

Oakland Flood Commission Meeting
Informal Meeting General Notes
Bergen County, Oakland, New Jersey
January 8, 2024

- The meeting was called to order at 7:34 p.m.
- Roll Call
- Lew Levy participated via telephone
- Minutes of the Flood Commission meeting held on December 11, 2023, were approved by Tony Smid and seconded by Michael Pritchard. All in favor.
- Lew Levy stated that Ray Carroll resigned as a member of the Flood Commission.
- Mr. Saliani mentioned that the River Restoration project, Dresdner Robin presentation, is on the agenda to be discussed on January 09, 2024.
- Leadership forms were submitted by Michael Pritchard, Charles DiPalma, and Steve Farley. In addition, Lew Levy's term is up on December 31, 2023. A leadership form was submitted.
- Councilman Russell Talamini and Thomas Russo joined the meeting at 7:40 p.m. Mr. Russo attended for 10 minutes. Mr. Russo asked about Blue Acres, where flood properties are bought. Roy Bauberger addressed this and stated that the resident applies for this.
- Charles DiPalma discussed the further derogation of gabion baskets at 67 Lakeshore Drive. Mr. Saliani stated that he was informed the DPW and engineers have looked into this.
- Members discussed the River Restoration project.
- Tony Smid mentioned that the Allerman Brook repair is held up due to a study that needs to be done regarding endangered species. Charles DiPalma stated that this was presented at the previous council meeting. The Boswell team conducted a survey the day after the council meeting.
- Lew Levy discussed Allerman Brook and damages, and whether they can be interpreted as emergency repairs. Roy Bauberger stated that an assessment of damages was conducted of the entire town. A further survey will be conducted. Roy Bauberger stated that the mayor is aggressive about this endeavor.
- Roy Bauberger reported that an inspection of the river was conducted on November 25, 2023. A report was provided to Craig Oppenheimer, assistant superintendent of Oakland's DPW, to file with the town. This was filed with the town to meet CRS requirements. Roy Bauberger stated that we passed CRS inspection. However, they stated that the town needs additional "No Dumping" signs, which would earn 25 points. Roy Bauberger stated that there's a building on Spruce Street where there is a false berm. This is being reviewed with Vinny Dies. There is also a log jam in that area. In addition, a resident on Saratoga was provided with information regarding Blue Acres. Also, the downstream mayor has requested that the dam be opened in preparation for tomorrow's storm. Roy Bauberger discussed the storm that occurred over Christmas week. Audible warnings were issued to residents of Lakeshore Drive. He stated that there is a lot of debris built up on the bridges, and the Lenape bridge is

worse. The Mosquito Commission removed the debris on Lenape Bridge. The bridge under Route 287 has a large tree under it but this is DOT property. Roy Bauberger stated that the manual gauges worked very well.

- Tony Smid asked that the councilmen present at this meeting, to find out from the mayor and council why they do not want the Flood Commission involved in Allerman Brook. He stated that the Flood Commission is an advisory commission that provides recommendations. Lew Levy stated that in the past, the Flood Commission has offered help but it has not been accepted.
- Lew Levy, Councilman Salianni, and Tony Smid discussed the history of the River Restoration project, what has held it up, and the funds.
- Motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Tony Smid and seconded by Charles Di Palma. All in favor.
- Meeting adjourned at 8:23 p.m.

In attendance:

Lew Levy-chair-via telephone

Tony Smid

Roy Bauberger

Charles DiPalma

Steve Farley

Michael Pritchard

Councilman Russo

Councilman Salianni

Respectfully submitted,

Zulema Sanchez

Recording secretary