

Resilient Neighbors Network
Minutes of Meeting of Friday, *October 19, 2018*, 11:00 am ET

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 November 16, 2018:

1. Roll call
2. Approval of Minutes (September 2018)
3. Review of Action Items
4. RNN Future Activities
5. Veronica Criscitiello (Wightman & Associates) seeking RNN SMEs for the following:
 - a. Wildfire (review draft module)
 - b. Wildfire-flood connection
 - c. Severe thunderstorm/tornado safe rooms
 - d. Addressing earthquake risks: policy to engineering
6. Discussion of Best Practices Documentation-New Best Practice on mitigation-based recovery with no Presidential Declaration: Joe Rossi and Coastal Coalition [Material sent separately]
7. Next Steps for RNN-DRR Curriculum Future Meeting? Discussion of CTP Grant
 - a. New Grant requires NHMA and RNN to participate with and recommend other possible interested agencies for an advisory committee meeting in Washington D.C. – [Detail by John Wiener circulated with Minutes.] Possible other locations/dates
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, NACo, 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. Status of Practical Community Resilience Project in South Carolina & Silver Jackets link
10. Comments from Vincent Brown of FEMA on Reorganization and the many things happening at FEMA
11. Status of Island Press Interest, Articles for NHMA Newsletter and/or ABA
12. Comments/Issues/Good News
13. Adjourn

Minutes for Meeting of Friday, *October 19, 2018*:

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

1. ROLL CALL:

Present: **Ed Thomas** (NHMA Board Member); **Jim Murphy** (NHMA Board Member); **Ned Swanberg** (State of Vermont); **Roger Faris** (Seattle, WA); **Veronica Criscitiello** (Wightman & Associates); **Vincent Brown (FEMA)**;

Quorum not present.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: - TABLED.

3. REVIEW OF ACTION ITEMS - TABLED

PRE-MEETING REMARKS:

Ned Swanberg reported that Vermont has suffered no emergencies. He mentioned the National Panel on Climate Change and getting a 2 to 3-year window on trying to avert the worst of this. However, it is not directly related to his regulatory job.

Ed Thomas asked Jim Murphy about a memo that Jim promised to write up. Jim Murphy said he would address the challenges of response and recovery that FEMA and the nation face with regard to assisting under-represented, disadvantaged, and economically challenged communities post-disaster. He will put together something that Vince Brown can use to circulate to the leadership at FEMA and the various Regions with regard to using GIS overlays on disaster maps. Ed Thomas will provide him some material from the ABA and RNN that would be useful to include.

- Jim Murphy will meet with some of the GIS and graphics folks at AECOM for a brainstorming session on Monday to discuss how they might take GIS information and portray it graphically for use in plotting affected communities, so it would be easily absorbed and readable.
- Ed Thomas will get Jim Murphy the presentations that Jo Anne Howard, John Marshall and Erin Capps did, as well as an attorney from Dallas working with the impoverished in the South Dallas area and doing incredible work there. Ed will get those presentations to Jim forthwith along with descriptions of the workshops which will be available on the ABA website shortly as webinars.

A Training session put on by FEMA Region 1 dealing with environmental justice was discussed.

- It worked from Title 6 and the EPA's definition of environmental justice, which is basically about adequate inclusion, fair and healthy outcomes.
- The new EPS online screening/mapping tool tracks and juxtaposes graphic information by census block.
 - It would be nice if this information also included exposure to flood risks but using this tool to become more aware of what's preventing people from participating, planning and post disaster recovery is useful.
 - Sometimes what prevents people from participating is as basic as access to childcare, or the time of day, or mobility, or that they can't get out because they're older, in addition to the crises that already make up the lives of people that are facing horrendous burdens.
- Ed Thomas agreed that these tools are a great resource. The ABA has designed something in a role-playing format, looking at economically disadvantaged people post-disaster and the challenges they face. One of these sessions was just held in Houston a couple of months ago.
 - This was an eye-opening experience for people. It's called Disaster Poverty Simulation.

- It's not just for lawyers, though it was presented to alert lawyers to the situation on a whole community basis.
- The presentation was very carefully and very well designed, taking detail all the way down to including the use of play money (about 1/3rd the size of a regular bill) that looks very genuine.
- The workshop focused not so much on long term recovery or participation, but basic survival and how residents manage to get repairs done.
- The presenters did not dwell much on how incredibly complex it is to try to weave together charitable donations, resources one might be eligible for, loans, grants from both government institutions and non-government organizations.
 - Instead, the focus was on transportation for residents, child care, how to deal with the banking system for getting a check when you never had occasion to open a bank account and the banks don't know you, etc.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:

Ed Thomas suggested we start off with Veronica Criscitiello, then invite Vince Brown to say anything he wants to say, followed by a couple of announcements about NHMA by Ed Thomas which can be included in the materials going out to the RNN Communities.

