

**Floodplain Management Working Group Meeting**  
**Friday, October 28, 2016 at 9:30am**  
**Steele Community Room, 28 North Main Street**  
**Meeting Minutes**

**9:30 Regular Business**

In Attendance: Barb Farr, Rebecca Ellis, Rebecca Pfeiffer, Theresa Wood, Natalie Howell-Sherman, Dan Currier, Steve Lotspeich

1. Assign volunteer meeting chair. Rebecca Ellis will chair, Steve Lotspeich will take minutes.
2. Agenda review/modification. Dan will present mapping data and information for the River Corridor project between items #6 and #7. Dan moved to approve the agenda as modified, Barb seconded, and the motion passed.
3. Announcements. The Governor recently announced that the Waterbury Grange Hall in Waterbury Center received tax credits from the state to assist with the re-construction.
4. Review/approve September 20, 2016 Floodplain Working Group Meeting Minutes (handout). Natalie moved to approve the minutes, Dan seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.
5. Update on Hazard Mitigation Projects
  - a. Hazard Mitigation Plan
    - i. Barb reviewed the latest draft of the Mitigation Strategies Update. There is some confusion regarding the floodplain restoration project and the excavation work that the state did in conjunction with the re-construction of the State Office Complex. The additional area of the state fields that were considered for floodplain restoration were taken out of the project because the areas were needed for ag soil mitigation and riparian buffer creation. Various changes to the draft Mitigation Strategies were made to update the projects identified in the Plan, including those on state land on both sides of the Winooski River.
    - ii. Barb has reorganized the list of projects in this latest draft so that like items are grouped together.
    - iii. Barb will revise the draft and circulate it to the Group for review.
  - b. Elevation Projects
    - i. Healy Court – The house has been elevated. The Town and Village approved property tax abatement for the period of delay beyond the eight week expected construction period. Initial site grading has occurred and the crawl space has been insulated with spray foam. FEMA

did not approve the additional fill on the site. The owners expect to be back in the house in approximately two weeks. Theresa Wood joined the meeting to discuss the 2016 Funding Request Application to the Red Cross Vermont Disaster Relief Fund. There needs to be approval for applying at the local level. Theresa suggested that the FMWG could be the local group that approves the application and would coordinate the funding if the grant is awarded. The draft application was reviewed and edits were suggested. Dan Currier moved to approve the 2016 Funding Request Application RBW2016-1 to the Vermont Disaster Relief Fund for \$14,262 in additional funds to for the elevation of the house located at 5 Healy Ct. including various edits to the application. Rebecca Pfeiffer seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

- ii. Section 106 (historic) and ARA (archaeological) review. The archaeological survey work at 5 Healy Court will be done this fall.
- iii. Seven homes remaining. Several of the homeowners have pulled out of the elevation project. The average cost of the remaining home elevations is now greater than \$175,000 meaning that a Benefit Cost Analysis (BCA) would have to be done to have those projects qualify for funding. It will be very difficult to achieve the qualifying BCA because we can't document the damages from three flood events. We may do some additional cost estimating with the CDBG Planning Grant to obtain updated design and construction cost for some of the home elevations.

c. Floodplain restoration

- i. The state DEMHS has taken over this project.

- 6. Discuss draft Annual Report for the Waterbury Town and Village Reports due in February. Barb will circulate a draft report for the Group to review.
- 7. Review maps and text guidance for the CVRPC River Corridor Project. Dan gave an update on the project and circulated a draft decision tree for the process of modifying the VT ANR River Corridor mapping, and draft maps for review. The Butler Pond area off N Main St. was discussed. The railroad fill is the limiting boundary to the mapped river corridor. Dan requested that the Group review the maps and identify any obvious errors or areas such as the lagoons for the Village Wastewater Treatment Plant that should be out of the mapped River Corridor. Dan went through the draft Guidance for the Modification steps to the VT ANR River Corridor which includes the decision tree for adjusting the map. Dan will circulate the maps in .pdf format for review. It was agreed that the Waterbury Planning Commission should be involved in reviewing the maps as well as the FMWG. Ultimately there should be a public process involving the local elected officials and landowners.
- 8. Date and time for next meeting: Barb suggested that the FMWG could meet either bi-monthly or quarterly due to the reduced number of projects that we will be overseeing. It was agreed to go to a bi-monthly meeting schedule. The next meeting will be Friday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> at 9:30 AM.