

Meeting Minutes – Resilient Neighbors Network 11:00 am ET Friday, February 16, 2018

Resilient Neighbors Network (RNN) is a network of professionals representing communities actively working toward adaptation and resilience from natural hazards.

RNN Mission

To increase resilience in existing and developing communities at the grass roots level by documenting and actively sharing best practices, through education, peer to peer collaboration and mentoring.

RNN Vision

RNN will be a source for a compilation of community driven hazard resilience best practices that can serve as a resource to people & communities before, during and after a disaster. RNN will also actively bring ground truth and grassroots enlightenment to policy makers, researchers, regulators, and journalists.

AGENDA FOR MEETING OF March 16, 2018:

1. Roll call
2. Approval of Minutes
3. Review of Action Items
4. NHMA Communications Plan
5. Rachel Jacobson (of ASAP), to discuss participation of an RNN Community in the Resilience Dialogues in June 2018; need to identify participating community by March 23, 2018
6. External Stakeholders Workgroup – Tom Hughes
7. Discussion of NHMA Comments on FEMA Risk Management Division Strategy
8. Further Roll Out of RNN/Disaster Risk Reduction Curriculum: Hiring a Contractor; Further Presentations in Colorado, South Carolina and Montana
8. NHMA DRR Curriculum & Workshop Status:
 - Examining how to further improve fit of the RNN Curriculum to the needs of External Stakeholders; coupling better with existing courses: including FEMA, EPA, NOAA, NGO & private market courses?
 - RNN Volunteers for the development of the Disaster Risk Reduction Curriculum;
 - How to take advantage of the latest update from the Multi-Hazard Mitigation Council on the cost/benefit of Hazard Mitigation.
9. NHMA and RNN Community Meeting: Natural Hazards Workshop - July 9-12, 2018?
- 10. Status of Practical Community Resilience Project in South Carolina**
11. Comments from Vincent Brown of FEMA on the many things happening at FEMA
12. Status of Island Press Interest, ABA-Houston Success Story
13. Comments/Issues/Good News
14. Adjourn

Minutes for Meeting of Friday, February 16, 2018:

11:00 am ET - CALL TO ORDER, INTRODUCTIONS AND ROLL CALL:

1. ROLL CALL:

Present: **Tom Hughes** (NHMA Board Member), **Roger Faris** (Seattle, WA), **Donna Boyce** (Solix, Inc.), **Ned Swanberg** (State of Vermont), **Tim Trautman** (Mecklenburg County, NC), **Gene Henry** (Hillsborough County), **Garrett Rivera** (Outreach Process Partners)

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Tom Hughes opened the floor for discussion on the Minutes. There being no comments,

A Motion to approve the minutes was made by Gene Henry;

The Motion was seconded by Ned Swanberg;

There being no discussion, it was

VOTED, the Minutes were approved.

3. REVIEW OF ACTION ITEMS (Clustered by topic):

A1. BEST PRACTICES:

- a. RNN Community to submit any info with regard to best practice stories to Roger Faris at rogerfaris@hotmail.com. Please send materials about anything that the RNN community is proud that they accomplished along with a photo if you have it. – **Ongoing**
- b. Roger Faris to connect with Barb Miller and discuss a work-around for compiling the Harper's Ferry best practices story. – **Ongoing**
- c. Roger Faris to work with Jim Mullen and Barb Miller to research alternate best practice stories that involved the RNN. – **Ongoing**
 - i. Kim Thiele to forward new contact info for Barb Miller to Roger Faris. – **DONE**
- d. Roger Faris to stay in touch with Vince Brown and Janice Roper-Graham about how to put together a searchable best practices database. – **Ongoing**
- e. Tom Hughes to follow up with Barb Miller about getting in touch with some of the folks who were involved in West Virginia. – **Ongoing**
- f. Kim Thiele to send out Doodle Poll so RNN members can choose an RNN logo to use for best practices database. – **DONE**
 - i. Kim Thiele to forward results of Doodle Poll to everybody and to Roger Faris in particular at Rogerfaris@hotmail.com. – **In Process**
- g. Kim Thiele to distribute Minutes from best practices follow up calls. - **DONE**
- h. Steve Allen to talk to and work with Barb Miller about any good examples she knows of how communities have recovered from disasters when not eligible for FEMA declaration, and get that info over to Roger Faris so he can write it up for best practices. – **Ongoing**
- i. Steve Allen also to follow up with Barb Miller about contacting the person still in Harpers Ferry who might remember what happened and see if they are willing (or able) to talk about it for a generic best practice example. Great opportunity to highlight how RNN expertise was particularly helpful. Steve to get this contact information to Roger Faris. – **Ongoing**
- j. Tom Hughes to send Roger Faris a copy of a two-pager describing how communities have recovered from disasters when not eligible for FEMA declaration. Tim Trautman also to connect with Roger Faris about this.
- k. Tom Hughes to discuss with Ed Thomas about creating a workspace for collaboration.

- A2. RNN members to please provide your list of five main topics/navigation threads for the peer-to-peer sharing tool per request of Janice Roper-Graham. She has received only one so far. – **Ongoing**

- A3. RNN members to please let Ed Thomas know if you want to be part of NHMA's response to Keith Porter on the Multi-Hazard Mitigation Council's draft of the Cost Benefits of Hazard Mitigation. The draft emphasizes zoning and planning. – ***Ongoing***

A4. EXTERNAL STAKEHOLDER WORKGROUP:

- a. Tom Hughes to update RNN on status of Ideascale website; more to come for NHMA work area.
- b. Tom Hughes to send slides regarding External Stakeholder WorkGroup initiatives. – ***In process***

A5. DRR CURRICULUM:

- a. Wightman & Associates to incorporate audience participation into DRR Curriculum going forward. This has proven very successful and generates tremendous interest and enthusiasm. – ***Ongoing***
- b. Ed Thomas to connect with Bill Ramsey with regard to P-1000 webinars for schools; Ed to loop Bill Ramsey into development of this Module going forward. – ***Ongoing***

A6. Tom Hughes will contact Traci Sears about the possibility of RNN meeting in Montana in July.

A7. Janice Roper-Graham to Chair and develop the NHMA Awards Committee. RNN members encouraged to serve on this Committee. – ***Ongoing***

A8. REBECCA JOYCE MEMORANDUM:

- a. Kim Thiele to re-send Rebecca Joyce Memorandum around for the RNN Community for review and comments on. – ***DONE***
- b. RNN members to offer feedback on the Memorandum and forward their responses to Kim Thiele and Ed Thomas. – ***Ongoing***
- c. Tom Hughes to share monthly newsletter put out by Matt Campbell to help RNN members decide what they want to say about themselves. - ***DONE***

A9. All RNN Community Members to think about who else they would like to invite to become an RNN community member, as well as who could possibly be a Committee Chair or could serve on the NHMA Board. – ***Ongoing***

- a. RNN to think about how to invite other communities from the west coast to join us. – ***Ongoing***

A10. NHMA will be looking at its communication plan and how to use social media; RNN will be a part of this. – ***Ongoing***

A11. Kim Thiele to check with Ed Thomas on whether he received contact information for the Association of Play Therapy, with regard to their possible help in producing copies of the Children's Guide. – ***DONE***

A12. Tom Hughes to find out if Vincent Brown or someone from FEMA can go through the Risk Management Division Strategy slide deck with the RNN, possibly as a webinar. – ***In Process***

A13. Tom Hughes to send out "triage list" of questions to help identify viable projects.

A14. Tom Hughes will send out notes from the upcoming HMA workshop.

13. COMMENTS/ISSUES/GOOD NEWS

Where does everyone want the RNN to be by December 2018?

It would be good to see how FEMA and others address assistance following the Response and help communities be prepared for the smaller disasters. This will help communities reach out to peers and look at ways to do things better.

How do we move forward, instigate interest in RNN, and what value do we have after a disaster takes place?

Tom Hughes to discuss with Ed Thomas about creating a workspace for collaboration.

How do we do peer to peer collaboration that has visibility?

People change positions, and their knowledge and experience go someplace else. Collecting best practices from the FEMA websites and organizing them by category to create a menu or glossary for mitigation subject areas will help target them to the FEMA site and support researchers looking for awarded projects in a given area.

Tom Hughes will send out a “triage list” with a list of questions to help determine which projects you can or can’t do and how to help the ones that you can’t do. This would also be a good Curriculum Module – what are the 25 or 30 questions you need to ask to determine if a project is eligible for assistance.

House Bill 4460 was discussed. Importance of keeping sustainable staff between projects in order to reduce ramp-up time for an event. Tom Hughes will send out notes from the upcoming HMA workshop.

14. ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned 12:02 p.m.