

Floodplain Management Working Group Meeting
Monday, March 27, 2017 at 10:00am
Steele Community Room, 28 North Main Street
Meeting Minutes

10:00am Regular Business

In Attendance: Barb Farr, Steve Lotspeich, Stephanie Smith, Rebecca Ellis, Natalie Sherman, Laura Ranker, Bill Shepeluk,

- 1) Assign volunteer meeting chair. Barb Farr, chair; Steve Lotspeich, minute taker.
- 2) Agenda review/modification. An update for the Floodplain Reconnection project was added to the agenda as item 5(e).
- 3) Announcements/Introductions - The 1927 Flood Bond Certificate that Barb has had framed will be donated to the Waterbury Historical Society. The presentation of the plaque for CRS was discussed. There is a joint meeting of the Select Board and Trustees on April 17th. This would be an ideal time if possible. The Hunger Mountain Childcare Center opened last Monday with Governor Scott attending.
- 4) Review/approve the February 27, 2016 Floodplain Working Group Meeting Minutes. Rebecca E. moved and Barb seconded the motion to accept the minutes. The motion passed with all voting in favor.
- 5) Update on Hazard Mitigation Projects:
 - a) Barb has compiled the results of the survey that was circulated at Town meeting and has been be available on-line as well with access on our municipal website. Sixty-five individuals responded to the survey. The compilation of the responses to various questions that Barb generated from Survey Monkey was discussed.
 - b) Stephanie Smith discussed the public engagement part of the drafting of the Hazard Mitigation Plan. She said that the survey shows outreach to the community. The key players in the community for outreach should be identified and listed in the Plan. Education, future development, river corridor planning, CRS involvement should also be mentioned. Stephanie will send Barb a copy of a plan example that has been widely accepted by FEMA. A public meeting will be held once the draft Plan is more complete. The Plan will need to be a multi-jurisdictional plan since it covers both the Town and Village. There must be both Town and Village representation for input on the Plan. The final hearing can be joint with the Select Board and Trustees but there will need to be a resolution from each board to approve the Plan. The goal is to have the final draft

finished by the end of this coming summer. Once it is approved by the Town and Village, it will go to Stephanie and she will forward it to FEMA. FEMA has 45 days to review the Plan and respond with any comments. The maps that CVRPC did for the previous Plan should be updated. The new River Corridor mapping should be included. A map of the inundation area for the Waterbury Dam in the event of a dam breach, needs to be included as well. Benjamin Green with the state's Dam Safety Program can give us the most up-to-date mapping. Barb has given Steve and Dina a checklist for key players and municipal activities such as floodplain regulations, that are key to the hazard mitigation process and need to be listed in the Plan. Steve and Dina will follow up and make sure that this information is provided to Barb. Rebecca, Natalie, and Barb divided up the questions from the survey and will each figure how to best display the data for the responses. A good follow up to the survey will be to reach out to the owners of property in the 100-year floodplain to have a discussion about whether people have flood insurance or not and if they don't, what are their reasons.

c) Elevation Projects update: There was an after action meeting with DEMHS and Waterbury staff as well as representatives from our U.S. Congressional delegation. One of the aspects discussed is that more recent applications to this FEMA mitigation program have been required to have much more detail up front so the issue of eligibility can be adequately addressed early in the application process. The discrepancies between the two FEMA programs, the mitigation program and the National Flood Insurance Program, were discussed. Steve James will be submitting the updated cost estimates for final design and construction for the four remaining houses in the program, this week. Most if not all of the four properties that are still in the Waterbury program and will have the new estimates, will most likely exceed the \$175,000 threshold and therefore would require a benefit cost analysis. Apparently, we can use the three past floods, 1927, 1938, and 2011 or to project future savings by elevating the home, or project damage reduction in 3 future floods.

6) Date and time for next meeting: The next meeting will be on Monday, 5/9 at 10:00am in the Steele Community Room if available.