Meeting Notes
Planning Committee Meeting
August 20 2014 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm
Senior Center, Horton Road, Blooming Grove, NY

Attendance:

Town of Blooming Grove Steering Committee:
- Perry Ragusa – co-chair
- Richard Bachman – co-chair
- Lorraine Tomassi
- Julius Sas
- Jay Beaumont
- Carl Takiakjian
- Carl Gilbert

New York Rising Program
- Lori DuBord

Village of South Blooming Grove
- Rob Jeroloman, Mayor

Tetra Tech, Inc.:
- Emily Slotnick
- Russ Dudley (by phone)
- Susan Roth

Town of Blooming Grove
- Robert Fromaget, Supervisor
- Johanna Kiernan, Town Board

Agenda Item: Notes/Meetings
Presenter: Tetra Tech/Slotnick

Summary of Discussion:

1. The August 6th notes were approved by the committee.

2. The Public Engagement Meeting #2 is planned for September 3rd at 7:00 P.M. at the Blooming Grove Town Hall. Outreach for this meeting was discussed with the committee members, including the committee member’s role in the process. All outreach materials are finalized, and ad space has been purchased. Tetra Tech will send out an email covering the outreach strategy of this meeting, with a copy of a flyer that can be distributed by the committee members. Placards were distributed to members to hang in business areas that are popular with residents.

3. The tentative agenda of Public Engagement Meeting #2 was presented to the committee and discussed. The first half of the meeting will consist of a presentations and remarks by State representatives, committee members, and Tetra Tech. The second half will be held in an open house style and members of the public will be handed a survey and invited to comment on the displays of the Risk Area Map and the Needs and Opportunities.

4. There will be a committee meeting prior to Public Engagement Meeting #2 at 6:00 pm in the Town Hall.

5. The next committee meeting after that will be on September 17th at 4:30 at the Senior Center.

Decision/Motions/Votes: N.A.

Action Items:

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Send out email regarding outreach strategy.

Tetra Tech    A.S.A.P.

Agenda Item: Hydraulic HEC/RAS presentation    Presenter: Tetra Tech/Dudley

Summary of Discussion:

1. Tetra Tech presented the Hydraulic HEC/RAS (HEC/RAS) study that will be presented at Public Engagement Meeting #2 to the committee members.

2. The HEC/RAS study was developed by the Army Corps of Engineers to model channel based flooding (or flooding on streams, creeks and rivers. The basic concept is to create a model of the elevations of all the stream channels and everything within the 100-year flood plain. The model includes all obstructions (defined as any man-made structure; including bridge crossings, culverts, roads, and buildings). Once the model is created the first step is to remove all of the obstructions from the model to examine the natural floodplain under flooding conditions. The volume of water coming through the channel during certain rain events is then predicted using mathematical models. The volume of water is then translated into an elevation reading applied to the channel and flood plain on the model to visually demonstrate inundated areas. Once this task is complete, the structures are added back in, and proposed projects are included in the model to assess the value of the project in terms of its overall effect on localized flooding.

3. This model was designed for channel flooding; flooding caused by storm water events are a separate calculation that will be considered using other methods.

4. This presentation used information prepared for the Village of Washingtonville, which is located within the Town of Blooming Grove. The tributaries modeled for Blooming Grove include Satterly Creek, Moodna Creek and Perry Creek. The consultants included a discussion on how the flooding potential was affected by the depth and the swiftness of the individual creeks as well as obstructions.

5. The committee recommended that explanations be made simpler to ensure understanding and that some effort be made to ensure the separation of Washingtonville and the Town of Blooming Grove’s NYRCR projects since both municipalities participated in the program. The committee also recommended that more detailed information was needed in the area of South Blooming Grove and upstream.

Decision/Motions/Votes: N/A

Action Items: N/A    Person Responsible    Due Date

Agenda Item: Risk Assessment Results    Presenter: Tetra Tech/Slotnick

Summary of Discussion:

1. The Risk Assessment results were presented to the committee. The assets were grouped into the following asset categories: Economic, Health and Social Services, Infrastructure, Natural and Cultural Resources, and Housing. Assets included those that were within the boundaries of the town, including
some in Washingtonville and Blooming Grove. These assets were given scores (Residual, Moderate, High, Extreme) based on their location and likelihood of flooding in the 100 and 500 year storm events.

2. The committee questioned whether or not the assets in Washingtonville were important to this NYRCR process and there was discussion of whether or not they should be included.

3. It was explained that the Risk Assessment was not a ranking of the importance of the asset, which would also be considered as a part of this planning process.

Decision/Motions/Votes: The consensus of this discussion was to keep all assets on the list and to note when the assets were in Washingtonville and included in another study.

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<td>Amend Risk Assessment tables</td>
<td>Emily Slotnick</td>
<td>A.S.A.P.</td>
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Agenda Item: Agency/Stakeholder Outreach

Presenter: Tetra Tech/Slotnick

Summary of Discussion:

1. The discussion began with an introduction of the emergency planning conducted by the Town of Blooming Grove and the Village of South Blooming Grove. The Town of Blooming Grove has an emergency plan that is in need of being updated. The Village of South Blooming Grove is in the process of updating their emergency plan and has submitted it to DEC for final approval.

2. There are dams upstream of the Village of South Blooming Grove. In advance of Hurricane, the Village of South Blooming Grove tried to obtain a release of water from area dams to create water storage in lakes. In some lakes where water levels were not lowered, water breached the spillways during Irene. The committee was provided with project description sheets from the Village of South Blooming Grove that would potentially help control flooding or repair damage.

3. The committee discussed the need to help control flooding through the creation of storage areas. It was noted that the NYRCR Village of Washingtonville’s project list included creating storage areas. There is also a need to establish a plan for emergency shelters, when they would be needed, how to notify the public of the need to go to a shelter, and how to move vulnerable populations.

Decision/Motions/Votes:

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<td>Obtain a draft of the Emergency Plan from South Blooming Grove.</td>
<td>Emily Slotnick</td>
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End of Meeting Notes