

Ashokan Watershed Stream Management Program (AWSMP)

What: Phoenicia Flood Mitigation Meeting

When: January 25, 2011 1:30-3:30

Where: AWSMP Office, Phoenicia, NY

Next Meeting: TBD

Present:

Virginia Craft

Amanda LaValle

Kimerlie Ackerley

Cory Ritz

Bill Rudge

Buffy Kibe

Danny Davis

Doug DeKoskie

Mark Lewis

Bill Nechamen

Kelli Higgins-Roche

Stephen Len

Nadine Little

Vincent Bernstein

Mike Ricciardella

Dakin Morehouse

Gina Reilly

Dave Corrigan

Robert A. Stanley

Art Snyder

Beth Reichheld

1. Check-in
2. Meeting Discussion
 - Purpose: Short-term, Mid-term, and Long-term goals and solutions
 - Bigger, longer-term goals and solutions need to be a focus as well as short and mid-term goals.
 - The population of Phoenicia justifies the need for action
 - Geographic focus beyond just the village of Phoenicia
 - Where do we start?
 - Initially anything that happens/needs to happen has to start with the town
 - Get together immediately
 - Meet frequently over the next few months to start dealing with the short-term
 - Meet further apart as planning for the long-term
 - Get applications into the AWSMP Grant program
 - Local events don't get federal funding, so what can be done when localized flooding becomes more frequent?
 - E&O: Landowners and Public Safety
 - Use cfs instead of flood interval years, as the general public then thinks that a flood that size won't occur again for said amount of time
 - FEMA:
 - Can help if there is a Hazard Mitigation Plan
 - One town actually elevated the business district using federal money because they had a Hazard Mitigation Plan

- To get funded it would have to meet benefit cost
 - If there is repeat property damage it will probably meet the benefit cost
 - For hazard mitigation there is a percentage that has to be met
 - Other plans; Pre-disaster mitigation and Repetitive loss properties
 - If the town is improving the floodplain, these improvements can be used as points to lower flood insurance
- DEP contracted with FEMA for floodplain maps, but FEMA has not followed through
- Not having the FEMA floodplain maps is an immediate barrier in the short-term and the long-term
 - Contact congressmen to get political pressure
- Can the Army Corps of Engineers help?
 - Maybe in the long-term, the whole process can take up to 10 years to complete.
 - Amanda LaValle offered to look into what has been done already with the Army Corps
 - Starts by contact and addressing flooding issues
 - Feasibility study
 - Funding
 - Identify a project
 - Design Phase
 - Construction Phase
 - Never locked into what they decided, until construction is complete!
- AWSMP Grants
 - Towns can apply for grants to make plans to then take to FEMA
 - Municipal Grants
 - The grants would be immediate funding
 - AWSMP is looking for a commitment from the town in the form of either time or money
 - Something that meets multiple goals and improves the situation in town
 -
- CWCs Planning and Assessment Study
 - Committee meets once a month
 - Fill out an application for the town
 - Cost estimate: \$60,000
 - Town wide study to prioritize problems
 - 15% match required
 - Town hires engineer and designated areas of focus
 - Pays for planning but not for projects
- Can a plan be done without a flood study? For the long-term investment detailed studies should be done
- Emergency modeling has been done, but is that enough? Seek funding to get town flood study done instead of waiting for the DEPs study
- Sediment load issue needs to be addressed on the Stony Clove to have a lasting impact

- An evacuation plan is set for the schools in Shandaken
 - Dredging the Phoenicia Bridge:
 - Immediate attention to clean out the creek
 - Rob's Response: looking for longer term goals focusing on continuing issues and immediate issue in populated areas
 - Current proposal: Dredge at and upstream of the bridge
 - M&M has concluded that the channel bed has not changed at the bridge, meaning that it is where it would be naturally, so will dredging help? Maybe, since M&M also said that aggradation is occurring upstream
 - Not dredging below the bridge because modeling has shown it might actually increase flooding by leading to an increase in deposition
 - Landowners reporting property damage
 - Large second homeowner population who may not even know their property has been damaged
 - No one in Mt Tremper has reported damage
 - Majority in Woodland Valley, Phoenicia, and Chichester
 - Dakin Morehouse (from the railroad) didn't even know to report damage, getting information to the public in the towns where to go and who to contact about this may be something to look into
3. Report back in one month on where we are and what we are doing
 4. Check-out