CALL TO ORDER “In conformance with the Open Public Meetings Act, notice of this meeting of the Flood Advisory Board has been posted on the bulletin board in the municipal building and notification made to the Suburban Trends.” In addition, notice of remote meeting call in number and web access were made available on the Borough website, Facebook page and at the Municipal Building.

ROLL CALL
Lauren Venin, Chairwoman
Steve Flormann, Co-Chairman
Pat Lenoy, Corresponding Secretary
Cristiane Jennings, Recording Secretary
Maria Kent, Council Liaison
Josephine Brown
Joseph Christiano
Kathleen Cole
Julie Doncoes
Harold Vandermark

VISITORS
None

SALUTE TO THE FLAG, MOMENT OF SILENCE

WELCOME/ INTRODUCTIONS – Lauren welcomed attendees and thanked everyone for their continued support.

MINUTES – Tabled to next month.

Open Public Comments – No public present.

Logs on Dam – It has been brought to the attention of DEP. Mayor Mike Serra also brought it up at last night’s special presentation. However, DEP has been working remotely and are difficult to reach.

Dawes Highway Bridge – No update.

NFIP Expiration and Reform/Risk Rating 2.0 – Census redistricting will be effective January 2023, until then we are still dealing with Mikie Sherrill’s office. Josie provided copies of two NFIP Reauthorization bills HR 5802 and HR 3128. As private citizens we are encouraged to share these through family and friends to help spread the word.

Green Infrastructure – Green infrastructure to mitigate street flooding through rain barrels and rain gardens was discussed. It is an uncomplicated way to add to landscaping and not expensive. If residents can take on the first inch of rain, it would help make a significant difference. How to spread the information was discussed, including handing information out at OEM presentation, distribute through schools targeting gardening projects with parents and through local landscaping businesses. Using the BID as a resource was also discussed. Plan to complete flyers and cover letters for early March and hold workshop late March to early April. Hal suggested adding QR codes for additional information to keep flyers from getting too wordy. Katie Cole will research DEP website and others for flyer ideas. Cristiane will produce a cover letter to go with the packet. Steve explained QR codes have been added to trail heads that bring users to an online form to report areas of concern along the trails. See something, say something. This and our workshops can be added to CRS for added content.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:
STORM WATER MANAGEMENT – Plans for Haroldson and Riveredge habitat restoration project are in motion. Bulb captains will be contacted late April to help with this project. Invasive species will be removed, and new plantings installed.

OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE – Hershfield Park renovations were discussed including playground, bathroom, and paths. Willow field plans are available at borough hall for review. Comment period will be for 45 days, which is February 18th. Steve advised can also get Willow plans through DEP OPRA request using permit# 1609-22-0001.1.

FLOOD LEGISLATION COMMITTEE – See above.

CRS COMMITTEE – It is an audit year. CRS training seminars will be available 4/19, 7/19 and 9/20. Lauren will email links. Planning to have drone fly over rivers before April. Hal will check his resources for possible professional drone footage. Maria Kent commended Lauren for a job well done at the special Flood Hazard presentation held yesterday before the council. It was a thorough review of the hazards in order of importance.

CLIMATOLOGY – Rain total for December was 1.37 inches. Fourth quarter ended at 10.6 inches. Year-end total was 56.56 inches. January so far is at 2.88 inches. Reservoir is below action stage and rivers look good.

ADJOURNMENT – Josie Brown made a motion to adjourn, and Pat Lenoy seconded the motion at 8:53pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Cristiane Jennings