

Hazard Mitigation Commission  
Town Hall  
October 17, 2017  
7:30 pm  
Selectmen's Meeting Room,  
Second Floor

**Present** Chair Hank Graver, Stephen Kops, Arnold Skretta,  
Town Environmental Planner Kevin Magee,  
Town Health Director Dennis Johnson

**Absent** Allyn Brown

**Guests** None

**Call to Order/Determination of Quorum**

At 7:30 pm, Chair Hank Graver called to order the regular meeting. All present were eligible to vote.

**Public Forum**

There were no citizens present.

**Approval of August 15, 2017 Minutes**

The September regular meeting was cancelled. Approval of the August minutes will take place at the next regular meeting.

**Approval of Bills and Vouchers**

**Recording Secretary Invoice**

*Motion: Arnold Skretta moved to approve the October 3, 2017 Public Outreach meeting invoice for \$187.00 for the Recording Secretary, seconded by Stephen Kops.*

*Vote: Carried - Kevin Magee, Stephen Kops, Arnold Skretta, Dennis Johnson*

**Other** There was no further business.

**Old Business**

- **Primary Concerns : Strategies for 2017**

Discussion took place under "New Business" Review Outcome of October

- **Review all Strategies List**

Discussion was held under other agenda items.

## **New Business**

- **Review Outcome of October 3, 2017 Public Outreach Meeting**

Discussion was held regarding the comments made by the public at the October 3, 2017 Outreach Meeting held at the Nathanael Green community Center.

Some included :

- To increase the number of evacuation centers to include schools and other locations, in addition to the current high school and community center.
- Add a bulkhead at the Town Marina.
- John Henningson has concerns regarding ways to solve issues when local and federal agencies require homeowners' to counteract flooding by elevating their houses, which obstructs views of Long Island and lower market value for the surrounding neighbors.
  - \* Arnold Skretta had reported at that meeting that he had researched what other towns' Zoning Ordinances require for this issue.
  - \* Guilford has a regulation that allows a side set back for a Lane view.

Discussion continued on local and FEMA Building codes and safety elevations.

- Sid Gale requested that HazMC and Town agencies incorporate sea level rise into all decisions and create at least a twenty year plan.
- John Henningson requested that the Town include design plans similar to those used by the Dutch which provide structures in low lying areas that address shore erosion.
- Nursing Centers in Town were reviewed for emergency capability. They have private ambulance service and generators yet may require additional Town rescue services as they did during Hurricane Sandy.

- **Review Priorities of other Boards and Commissions.**

Discussion held under other agenda items.

- **Recommend 20 strategy projects for the South Central Regional Council Of Governments (SCRCOG) updated Five Year Multi - Jurisdiction Hazard Mitigation Plan**

Discussion reviewed SCRCOG request for 20 priority strategy projects to be provided by each town in the regional council. This would afford the opportunity for regional funding to be obtained which then would be distributed to each town.

SCRCOG has requested that residents use their survey to be submitted online or mail a paper copy provided in the Town Hall lobby and at the Guilford Library.

Sid Gale reiterated that there is not enough capacity to house residents at the high school and community center when there is a major disaster. He recommended the use of Melissa Jones, Elisabeth C. Adams, Abraham Baldwin, Guilford Lakes and A.W. Cox schools. Roofs must be annually inspected. The Fire Chief has the authority to open the schools for evacuation centers as needed.

- **Reports from Commissioners' Assignments**

Discussion included :

- Sidewalk asphalt is deteriorating near the Harbormaster house and may be included on the Town "Capital Improvements" list. Information will be obtained to determine the status of this project.

Reviewed the Action Items on the HazMC Project Strategy list :

- Dam Failure : regulated by DEEP with no local obligation to review and owner responsible for inspections and maintenance. Dams are classified by rank A, B, or C depending on the size and location.  
More information is needed to assure safety for residents in these areas.
- Action Items 118 to 126 :
  - \* HazMC is responsible to monitor inspections for Town owned dams.
  - \* DEEP sends notices to private owners of dams to do inspections.
  - \* Item 124: There are 27 dams in Town and 7 that have no rank.
- Action Items Wildfires 125-134 : HazMC will meet periodically with Fire Dept. officials regarding the Emergency Services Plan. Schools hold monthly fire safety drills, yet there is a need for a town-wide program for the public.

It was decided that HazMC commissioners will contact the fire and police departments to plan a fire safety public education program.

- Action Item 126 : Subdivision regulations have been reviewed and amended by the Planning and Zoning Commission and being enforced.

Kevin Magee will follow up on Action Items 45, 48 - 57.

Early December is the SCRCOG deadline to submit the 20 strategy projects. HazMC will decide and vote at the November 21 regular meeting.

- **Schedule a HazMC meeting with a SCRCOG representative**

Kevin Magee will contact Eugene Livshits to determine the best time to meet with him.

- **Other**

There was no discussion.

### **Adjournment**

*Motion: At 8:58 pm Stephen Kops moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded Dennis Johnson.*

*Vote: Carried - Unanimously*

**The next meeting will be Tuesday, November 21, 2017.**

*Respectfully submitted,*

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*Judith Anderson Castellano  
Recording Secretary*