

Hazard Mitigation Commission  
Town Hall  
February 21, 2017  
7:30 pm  
Selectmen's Meeting Room,  
Second Floor

**Present** Chair Hank Graver, Allyn Brown, Stephen Kops, Town Environmental Planner Kevin Magee

**Absent** Town Health Director Dennis Johnson

**Guests** None

**Call to Order/Determination of Quorum**

At 7:35 pm, Chair Hank Graver called to order the regular meeting. All present were eligible to vote.

**Public Forum**

**Discussion with Ginny Kozlowski, Executive Director for REX Development**

Stephen Kops introduced Ginny Kozlowski, REX Development, who he had requested to meet with HazMC to share mitigation funding resources. Her company has been doing construction along the CT shoreline for many years. HazMC is looking for grants, one of which is to reconstruct a jetty at the mouth of the West River to slow salt marsh erosion. It is unknown which entity built the former jetty.

Ms Kozlowski advised that the cause of damages determines whether federal, state or local grant criteria is met. She had contacted CT Economic Development officer Ed Moore, CT Dept. of Housing Lou Mangini, and Congresswoman Rosa DeLauro's office. If the Army Corp. of Engineers had constructed the jetty, then they would be responsible to reconstruct or repair. If storms and hurricanes have caused damage, moved large rocks, erosion, destruction of shellfish beds, and other areas, then funds for new infrastructure are available.

It was decided that HazMC :

- Will provide engineering documentation, data and aerial views to submit grant applications.
- Ms Kozlowski will schedule a meeting with Lou Mangini to review what grants are available and whether the Guilford Marina Commission can obtain a grant to repair or replace the current Town Marina bulkhead.
- Will invite State Rep. Sean Scanlon and CT Senator Ted Kennedy (CT Environmental Protection Commission), to meet with HazMC to discuss a regional approach for funding.

Discussion was held on:

- Funding to repair public safety issues at the Town Marina : sidewalks, riprap, bridge.
- The federal channel at the Marina is silting in faster than expected each year.  
The Marina Commission raises funds through slip rentals for biennial dredging.

- Chaffinch Island areas continue to rapidly erode. Studies are needed to obtain data to support grant applications.
- Ms Kozlowski will work with Kevin Magee to meet with Lou Mangini regarding a project list to fund. The three will observe Guilford areas and review needs.

### **Approval of Minutes of Previous meeting**

*Motion: Upon review, Stephen Kops moved to approve the January minutes as amended by Kevin Magee, seconded by Allyn Brown.*

*Vote: Carried - Allyn Brown, Stephen Kops, Kevin Magee*

### **Approval of Bills and Vouchers**

*Motion: Kevin Magee moved to approve the \$93.50 invoice for the Recording Secretary, seconded by Stephen Kops.*

*Vote: Carried - Unanimously*

### **Old Business**

#### **Two vacancies on the commission**

Upon an applicant's request to be considered for a commission, the affiliated political party reviews and submits a request for approval by the Board of Selectmen. Steve Kops advised that he will contact a potential candidate.

#### **Evacuation Centers - Parks and Recreation Building needs some updating - send list to Selectmen. Major evacuations will utilize designated area in high school**

Chair Hank Graver reported that since the HazMC request to update the Nathanael Green Community Center as a secondary emergency shelter, the Board of Selectmen agreed to replace the current roof later this year.

#### **Any additional info on Chittenden Park improvements**

Kevin Magee reported :

- He had spoken with Guilford Shellfish Com. members who are concerned that the Town Chittenden Park improvement projects and proposed Guilford Yacht Club berms and dredging will have negative impacts to the water flow, erosion and commercial shellfishing Lots in that area. The Town proposes to add a breakwater and stone shoulder to be dredged behind it. An aerial view is needed to see the current conditions and potential impact. Allyn Brown will contact his son to take photos from his helicopter.

### **New HazMC Members needed, including North Guilford**

Chair Graver encouraged commissioners to submit names as potential new members. Currently, HazMC does not have members to represent North Guilford.

### **Regional Grant Program for 2017-2018**

There was no new information to review.

### **FEMA program check list : insurance update on flood plain zones for property owners**

Chair Graver will contact Town Engineering Dept. Asst. Director Mark Damiani again to request that he attend the March HazMC meeting at 4 pm to review applying for the Community Rating System to meet the criteria to receive flood insurance discounts for residents.

Chair Graver and other residents living in low lying flood risk areas have received a letter from FEMA regarding an increase in flood insurance rates over the next four years. The areas include the West River, other water ways and shoreline. Chair Graver recommended a Public Forum be scheduled to inform residents of the impact from the FEMA insurance issues.

### **Other Old Business**

Chair Graver submitted "Hazard Mitigation Strategies, Town of Guilford" list for commissioners and the Community Rating System criteria. He requested that all review these documents for discussion at the March meeting.

### **New Business**

#### **Evacuation Brochure - Revisions Evacuation Signs - Replacements and New**

Dennis Johnson was not able to be present :

- He will be contacted regarding the matter of ordering additional Evacuation Signs, redesigned to replace the existing signs with larger and reflective ones for better visibility. These not only assist residents but those who do business or visit Guilford.
- He will be contacted regarding an updated "Guilford Evacuation Procedures" bulletin (sent to residents) with a map that includes private property routes, when state and local government declares a "state of emergency".

Discussion reviewed areas that need new or additional evacuation signs : Rte 146, Sachem's Head Road, and the Community Center sign should be replaced with a larger one.

### **Follow through with DEEP staff**

Chair Graver submitted a Shore Line Times news article regarding the DEEP Long Island Sound Blue Plan. This is a federal plan to be instituted in Connecticut and New York state. The plan will be reviewed at a Branford Land Trust meeting on February 22, 2017, 7 pm, Blackstone Library.

Kevin Magee reported that the DEEP is conducting an inventory of historic homes. In order to be protected from sea level rise and retain historic value, the state legislature is developing measures to elevate these buildings.

### **Status of Tree Limb Cutting**

Kevin Magee reported that he is in regular consultation with Eversource utility company. He was given their proposed plans to trim hazardous tree limbs near their cables. The next areas will be State Street, Little Meadow Road, Nut Plains Road and North Madison Road. Poles are being replaced only where there is interference with Eversource cables. Kevin reviews their list, observes the areas, and posts signs on trees.

### **D.O.T. - Route 146 project - Priority ?**

Chair Graver reported that he had contacted the Dept. of Transportation (DOT) to schedule a meeting regarding prioritizing the Route 146 project. It is a public hazard area which includes the railroad bridge. He also contacted State Rep. Sean Scanlon requesting his assistance in meeting with DOT District Manager/coordinator.

### **Adjournment**

*Motion: At 8:36 pm, Stephen Kops moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Allyn Brown.*

*Vote: Carried - Unanimously*

**The next meeting will be held Tuesday, February 21, 2017.**

*Respectfully submitted,*

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*Judith Anderson Castellano  
Recording Secretary*