



Meeting Notes

Towns of Fulton & Blenheim

Planning Committee #8 Meeting

October 30, 2014 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm
 Blenheim Town Hall, 1748 St. Rt. 30, North Blenheim, NY

Attendance:

Fulton/Blenheim Planning Committee:

Ralph Arrandale, Co-Chair
 Linda Quinn, Co-Chair
 Neill Driscoll
 Katherine Hawkins

Earl Allen
 Melissa Graham
 Robert Wilson

New York State Dept. of State/GOSR:

Sarah Crowell
 Laurice Salamack
Elected Officials:
 Renee Grabowski
 Richard Mix

Members of the Public:

Cherie Clapper
 Joyce F. Paterson
 Freda Clapper
 Colleen Fullford
 Michael Hartzel

Tetra Tech, Inc.:

Greg Brunelle
 John Gibb

Planning4Places

Katherine Ember

Agenda Item: Welcome and Introductions

Presenter: Sarah Crowell

Summary of Discussion:

1. Sarah discussed a recent press related to NYRCR Middleburgh. She then detailed the CDBG-DR eligibility and implementation process. Sarah also discussed grant opportunities for fire department equipment purchases.

Decision/Motions/Votes: N/A

Action Items: N/A

Person Responsible:

Due Date:

Agenda Item: Discussion with Schoharie County Emergency Management Office Presenter: SC EMO

Summary of Discussion:

1. Michael Hartzel, Director and Colleen Fullford, Emergency Management Coordinator of the SC EMO discussed the need for additional evacuation signage on County Evacuation Routes. The EMO has sent sample Emergency Operations Plans to all Schoharie County communities including the Towns of Fulton and Blenheim for their use in preparing their Emergency Operation Plans. The County has a special needs registry (with 150 people signed up so far). Blenheim will be mailing copies of the registration in an upcoming mailing. There was a brief discussion of the Schoharie County Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan and an Emergency Operations Plan. Shelters have been designated at area schools (some will take pets) and they have tied evacuation routes to the shelter locations. The County is also coordinating the pre-positioning of HAM operators in times of disaster. Additional discussion included an update on three stream gauges with live feeds that will be located at the Middleburgh Bridge, the Fox

and Schoharie Creeks, and at the Central Bridge junction. They are also trying to get access to live feeds at the dams. Rain gauge equipment will be replaced and they discussed the need for additional modeling software for the Schoharie Creek.

2. The Committee asked if sirens could also have other tones or audio other than dam failure warnings. The Committee also suggested additional cameras on bridges, dams, and other locations.
3. Greg Brunelle suggested the use of the NY Alert system. Committee members recommended audio warnings (with audio boxes) for farmers who might not have their cell phones readily available on the back fields. Greg Brunelle also discussed the use of flashing signs to warn of road flooding ahead and the use of drop gates in some locations throughout the country.
4. Michael Hartzel noted that he would like to have more maps at shelter locations (as a large sign) for people to know how to proceed along the evacuation routes.
5. The Committee requested that NYRCR emergency planning & preparedness projects focus on the Towns of Fulton and Blenheim within a regional context.

Decision/Motions/Votes: N/A

Action Items: Revisions to the emergency management projects as discussed Person Responsible: TT, P4P

Due Date: In advance of next Committee meeting on 11/20/14

Agenda Item: Rising to the Top Competition

Presenter: Sarah Crowell

Summary of Discussion:

1. Sarah Crowell reviewed the Rising to the Top Competition. Applications will be due in December and it was requested that the Committee let her know which categories they are interested in competing in.

Decision/Motions/Votes: The Committee is interested in the Regional Approach and Inclusion of Vulnerable Populations Category. Planning Committee member Melissa Graham will assist with the application.

Action Items: Work on Application Person Responsible: Melissa Graham Due Date: December 2014

Agenda Item: Project List Update and Discussion

Presenter: Greg Brunelle and Kathy Ember

Summary of Discussion:

1. Kathy Ember reviewed the project list and noted that the three project categories. Elevation of Route 30 between Blenheim Town Hall and the homes on Route 30 was added as an Additional Resiliency Recommendation based upon discussion at the last meeting.
2. Greg Brunelle noted that cost estimates will be refined by cost estimators and that the team is working with architects on developing programming for the Blenheim EOC project, Fulton EOC project, and the West Fulton Fire Department project. The Committee discussed desired elements for the facilities. The team will follow-up with the Town Superintendents and Fire Chiefs regarding some additional details.

3. The Committee discussed adding HydroCAD software into the hydrology project.

Decision/Motions/Votes:

Action Items: Update project list, have renderings prepared TT, P4P Due Date: In advance of next Committee meeting on 11/20/14

Agenda Item: Public Engagement Meeting #3 Presenter: Greg Brunelle and Kathy Ember

Summary of Discussion:

1. The Committee discussed the format for the meeting. The Co-Chairs will open the meeting which will be followed by a short presentation (no more than 20 minutes) explaining the NYRCR Program, the timeline and provide an overview of the projects. Five boards will be prepared detailing the projects.
2. The Committee requested comment cards and name tags be developed.
3. Flyers were distributed to the Committee and members of the audience for distribution around the Towns. Ads were bought in the Times Union and the Schenectady Gazette. Additional media releases were also sent out. The Facebook Page will be updated and area signs will be displaying meeting details.

Decision/Motions/Votes: N/A

Action Items: Prepare meeting materials Person Responsible: TT, P4P Due Date: 11/6/14

Agenda Item: Next Steps Presenter: Greg Brunelle and Kathy Ember

Summary of Discussion:

1. The next Committee Meeting will be at 5 PM in advance of PEM #3 at the West Fulton Fire Department. The November 20th meeting will be in either the West Fulton Fire Department or Fulton Town Hall.

Decision/Motions/Votes: N/A

Action Items: Person Responsible: Due Date:

Agenda Item: Public Comment Presenter: Greg Brunelle

Summary of Discussion:

1. There was no additional public comment.

Decision/Motions/Votes: N/A

Action Items: Person Responsible: Due Date:
