

Meeting Minutes – Resilient Neighbors Network
11:00 am ET Friday, December 22, 2017
and Agenda for Meeting of 1-19-18

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 *UPCOMING* MEETING OF *JANUARY 19, 2018*:

1. Roll call
2. Approval of Minutes
3. Review of Action Items
4. RNN Community Membership – Rebecca Joyce Memorandum
5. Results of NHMA Board Elections
6. External Stakeholders Workgroup – Tom Hughes
7. Discussion of FEMA Risk Management Division Strategy
8. Pilot of the RNN/Disaster Risk Reduction Curriculum in Harrisburg, PA & Salt Lake City, UT
 - Next Steps
9. NHMA DRR Curriculum & Workshop Status:
 - Where are we with respect to the RNN and DRR Curriculum’s further rollout
 - Does the RNN Curriculum fit the need of External Stakeholders coupled with existing FEMA courses, EPA, & NOAA courses?
 - How we can adjust our Curriculum to better suit the need?
 - Development of NHMA comments on the newly published National Hazard Mitigation Investment Strategy;
 - Next steps 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.
10. NHMA and RNN Community Meeting: Natural Hazards Workshop - July 9-12, 2018?
11. Status of Practical Community Resilience Project in South Carolina
12. Comments from Vincent Brown of FEMA on the many things happening at FEMA
13. Status of Island Press Interest, ABA-Houston Success Story
14. Comments/Issues/Good News
15. Adjourn

Minutes for Meeting of Friday, December 22, 2017:

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

1. ROLL CALL:

Present: **Ned Swanberg** (State of Vermont), **Janice Roper-Graham** (NHMA Board Member), **Jordan Asulin** (Outreach Process Partners, MD), **Joe Rossi** (Marshfield Coastal Coalition), **Donna Boyce** (Solix, Inc.), **Bill Ramsey** (Muncy Borough, PA), **Tom Hughes** (NHMA Board Member), **Vincent Brown** (FEMA), **Gene Henry** (Hillsborough County), **Allison Hardin** (City of Myrtle Beach)

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:

1. Tom Hughes to send final link for Ideascale website when it goes live. **(In process)**
2. RNN Communities to give Tom Hughes feedback on External Stakeholder WorkGroup initiatives. **(Ongoing)**
3. RNN presentations of the DRR Curriculum to incorporate audience participation going forward, as this has proven very successful and generates tremendous interest and enthusiasm. **(Ongoing)**
4. RNN Community to think about where it might be able to hold its annual meeting in 2018 that would be really useful to everyone involved and make recommendations to Ed Thomas. **(Ongoing)**
5. Ed Thomas to connect with Bill Ramsey with regard to P-1000 webinars for schools; Ed Thomas to loop Bill Ramsey into his development of this module going forward. **(Ongoing)**
6. Ed Thomas to coordinate with Joe Rossi about the possibility of meeting in Montana in July. **(Ongoing)**
7. Janice Roper-Graham to Chair the NHMA Awards Committee and the RNN Community is encouraged to serve on and develop this Committee. **(Ongoing)**
8. Roger Faris to connect with Barb Miller and discuss a work-around for compiling the Harper's Ferry best practices story. **(Ongoing)**
9. Barb Miller to connect with Tom Hughes to get him in touch with some of the folks who were involved in West Virginia. **(Ongoing)** (Tom Hughes to follow up with Barb Miller.)
10. Tom Hughes to get an updated list of different trainings that the External Stakeholder Group has made out to everyone. **(In process)**
11. Tom Hughes to fill in the chinks and the gaps in the list of training programs with the DRR Curriculum materials and get this to Ed Thomas by the time they have their meeting in Utah. **(DONE?)**
12. Roger Faris to work with Jim Mullen and Barb Miller to research alternate best practice stories that involved the RNN. **(Ongoing)**
13. Roger Ferris to stay in touch with Vince Brown and Janice Roper-Graham about how to put together a best practices database that is searchable. **(Ongoing)**