Ed Thomas stated for the record that there is no point in talking about the minutes or action items or future RNN activities unless Ned Swanberg wants to chime in with some of his thoughts on what we would be doing to build participation and to increase interest.

- Veronica Criscitiello has some material to get out to the RNN communities.
- Between Veronica Criscitiello and NHMA Admin we could get this material out in writing:
 - We want to emphasize in our note to the RNN Communities the outcome that we want from the Training which are actionable steps that can be taken by communities and individuals right now - what they can do to achieve disaster risk reduction along the lines of the concepts developed so incredibly well by Dr. Dennis Mileti.
 - These concepts are most clearly articulated in the NHMA publication *Hide from the Wind*, in the preface, talking about Dr. Mileti's theories and how they can be implemented.
 - It's important we try to get the RNN communities as involved as they can be within their limited bandwidth in developing the Curriculum and also getting it out to various communities within their own states.
 - That would include Vermont hopefully over time, in coming up with money to:
 - Use the training;
 - Come up with the trainers within Vermont; or
 - Bring in outside speakers as you need and as you can use them, whether that's getting ready for dealing with stuff post-disaster or dealing with support in developing higher standards or support of the Community Rating System, or any of the stuff that we're trying to do.
 - We want to support the efforts of Wightman and of the RNN and try and use the Curriculum as a way of getting increased participation from the RNN Communities.
- We've got an incredibly fine product. There is nobody else with material that combines Dr. Mileti's thoughts with actionable material across the hazards along with a clear understanding of the enormous benefits of the Flood Insurance Program as well as its limitations.
 - We've really got some incredible expertise that has gone into this material and we need to get it into the marketplace of ideas.
 - What we're doing now is developing the material that NHMA Admin with the help of Veronica Criscitiello will get out in writing to the RNN Communities for those not on the call.
- Roger Faris could give us a briefing on anything he needs and anything else he wants to talk about.

- We have notes from yesterday's Board Meeting that we can include in this.
 - NHMA Admin will be writing up a colloquy by Ed Thomas and Vince Brown from the Board call yesterday.- *DONE*.

Veronica Criscitiello reported that Wightman & Associates is just getting started again on the DRR Curriculum and have established some communities they wanted to work with in regard to the remaining four Modules.

- **Do any of the RNN Community members have any comments on the remaining Modules and what they would like to see included?**
 - Anything that would be most helpful for their communities, please forward suggestions to be incorporated.
- **Do we have learning objectives for the final four Modules?**
 - If any of the RNN members think that something is missing from their perspective, we can look to include those as well.
- We also have the remaining Post Disaster Resource Technical Assistance Disaster Risk Reduction material.
 - Veronica Criscitiello will put a note out as well to see if anyone has anything they think should or should not be included in this.

Ed Thomas reported for everyone's information that New York State is desiring to produce a two-day session on Disaster Risk Reduction using the DRR Curriculum materials and will be trying to figure out how to come up with the money for this.

- Ed Thomas mentioned that he had sent Vince Brown and several other people a copy of retired New York State flood plain manager's note on that.
 - Several people have come up with ways of coming up with money for this.
 - There's a great deal of state training money that's provided by FEMA and other agencies.
 - Hopefully we can start getting the Disaster Risk Reduction Curriculum included as a normal part of that funding.
- Ed Thomas will be working with Jim Mullen and Tom Hughes to see what we can do to market this within NEMA and the NEMA training folks.

Vince Brown reported that he sent Ed Thomas material yesterday about some folks who were doing something about youth curriculum materials.

- Ed Thomas will look at it after this call. If it's appropriate we'll get it out to the Board or maybe put it into the Newsletter. No rush on this.
- Do we have any youth stuff in the Curriculum?
 - Nothing specifically for youth in the Curriculum.
 - We were working with Vanderbilt University which was supposed to be using Sandy money to develop a hazard mitigation curriculum for high school students and we had active discussions ongoing. Erin Capps and Ed Thomas were working with them, we spent a lot of time then stopped getting answers to our e-mails, so we don't know where that stands.
 - We'll look at that and get it out to the group and see where we can possibly put it into the Newsletter, social media and the like.

