

New Ashford Select Board/MVP Meeting

New Ashford Town Hall/Zoom

August 1, 2022

Present: Jason Jayko, Ken McInerney, Mark Phelps, Lori Jayko, Jake Scace, Keith Lacasse, Richard George

Zoom: Rob Polsinelli, Sophie Protano, Ken McInerney

Meeting opened at 6:00

1. Review Current Hazard Mitigation Plan: Rob gave a data update. There were three reported flooding events since the last Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP). This only includes what is reported to NOA and not localized flooding. There were four significant snow events (more than ten inches in one storm), one wildfire in northern Berkshire county, and Tropical Storm Florence with three plus inches of rain in 2018. There were 145 daily record temperatures set in the past seven years.

The group reviewed the action items from the previous HMP. Engineering has not been performed on culverts, the floodplain maps have not been updated, education for landowners on forest management plans has not been done through the town, distribution of educational material to town residents about the top hazards and how to prevent/deal with them has not happened, and there was not a meeting with the floodplain management office about benefits of joining the CRS. Tree maintenance is ongoing and identifying floodplain areas and removing debris as needed is done. Trees that fall on Mount Greylock are left there.

2. Create and Execute Outreach Strategy: CMC will send out a survey to see what residents think about town hazards. The survey will be sent to the Board by next week for review and then sent out by town wide e-mail and posted on the town website.

3. Review Community Capability: The strengths of the community will merge with the hazards to map out what the outcome actions should be.

4. Identify New Goals and Actions: The CMC's report will allow the town to be eligible for MVP action grants. An action step for trees would be getting the electric company to remove them in a certain time frame. Adequate water supply for firefighting is a top goal. The public listening session will be August 29 at 6:00. The workshops will be September 9 from 3-7 and September 10 from 8-12. CMC will send the invites, including to representatives from surrounding towns.

Next meeting August 15 at 6:00

Meeting adjourned at 6:55