

Floodplain Management Working Group Meeting
Wednesday, September 6, 2017 at 10:30am
Steele Community Room, 28 North Main Street
Draft Meeting Minutes

10:30am Regular Business

In Attendance: Barb Farr, Steve Lotspeich, Laura Ranker, Rebecca Pfeiffer, Bill Woodruff, Natalie Sherman, Rebecca Ellis

- 1) Assign volunteer meeting chair. Barb Farr, chair; Steve Lotspeich, minute taker.
- 1) Agenda review/modification. No modifications were made.
- 2) Announcements/Introductions - Rebecca P. announced that the work on the Waterbury Dam is starting. The work includes replacing the electrical generators at the dam with run of the river generators. The much larger project that involves replacing the dam's tainter gates is being set up for federal funding by the US Army Corps of Engineers.
- 3) Review/approve the July 11, 2017 Floodplain Working Group Meeting Minutes. Natalie moved and Laura seconded the motion to accept the minutes July 11, 2017, with the correction in the spelling of Rebecca Pfeiffer's name. The motion passed with all voting in favor.
- 4) Review of draft Hazard Mitigation Plan:

Barb introduced the latest draft of the Plan. She will be meeting with the Waterbury Planning Commission on September 25th to go over the draft in detail. The Planning Commission discussed the draft at their last meeting on August 28th and expressed concern regarding their role under responsible jurisdiction and their limited capacity for assisting with new projects over the next two years. A variety of comments were made on the latest draft of the Plan. Natalie went over her tracked changes version of the Plan with her recommended changes. Rebecca offered to capture additional comments and edits and forward her tracked changes to Barb to add and compare to Natalie's. The issue of forest fire and invasive species was discussed. These issues came from the Strafford Plan. Bill Woodruff is identified in the Plan as the Town's Emergency Management Director which is correct. The issue of the of a possible dam breach of the Waterbury Dam and the reference in the Plan was discussed including the need for a reference to the source of the information. Barb reviewed the top five hazards identified in the Plan that include:

- Dam failures

- Flash Flood/Flood/Fluvial Erosion (including Severe Summer Weather & Hurricanes/Tropical Storms)
- Extreme Cold/Snow/Ice Storms
- Hazardous material incidents

The longer list of hazards on page 25 that is from the current Plan was reviewed. Laura offered to send Barb the list of hazards in the Town of Orange Hazard Mitigation Plan that has been reviewed by the state and sent to FEMA. Laura asked that the Hazard Ranking Methodology be added to the Plan. The list in the draft was modified and each hazard was scored. Hazardous material spills and flash flooding ended up being the highest ranked impact. The table will be ordered with the highest score at the top. The maps will include various maps of hazards that are currently available from the CVRPC and state. We split out Severe Storms from the Flash Flood/Flood/Fluvial Erosion hazard for a total of 5 hazards. Next steps include sending a revised draft to the FMWG, Planning Commission, and Conservation Commission. The goal is to bring a final draft to the Select Board and Trustees at a joint meeting in mid-October. The boards can approve sending the draft to the state at this meeting. The draft should go to the adjacent towns prior to this meeting and be available at the library and Town Clerk's office. Then it will go to the state in November and FEMA early next year.

- 5) Date and time for next meeting: **The next meeting will be on Tuesday, 10/10 at 10:30am** in the Steele Community Room. The main focus of the meeting will be the review of the final draft of the local Waterbury Hazard Mitigation Plan.