Ed Thomas announced for everyone's general information that we are expecting to hire a Part Time Director for NHMA in the next couple of days.

- We are trying to work with the RNN Communities to come up with some type of meeting for RNN and other partners like NACo and ASFPM, and other folks, as we dispense the Curriculum.

- The Curriculum itself is being funded by FEMA dollars plus thousands of hours of volunteer time. It is designed to support hazard mitigation and flood plain management and we want to make sure that the folks who are doing the adoption of ordinances know that there's a considerable amount of material in there to support their efforts to achieve higher standards and better understanding of things like wildfire and what happens after a major wildfire and a watershed in respect to flood.

Vince Brown asked are there any RNN Communities that are CTPs or are interested in becoming CTPs?

- The Denver Urban Drainage and Flood Control District is a CTP;
- Vermont is heavily involved in flood mapping and the higher standards in terms of improving erosion in the floodway but is not a CTP.
 - Ned Swanberg explained that it became too difficult for Vermont to try to work within the matrix that FEMA had set up and then to get funded for having done anything, so they backed out of the CTP program. But they are doing CTP work in collaboration with the EFRAM development and flood area.
- Vince Brown will get information to Ed Thomas about the CTP for the RNN Communities.
 - Ed Thomas will have NHMA get this out to the CTPs and on social media as well, to the extent that FEMA wants to promote CTP involvement.

DISCUSSION:

- Interest in CTPs varies quite a bit by FEMA Region as to how they see those roles and how they want to collaborate.
- There is a national interest in CTPs, so we can certainly push the information out about them.
- The FEMA Grant for NHMA is a CTP grant.
- Vince Brown sees pictures on the CTP website about awards that they're giving out. He will submit information about NHMA to the CTP Awards Process for the communication efforts that we're doing.
 - Veronica Criscitiello to work with Gina Wightman, Roger Faris, and anybody else that wants to chime in, to get Success Stories and any other information on what we're doing to Vince Brown to make it easy for him to promote our activities with the Curriculum for the CTP Award.
 - An Award would be great advertisement for the NHMA & RNN to get out.

RNN EXPANSION:

Roger Faris asked for general feedback on an idea he has for inviting a new Northwestern RNN Community representative to replace Grays Harbor.

- This community is actively working on hazard mitigation; it has some high-risk situations but has made a lot of progress that could be shared with other communities.
 - It's a coastal community;
 - Roger Faris personally visited and was very impressed by their level of whole community participation;
 - The whole community is part of their effort to come up with very clever ways to include everybody in the process;
 - Recommends everyone try to visit: Newport, Oregon.
 - Feels they would be a great asset.

Ned Swanberg, as the RNN Community representative on the call, gave Roger Faris the green light to invite them to participate in the RNN.

- Roger Faris will invite the new community to participate in an upcoming RNN meeting to introduce themselves and be presented as a potential new member to the RNN Communities.

- Roger Faris to coordinate with Jim Mullen on any ideas he may have about communities that would be good for us to approach in the Pacific Northwest or any of their friends at FEMA.
 - Anything we can do to help promote the concept of getting more involvement of folks in the RNN would be great.
- Roger Faris and Jim Mullen have promised to connect.

Vince Brown asked if they have done anything curriculum-wise for the school system in terms of mitigation, resilience, flood mapping or anything like that?

- Roger Faris will find out.
- Vince Brown will send Roger something from New Jersey that would be great to show them.

Ed Thomas reiterated that writing this material up as best practices and using NHMA as a bully pulpit and megaphone for the RNN Communities is most important to help get this information out.

- NHMA and the RNN's message that the whole Mileti idea of multiple different respective sources delivering a message, and the message being 'you can do it, you can start now, today, and here are some things you can do immediately' is powerful.
 - Ed Thomas noted Roger Faris's generosity in helping us write this material up;
 - With the help of other generous people who are giving their time to help us get stuff posted on social media, like Janice Roper-Graham and Maria of her staff, that's a very useful function for NHMA.

Vince Brown announced he is to pick something out of the NHMA Newsletter to put into the FEMA Newsletter – called the NewsFlash, which comes out monthly as well as the CTP Newsletter.

- He missed the September Edition but just told Mike King not to forget they're going to pick some things off the NHMA newsletter this month.
- Any ideas on what they can use are much appreciated; please send him a note.
 - NHMA Admin to send Vince Brown Word versions of any of these articles.

