

VILLAGE OF MAMARONECK FLOOD MITIGATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 24, 2020 ZOOM MEETING

Attendance:

Peggy Jackson, Chair Person
Maria De Rose, Member
Dana Gallagher, Member
Steven Glener, Member
Paul Ryan, Member
Robert Stark, Member
Kelly Wenstrup, Liaison for BOT

Minutes:

- 1. Meeting came to order at 7:31 pm through Zoom remote access**
- 2. Minutes of the October 27, 2020 meeting were approved**
- 3. Congressman Bowman**
 - a. Despite efforts to contact newly elected Congressman Bowman, he has not responded.
- 4. Dollar damages from the 2007, 2011 and 2012 flood events**
 - a. The Committee had requested that Dan obtain the dollar damages from the 2007, 2011 and 2012 flood events.
 - b. Dan has been trying to get this information since August 2020.
 - c. Peggy suggested that the data may be available under "flood claims" and that FEMA should have that data.
 - d. Dan reported that he recently requested the information from FEMA as part of a grant application. Dan stated he would follow up with FEMA for the information.
- 5. Letter to George Latimer re ACE Project funding**
 - a. George appeared at our meeting in July 2020. He suggested the VoM send a letter addressed to both him and Catherine Parker. In the event that the ACE Project was reconsidered, the letter should inquire if the money the County set aside for the ACE Project, approximately \$10,000,000, was still available.
 - b. Dan promised he would draft the letter to George ASAP.
- 6. Status of the Waverly Avenue Bridge**
 - a. Dan reported that construction is expected to begin in late 2021 or early 2022.

7. Status of the Anita Lane Bridge

- a. Peggy reported that the wing wall is finally gone. She sent a thank you letter to George Lattimer.

8. Save the Sound - Bacteria monitoring data for Road to Nowhere

- a. According to Peggy, we need the test results from Save the Sound in order to show the Town of Harrison that they need to repair the sewer line and cut back the Road to Nowhere. Kelly stated that Harrison told us they need to see the test results before they will make any repairs.
- b. According to Kelly, the VOM has no available funds to pay for the tests.
- c. Dan will try to find other options to get the tests done.
- d. The idea of having local Rye Neck HS students do the tests was also considered. We need to contact the local teacher who directed past student projects.
- e. Peggy also suggested contacting NYS DEC if necessary.
- f. Paul suggested contacting an independent lab.

9. Weather Service

- a. Peggy has not been satisfied with the predictions from our current weather service and suggested we use another service.
- b. Dan strongly recommended staying with our current weather service.

10. Status of the ACE Project

- a. Peggy asked Dan to reach out to Sen. Schumer's office for an update on whether there is any new information on funding the ACE Project.
- b. Dan reported that there was money available to do minor aspect of the project, including pre-engineering design for Ward Avenue Bridge replacement. Dan will follow up with Schumer's office.
- c. Peggy wondered if the woman from Schumer's office could come back to the FMAC to report on the status of the project.

11. Discussion of new legislation suggestions from FMAC to VOM BOT

- a. The three legislative suggestions were:
 - All commercial construction built in flood zone should be built two feet over base flood elevation.
 - Anything built in a flood zone should be built with pervious paving rather than impervious paving.
 - Find a way to reconcile new construction applications so that every tree on the property is not leveled without some kind of site review by Planning Board.
- b. Per Kelly, due to backlog on agenda items, BOT has not yet addressed these issues. These suggestions will not be

addressed until Village staff is back to normal functioning, Village gets a new Village Engineer and the Planning Department is fully staffed. None of this is expected to happen in the short term. She stated that the VOM staff will need to do significant research and will require a lot of time before they have recommendations.

- c. Paul reminded everyone that "trees prevent flooding".
- d. Peggy suggested that the BOT deal with the tree issues separately.
- e. In order to move things along, Kelly will separate the tree issue from the other two issues when they are ready to go on the BOT agenda.
- f. Kelly suggested that the FMAC have a joint meeting with the Tree Committee.

12. New construction on Waverly Avenue

- a. At our October 2020 meeting, Peggy said she observed a new construction on Waverly. She wanted to ensure that the developer complied with all flood related procedures.
- b. At our November 2020 meeting, Peggy reported that the property is not in the flood zone.

13. Discussion of 50 foot vs. 100 foot setback law

- a. Kelly stated that the BOT started working on this issue in August 2019 but they will have to start fresh on this issue.
- b. Per Paul, it would be a bad idea to give the ZBA authority over this issue. Kelly agreed.
- c. Dan stated that the BOT believes the issue should be handled by HCZM or the Planning Board.
- d. Paul stated that Westchester County has a law on shoreline development. Kelly stated that this law does not apply to residential property.
- e. Peggy asked Kelly if there are FEMA standards we need to consider. Kelly stated that the BOT used FEMA and NYS language in proposed legislation.
- f. Per Kelly, new model language and model legislation came out and VOM will look at that as well.
- g. Dan stated that the federal government recommended one foot above base flood elevation and that NY State recommended two feet.
- h. Paul requested that Dan check with US Department of Coastal Resources.
- i. Kelly suggested that the FMAC should submit suggestions to BOT on how the setback law should be drafted. Peggy asked that this issue be put on the agenda for our next meeting.
 - Peggy said members of the FMAC should watch the BOT meeting of November 23rd regarding discussion of setback law and read material provided by Kelly.

14. Discussion about property located at 1606 Ellis

- a. Correct street address for this property is 1606, not 1602.
- b. According to Peggy the property is located in the floodway. She questioned whether the property is meeting the setback from the floodway.
- c. Peggy asked what the setback requirements are from the floodway not just the flood zone. Dan said he would follow up with the Building Department.
- d. Peggy showed the members a picture of the foundation. She pointed out that the height of the flood vent was four feet off the ground and questioned whether that was the correct height. There were about seven of these. The height of the flood vents at her house is just a few inches off the ground. She said would forward the picture to all members and would like to address it at the next meeting.
- e. Paul raised the question of whether the 50 feet setback should be applied to new construction residential properties as well.

15. Discussion on sump pump connections

- a. Storm water needs to go to the storm water system.
- b. Dan explained that you can't put non-polluted water in your sanitary sewer system. People would take their sump pump, which was collecting flood water, and put it in their sewer lateral to go back to the sewage treatment plant. Storm water getting into the sanitation system causes the sanitary sewage plant to overload.
- c. According to Dan, the sanitary sewage system ordinarily handles about 10 million gallons of water per day. It was designed to handle about 30 million gallons per day. During the Noreaster, it was processing over 90 million gallons day.
 - IDD program - Illicit Discharge and Detection
- d. Per Peggy, when you sell your house you have get a certificate from a plumber stating that there are no illegal hookups and your sewer laterals are working properly. You also need a video verifying that.

16. There being no other business the meeting concluded at 8:25 pm.