

2019.11.22 Hazard Mitigation Committee

Minutes

Members present: Bram Towbin, Susan Grimaldi, Amos Meacham ('Chair), Michael Billingsley (Secretary)

1. October Minutes - Bram moves they be approved as amended, Susan seconds. Approved unanimously without objections.

2. Budget discussion - In 2018 to 2019 we spent about \$300 on education, will do so this year and probably will have another forum costing us about the same. Michael will represent the committee in requesting \$300.

Bram moves - *To request \$300 for education expenses which could include paying an expert to make a presentation to the community.* Susan seconds. All present in favor.

3. Recommendations for new members to join the Committee from Amos, (in that Amos is planning to resign).

Alice D., Michelle at Goddard or possibly someone appointed by President Bull (Michael will ask). Also Linda B. at the Health Center or Joann S..

Possibly also Gary Graves, Dan Caddy. Four or five names were suggested. Committee can have up to seven members plus Select Board representative.

4. Town website - Hazard Mitigation page is administered Kathy Bizzoco and she is requesting a caption for the aerial photo on our page. Bram will get that info to her (related to Rec. Field Road erosion).

5. The Committee's Town Report narrative will researched by Amos, and written by Michael and Amos.

6. No new information at this time relating to the topic - persons with disabilities or chronic illness during a hazard event or disaster. Dept of Mental Health - October 22 - "On the Horizon: Planning for Mental Health Care in Public Health Emergencies." Washington County Mental Health Service (WCMHS) Behavioral Health Disaster Response Team could form a

liason with Hazard Mitigation Committee (part of the State health improvement plan).

This will help set up our spring forum.

7. Bram wonders about indemnity issues, and how the town will be covered in the event of disasters. Is the EAP an indemnification for GMP? Bram suggests that certain weaknesses in the EAP language could lead to declarations ie. "Emergency is Over."

Improvements - Add minimal requirements for notification and that it is crucial to save lives. The EAP must be subject to the response and modification from the members of the municipalities affected. Funding and liability issues discussed.

(A dam emergency is not over until all downstream effects and recovery has been accomplished.)