Ed Thomas shared that one of the things really worth talking about is RNN Community member Joe Rossi and his Massachusetts Coastal Coalition – the stuff they did for hazard mitigation, harm prevention and for the people after the flooding on the Massachusetts coast was fantastic.

- Roger Faris to work with Joe Rossi on coming up with a best practice to document this material.
- Roger Faris stated he has pulled some information out of their publications but needs to speak with Joe Rossi to pick a focus.
- Ed Thomas explained that what Joe Rossi and the Massachusetts Coastal Coalition accomplished in a non-presidentially declared disaster was extraordinary.
 - With 3500 homes destroyed or damaged, they went out as a non-profit organization throughout the state and put on workshops to an audience that included architects, lenders, etc., talking about how to raise / elevate homes and not build back the same old improper way.
 - In terms of grass-roots effort achieving results, it is an incredible best practice example.
 - In all Ed's decades of experience, he has never heard of anything like it being done before. It would make a great article.
 - Ed Thomas shared he attended one of the workshops and was blown away by the excellence and the thoughtfulness that went into it.
 - These people were starved for information and were able to make use of materials that were developed by the NHMA portion of the CTP in terms of post disaster handouts that were widely distributed throughout this event.
 - However, the focus was not on NHMA. We made our contribution with the post disaster materials, but the stuff that the Massachusetts Coastal Coalition and Joe

Rossi did as non-profits was so helpful to the disaster survivors that we can't even begin to tell you how well received it was, how grateful these people were for the information.

- Roger Faris to perhaps try to work with this as a focus and emphasize that the post disaster materials, and in that respect the Curriculum concepts, were incorporated and maybe make that into an article that Vince Brown can then make use of in the various publications.
- Ed Thomas to get Joe Rossi's phone number to Roger Faris.

Ned Swanberg reported on activities in the State of Vermont:

- Right now they're doing a lot of outreach about River Corridor Protection in Vermont, which is really trying to project the ability of the stream and river to take its course and find its lowest gradient path, the least erosive and damaging path, through the valley and maintain access to its flood plain and therefore minimize the amount of damage that happens to other infrastructure, roads, bridges, culverts, etc., as well as private dwellings because of the loss of flood plain function.
- This is a big part of their message.
- Roger Faris wrote up a whole piece about their new website – their Flood Training website, with great videos about communities taking stock of their issues and taking action around regulation and mitigation and community engagement events.
 - There is also a great piece in there about trying to raise the issue with the community and help them engage some of our processing and direction – bringing this into a series of presentations going out to conference venues happening around the state right now;
 - With their new updated River Corridor Map Center online, great new atlas products, web-based, user-based to access data, they also have new Model Reservations available to communities which are really a no-adverse impact framework for dealing with river corridors and flood plains and aligning with the incentive programs that's trying to get select boards enable change to enable the community get the benefit from better support AFTER presidentially declared disasters.
 - A lot of that is underway right now.
 - They don't have any hard, fast deadlines or recent disaster learning opportunities, they are just moving ahead with all these things.

Ned Swanberg to write up his notes on this.

- NHMA Admin and/or Veronica Criscitiello to get Ned Swanberg a draft of his notes.
- Ned Swanberg to flesh out the draft into an article from him with links and make it as long as he likes.
- A copy of Ned's finished article to be posted to the NHMA and RNN websites, included in the NHMA Newsletter, distributed through social media, and sent to Vince Brown for distribution through FEMA to the marketplace of ideas.
- Roger Faris to do another Best Practice story on this for posting.

Roger Faris reported that he has actually already done a Best Practice story on Vermont and already posted it to the RNN website.

- When he explored the Vermont website, he could not stop – he went from link to link and kept seeing how incredibly detailed and useful the whole thing was as a package.
- In his opinion it's one of the key things for other RNN communities to look at and explore and learn from.
- It was just amazing and was an easy success story for him to write up, so it was accomplished.
- He is happy to do another best practice story on some piece of the Vermont website because we need to come back to their story again and again, because it's really impressive.

Ed Thomas asked Roger Faris to write up exactly what he just said as a testimonial with a link to the Best Practice story on Vermont as posted on the websites.

- This testimonial should be put up on both websites as well, and also published in the Newsletter along with links to the Vermont story.
- A copy of this should be forwarded to Vince Brown for his use as well.
 - This will create multiple different respective sources saying look at this, its's really good; and that's how we will get ideas into people's minds and get them wanting to act on it.