14. NHMA Admin to coordinate a follow up call for discussion of best practices database. Everyone to be invited; Roger Faris, Jim Mullen, Vince Brown, Tom Hughes, Janice Roper-Graham instrumental in this discussion. – **DONE**
15. Janice Roper-Graham to discuss RNN website in best practices follow up call. – **DONE**
16. Steve Allen to talk to and work with Barb Miller about any good examples she knows about 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)**
17. Tom Hughes to forward copy of two-pager to NHMA Admin on how communities have recovered from disasters when not eligible for FEMA declaration – NHMA Admin to distribute. – **(In Process)**
18. Steve Allen also to follow up with/work 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 with Roger Faris for the purpose of writing up a generic best practice example showing how the RNN expertise was particularly helpful, and get the contact information to Roger Faris. **(Ongoing)**
19. RNN Communities to review and offer input on the Rebecca Joyce memorandum so we can better describe RNN to potential new communities, as well as circulate it to interested persons such as Matt Campbell and Vincent Brown of FEMA. - **(Ongoing)**
20. RNN Community to decide what they want to say about themselves and share this within NHMA and RNN and make sure it goes out to Matt Campbell at FEMA and other folks. **(Ongoing)**
21. NHMA Admin to support Rebecca Joyce in setting up monthly RNN outreach calls. **(Ongoing)**
22. Ed Thomas and Rebecca Joyce to continue to work with NHMA's webmaster to update the website. **(Ongoing)**
23. Rebecca Joyce to send NHMA webmaster an email sometime this weekend and copy Ed Thomas and NHMA Admin. **(Ongoing)**
24. Janice Roper-Graham to come up with a couple of logo options for the RNN to consider and present at the next meeting. [Ed noted that we do not seek to establish RNN as a separate group apart from NHMA, but rather integrate NHMA into the work of all resilient communities and vice versa] **(Ongoing)**
25. Janice Roper-Graham to work with NHMA Admin to help smooth out and speed up the newsletter formatting to try make it more cost effective. - **(Ongoing)**
26. Janice Roper-Graham to work with her associate, Jordan Asulin, to do social media as we can come up with little articles and the like. **(Ongoing)**
27. All RNN Community Members to think about volunteering for the Nominating Committee. Also, RNN Community members to think about who else they would like to invite to become an RNN community member, and who else they think could possibly be a committee chair or could be on the NHMA Board. - **(Ongoing)**
28. Rebecca Joyce to forward contact information to Ed Thomas for the Association of Play Therapy, a national association, as a good connection for possible help in producing copies of the Children's Guide. – **(Done?)**
29. Ed Thomas to ask FEMA to have someone join us and go through the FEMA Risk Management Division Strategy. **(Ongoing)**

4. RNN COMMUNITY MEMBERSHIP – REBECCA JOYCE MEMORANDUM

5. RNN COMMUNITIES INVOLVEMENT WITH NHMA NOMINATING COMMITTEE AND ELECTION

6. PENNSYLVANIA BUY OUT GUIDE

Tom Hughes developing a five-part series on the use of federal dollars and the HUD Community Development Block Grant Disaster Funding and the use of Hazard Mitigation Grant Program funds and how they interrelate. 1st article will be an overview of what they have in PA where they had one of the largest flood disasters since Agnes in 1972 and how they used funding. 2nd will be on how to use this federal money for buy out programs and some of the other hazard mitigation activities. Shannon Burke with APA will step up and help Tom Hughes with some pro bono work on getting these five articles out.

7. EXTERNAL STAKEHOLDERS WORKGROUP – TOM HUGHES

Tom Hughes to meet with Robert Perry next week, looking at core competencies and associated tasks for Local Hazard Mitigation Officer, Senior and Junior; Hazard Mitigation Planner, Senior and Junior; Project Officer, Senior and Junior; National Flood Insurance Program State Coordinator; State Hazard Mitigation Officer; and Local Flood Plain Manager. Will be looking next at failure points. Once these are prioritized, they will tie the tasks to course materials that are currently available. List of trainings has been updated and Tom Hughes will distribute this after meeting with Robert Perry. Needs the RNN to tell him if these tasks are realistic at the local level and can be implemented.

8. DISCUSSION OF FEMA RISK MANAGEMENT DIVISION STRATEGY

Vince Brown to check on this.

9. PILOT OF THE RNN/DISASTER RISK REDUCTION CURRICULUM IN HARRISBURG, PA & SALT LAKE CITY, UT

- Next Steps: Deployment to Florida, Montana and partially to Utah
- Possible major series of peer-to-peer sessions in Montana including an RNN Meeting next July

10. NHMA DRR CURRICULUM & WORKSHOP STATUS:

- Where are we with respect to the RNN and DRR Curriculum's further rollout
- Does the RNN Curriculum fit the need of External Stakeholders coupled with existing FEMA courses, EPA, & NOAA courses?
- How we can adjust our Curriculum to better suit the need?

11. NHMA AND RNN COMMUNITY MEETING: NATURAL HAZARDS WORKSHOP - July 9-12, 2017?

RNN Members need to decide where and when they want to hold their Annual Meeting in 2018. Possible venues are:

- Hazards Workshop in Colorado in July 9-12, 2018;
- Flood Conference in Montana in July 2018
- Harrisburg, PA (date/event?)
- Salt Lake City, UT (date/event?)
- Texas (date/event?)

- Tom Hughes and Vince Brown recommend holding the meeting to coincide with the Hazard Mitigation Stakeholders Workgroup of locals and tribes in March of 2018 or 2019. This may help engage the Lowland Group and involve other tribes in the RNN.
- Janice Roper-Graham to work on incorporating the RNN Annual Meeting venue into a platform for presenting NHMA Awards for 2019. Awards Committee to work on developing an outreach program to advertise the NHMA Awards program through 2018 for 2019.

12. STATUS OF PRACTICAL COMMUNITY RESILIENCE PROJECT IN SOUTH CAROLINA

13. COMMENTS FROM VINCENT BROWN OF FEMA ON THE MANY THINGS HAPPENING AT FEMA

Vince Brown to make more material available on anything anyone has questions on.

14. STATUS OF ISLAND PRESS INTEREST, ABA-HOUSTON SUCCESS STORY

15. COMMENTS/ISSUES/GOOD NEWS

16. ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned 11:51 a.m.
