

MINUTES

February 26, 2023 @ 7:30pm
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.”

ROLL CALL

Lauren Venin, Chairwoman (excused)	Josephine Brown
Steve Flormann, Co-Chairman	Kathleen Cole
Pat Lenoy, Corresponding Secretary	Julie Doncoes
Cristiane Jennings, Recording Secretary	Lauren Simpson (excused)
Maria Kent, Council Liaison	Harold Vandermark

VISITORS

Randy Hinton – Shade Tree Commission
Al Evangelista – OEM Coordinator

SALUTE TO THE FLAG, MOMENT OF SILENCEWELCOME/ INTRODUCTIONS – Steve welcomed members and guests and thanked everyone for their continued support.

MINUTES – Motion by Pat Lenoy to accept the January meeting minutes, seconded by Katie Cole, all in favor, Steve Flormann abstained.

Open Public Comments – Josie Brown motioned to open the meeting for public comments at 7:32pm, seconded by Pat Lenoy.

Randy Hinton Shade Tree Commission – Widening of the Rivers – Randy mentioned that residents have expressed concern to him over suspected erosion of the riverbanks in town. He noted that the river work appeared to be removing trees and stumps that have not fallen. Members explained that the current permit only allows for the removal of debris and that the contractor has been removing fallen trees only. Randy explained, when possible, he would like to see the tree stumps remain along the riverbanks to help with retention of the river banks. He also suggested hiring a professional hydrologist to do a survey. Katie advised that Princeton Hydro has been recommended to the council as an advisory service. Councilwoman Maria Kent explained that the budget is being reviewed but may not have enough to hire an additional hydrologist as Randy suggested. However, it will be mentioned. Discussion followed about how to slow down the flow of the river and if there is any data showing the width of the rivers through the years. In addition, Randy mentioned a falling retaining wall at Hershfield Park that will need to be addressed. Maria Kent explained that grants have been awarded for use at Hershfield Park and will see that this repair is added.

Lincoln Ave Roadway Flooding – Councilwoman Maria Kent reported that the flooding situation has been brought to the attention of the council. At this time, it has been suggested that the crossing guard at that intersection continues to call police when flooding is expected.

Willow Field – No update.

NJ River Coalition – No update.

Habitat Restoration – Steve reported that the Haroldson Place grant project will need to be planted and accepted by October 2023. That means planting will most likely need to be done by May. In addition, we want to make sure the contract will include two years of watering.

Dawes Highway Bridge – No update. Al noted that the county engineer will reach out to us when needed. It is still in the early design stage. While discussing the bridge, Maria Kent mentioned that the sidewalk north of the bridge along Riveredge Drive will be removed, which we will be able to calculate into our CRS open space area.

River Work/Hazard Assessment/River Action Plan – At last month's meeting it was suggested that we hire someone instead of relying on volunteers to complete drone flights of the rivers. Lauren Venin provided an estimate of \$5,000-\$6,000, which is in line with what Oakland paid for similar services a few years back. This would be of a similar scope to what has been done previously, with current technology that would yield a model for easier viewing and analysis.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

STORM WATER MANAGEMENT – No update.

OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE – No update.

FLOOD LEGISLATION COMMITTEE – Nothing new. Josie is awaiting responses from emails sent to sponsors of bills mentioned last month.

CRS COMMITTEE – Audit has been approved with the same highest classification of five. Liz Brandness did an amazing job, and we will find a way to show our appreciation.

CLIMATOLOGY – No update.

Close Public Comments – Katie Cole motioned to close the meeting for public comments at 8:18pm, seconded by Pat Lenoy.

ADJOURNMENT – Katie Cole made a motion to adjourn, and Josie Brown seconded the motion at 8:19pm.

Respectfully Submitted, Cristiane Jennings