presentation on the LOI that has been done as well as the basics re: Middletown including Margaretville & Fleischmanns entering the CRS Program. He expects that we will get an 8 initial rating from the CAV visit, which should happen by October of this year. This means that flood insurance premiums in the community for those who have policies will drop by 5%. Additionally, given that rates will go down, there is a possibility more property owners who may need the insurance, those who are not required to have it (not having mortgages), may do so. Currently there are 43 policies in Middletown (projected savings average \$118.00 per policy) 11 in Fleischmanns (\$123 average savings) and 67 in Margaretville (\$123).

There was a general discussion and questions re: what is required at the most basic level to get into CRS, which includes a fulltime B & Zoning Dept. with the ability to do enforcement and get a ratings under building code of a minimum of 4 (1 being the highest) along w Fire Department and Highway readiness levels at approximately the same as evaluated. The hope is that w Middletown leading the way, other communities in the county w chronic flooding issues will make the commitment to doing what is necessary in the same vein. Davis mentioned that there is a possibility of funding toward that end, helping towns get up to speed and afford full-time code enforcement/flood plain management etc.

Also dates set with for future Flood Commission meetings re: getting CRS points (to be published, posted and etc.) – 9/24 @ 10a.m., 10/25 @ 6p.m., 11/26 @ 10a.m., and 12/20 @ 6p.m. (N.B.: we may locate one or more of these in villages of M'ville or Fl'mnns) Other points will be garnered by linking Delaware County and other sites on our website re: flood preparedness and etc.. It was decided that P Davis will make a no more than 25 minute presentation prior to G Dutcher's stream dynamics power point at the event, Both gentlemen will then be available for questions in an informal manner in the small gym following both presentations.

Following this was a general discussion of both the Community meeting/Irene remembrance on 8/30/12 as well as ideas large and small re: recovery and preparedness. There was a group review of the template for each community & hamlet info table at the event with sections dedicated to 1. CRS, 2. Mitigation Projects in the Works, 3. Basic Disaster

Supplies Info Kit including local shelters & basics for each area of the Town, 4. Your Hamlet or Village & Its Needs, 5. Want to Help? and 6. Need Help? – along with a review of how the hall will be set up regards the same. MM asked for input and help in getting the community (including the Fire Departments) needs listed for the event. C O'B and D Cope & H Freidman will touch base w Dorothy Maffei re: community needs and the MFD re: their needs, MM will ask D Maffei & Jessica Olynech re: Arkville and will touch base for Halcottsville & Kelly Corners, TP & K Rostad will coordinate w Fleischmanns FD and Vicki Quesada for needs of the community. It was decided that Middletown would have its own table for the event.

MM reminded all present of the scheduled NIMs training in September – 9/10 @ 1pm for 3 hours & 9/14 @ 9a.m. for 3 hours. She will confirm this with Rich Bell of Delaware County, whose office will be leading the training for which there is no charge and no registration required. All elected officials are required to have basic NIMs training.

Other public outreach possibilities & next steps promoting and following 8/30 event include this weekend's CFA event, which will have a table w info for the FC and to get folks aware of the 30th, the Street Fair & other activities beginning 8/25.

Dean Frazier spoke briefly re: the agreements made between the city and the county for flood mitigation projects and that this is good news, including the release of an additional 9 million for the same. A major concern, for which he is drafting a letter to go to public officials, has been the 220-day limit on EWP Projects – this limit makes it nearly impossible to get the projects done in the time allotted, particularly given the number of projects, the slow moving bureaucratic nature of the process and our severe stream-work constraints.

There was no public Comment

MM Noted that the event committee is meeting immediately following the close of this meeting, as well as 8/14 & 8/21 – all are welcome who can help. The meeting ended at approximately 7:20p.m.

