

MINUTES

August 22, 2019 Flood Advisory Board
25 Lenox Avenue
Pompton Lakes, NJ 07442

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.”

SALUTE THE FLAG/ MOMENT OF SILENCE

ROLL CALL

Lauren Venin, Chairwoman
Pat Lenoy, Corresponding Secretary
Cristiane Jennings, Recording Secretary
Julie Doncoes
Josie Brown
Joe Christiano
Katie Cole
Erik DeLine, Council Liaison

WELCOME/ INTRODUCTIONS No food or drink in Council Chambers

MINUTES Katie Cole made a motion to accept the July minutes, seconded by Pat Lenoy.

MOTION TO OPEN/CLOSE FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS Lauren made a motion to open for public comments towards middle of meeting when a concerned resident advised of localized flooding at Romain and Lenox Avenues during heavy downpour that evening, seconded by Pat Lenoy.

PASSAIC COUNTY MITIGATION PLANS List of projects were discussed to include in mitigation plans due for submission by next meeting. Garden Road water issue was discussed. Erik DeLine advised that debris has been removed and a new drain pipe has been installed. The old pipe was crushed. If it hasn't been done already, Lauren suggested that a screen be installed at end of pipe to keep debris out. Various locations throughout Pompton Lakes should be evaluated for repairs and improvements of drainage issues causing localized flooding. Areas of concern included, but not limited to Riverdale Rd and Mathes Ave, Dawes Hwy, Magnolia and Lincoln Ave. Julie mentioned excessive debris being disposed of near Wanaque River on residents own properties. Public outreach is recommended to make residents aware of consequences of debris getting into the waterways and clarify where public land ends. Hazard mitigation, desilting and de-snagging to be continued. Native planting restoration and invasive species control. Lauren advised that 50 tree saplings were planted two weeks ago with deer tubes to help protect them. Map out area with drones. Rutgers Master Plan. And include climate data analysis. Lauren will make a comprehensive list of the above mentioned ideas.

ELEVATION CERTIFICATE FAQ Steve Flormann created a hand out with frequently asked questions about elevation certificates. Katie made copies for National Night Out. Some attendees took copies, but we will make it available on the website as well. Liz Brandness will be notified so we receive CRS credit.

GARDEN ROAD WATER PROBLEM Erik DeLine reported that debris has been removed and a new drain pipe has been installed. The old drain pipe was crushed. If it hasn't already been installed, Lauren recommends a screen be installed on the end of the pipe to keep it from getting clogged.

USGS GAUGE REQUEST No updates.

DRONE REINSPECTION No new updates, but flight inspection of the Pequannock River is scheduled for end of October or early November when the leaves have fallen. Need to show completed inspections for this year for our CRS report and credits.

NEW EMAIL AND DATA STORAGE As of now there is no data storage available for volunteer committees. Our committee however requires a centralized location to keep large document files. A Google account has been created for that purpose using the Flood Advisory email address and a password. Currently we have 3.5GB of data. The information we store is important to our residents. Lauren advised that Nick Agnoli has been given full access to our data, which will help close the loop a little bit. Erik DeLine will reach out to borough tech to help clarify our options.

DEP REGARDING MAPS AND FLOOD PLAIN MANAGEMENT There has been no further update, but Joe Skupien (a consultant engineer) has been working with neighboring municipalities to provide an alternate method for delineating floodways. The Board was advised that Joe Skupien met with Vince Mazzei of NJDEP and the alternate method was agreed upon. The board is not sure if a proposal/contract has been submitted to continue work with Joe Skupien and there's no guarantee that FEMA will agree with his approach. However, if DEP does, it would help to pull back the floodway, allowing residents in the floodway to make improvements to their properties, like adding a shed, under State and Borough regulations. Congresswoman Mikie Sherrill attended National Night Out and encouraged us to reach out to her office to discuss flooding issues further. Lauren will reach out by email and copy Erik DeLine.

RUTGERS MASTER PLAN Preliminary results were received in March. Steve and Lauren were advised that an extension to September has been requested. To clarify, the original proposal was for \$24,000. So far, \$11,000 has been paid. Contract was signed July 18, 2018. Initial mapping was done at no charge by Passaic County intern. This plan too will be included in our list of county mitigation plans.

PPI Meeting (Program for Public Information) Part of our CRS program requires a PPI meeting. Lauren would like to have the meeting before our September 26th meeting at 7pm. The meeting will require a document that outlines our goals for next year and if we met our goals for the last year. Lauren commented that next year will be 10 years since 2010 flood. Is there a reclassification process for severe repetitive loss? Is it the best option? We need to understand what is best for our residents. Discussion followed about retaining flood insurance even if you're not in the flood zone anymore. Josie commented that she kept it when she was taken out of the flood zone and it was much more affordable. It's worth it, especially if you're on the edge of the flood zone.

FLOODING AT ROMAIN AND LENOX Local resident attended our meeting to advise of localized flooding due to heavy downpour tonight. Standing water that took a while to recede was observed at Romain and Lenox Avenues. He explained that this has happened at every heavy downpour recently. It was determined that it may be clogged drains that need cleaning. The same situation happened near the fire department and after cleaning the drains it no longer happened. The concerned resident suggested an interactive map made available on the borough website to pinpoint the trouble areas would be helpful. Being that this is not an option at this time, Lauren suggested reaching out to us, council or DPW to keep us updated. Joe Christiano too would like to see an interactive map like the weather maps.

COMMITTEES:

LAKE RESTORATION COMMITTEE Lake cleanup on Saturday, August 17 attracted 10-12 people. Using two boats and manpower, a good part of the lake was cleaned. Bernadette submitted paperwork to set up a table at Pompton Day. Lauren will reach out to Lake Restoration Committee to see about helping man the table and email members for availability. Lauren suggested affordable Rutgers continuing education classes for lake restoration.

STORM WATER MANAGEMENT No meeting.

OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE Lakeside waterfront project ideas were discussed. Jennifer Polidori will keep us informed of Downtown River Walk. Handicap accessible playgrounds were also discussed, possibly providing larger swings.

FLOOD LEGISLATION COMMITTEE More bills are coming out, including one that would allow installment payments on flood insurance. Otherwise nothing new.

CRS COMMITTEE PPI meeting scheduled for September meeting. Look for email confirming details. Nick Agnoli advised us that we're in top rating.

CLIMATOLOGY July finished at 8.45" of rain. August is trending light at 2.61" as of last night. Tonight's rain added .74", bringing August to 3.35". Total for year is at 41.21", which is fairly normal. Reservoir dropped 3' to 297.73".

ADJOURNMENT Lauren made a motion to adjourn and Erik seconded the motion. 9:15pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Cristiane Jennings