Ed Thomas suggested the RNN consider whether we want to put out a Doodle Poll or something to the RNN communities to ask if a different meeting time would be better and ask them to pick the day and time that they want to meet in order to increase participation.

Meeting adjourned 11:48 a.m.

October Action Items:

JIM MURPHY MEMO On Under-Represented, Disadvantaged, and Economically Challenged Communities with GIS Overlay Suggestion for FEMA:

A1. Ed Thomas to get Jim Murphy copies of presentations forthwith by Jo Anne Howard, John Marshall and Erin Capps, as well as an attorney from Dallas working with the impoverished in the South Dallas area, along with descriptions of the workshops which will be available on the ABA website shortly as webinars.

DRR CURRICULUM / Wightman Associates:

A2. Veronica Criscitiello to get out some material and a report to the RNN communities:

- a. Veronica Criscitiello and NHMA Admin to get this material out in writing:
 - i. We want to emphasize in our note to the RNN Communities the outcome that we want from the Training which are actionable steps that can be taken by communities and individuals right now - what they can do to achieve disaster risk reduction along the lines of the concepts developed so incredibly well by Dr. Dennis Mileti.
 - ii. These concepts are most clearly articulated in the NHMA publication *Hide from the Wind*, in the preface, talking about Dr. Mileti's theories and how they can be implemented.
 - iii. We've got an incredibly fine product. There is nobody else with material that combines Dr. Mileti's thoughts with actionable material across the hazards along with a clear understanding of the enormous benefits of the Flood Insurance Program as well as its limitations.
 - iv. We've really got some incredible expertise that has gone into this material and we need to get it into the marketplace of ideas.
 - v. What we're doing now is developing the material that NHMA Admin with the help of Veronica Criscitiello will get out in writing to the RNN Communities for those not on the call.
 - vi. We have notes from yesterday's Board Meeting that we can include in this.

A3. NHMA Admin will write up a colloquy by Ed Thomas and Vince Brown from the NHMA Board Meeting and distribute to the RNN with the Minutes.- **DONE**

A4. Veronica Criscitiello to put out a note to the RNN to see if anyone has anything they think should or should not be included in the remaining Modules of the Curriculum as well as any learning objectives.

A5. Ed Thomas to work with Jim Mullen and Tom Hughes to see what we can do to market the DRR Curriculum and get it included as a normal part of funded training by the states and within NEMA.

YOUTH CURRICULUM:

A6. Ed Thomas to look at materials sent him by Vince Brown about what some folks are doing with regard to youth curriculum materials. If appropriate Ed to have it distributed to the Board or put into the Newsletter. No rush on this.

A7. Ed Thomas and Erin Capps to see where we stand with regard to Vanderbilt University on developing a hazard mitigation curriculum for high school students, get info on that out to the group, and produce an article for the Newsletter & post to social media.

CTP PROGRAM:

A8. Vince Brown to get information to Ed Thomas about the CTP Program for the RNN Communities.

A9. Ed Thomas will have NHMA get this information out to the CTPs and out on social media as well, to the extent that FEMA wants to promote CTP involvement.

A10. Vince Brown will submit information about NHMA for the CTP Awards committee for the communication efforts that we're doing.

A11. Veronica Criscitiello to work with Gina Wightman, Roger Faris, and anybody else that wants to chime in, to get Success Stories and any other information on what we're doing out to Vince Brown to make it easy for him to promote our activities with the Curriculum for the CTP Award.

NEW RNN COMMUNITY MEMBER:

A12. Roger Faris will invite Newport, Oregon to participate in an upcoming RNN meeting to introduce themselves as a potential new member of the RNN.

A13. Roger Faris will coordinate with Jim Mullen on any ideas he may have about other communities that would be good for us to approach in the Pacific Northwest or any of their friends at FEMA.

A14. Roger Faris will find out if Newport, Oregon has done anything curriculum-wise for the school system in terms of mitigation, resilience, flood mapping, etc.

A15. Vince Brown will send Roger Faris some materials from New Jersey that would be great to show the folks at Newport, Oregon.

NEWSLETTER MATERIALS FOR FEMA:

A16. Vince Brown to pick something out of the NHMA Newsletter to put into the FEMA Newsletter (the NewsFlash), which comes out monthly, as well as the CTP Newsletter.

A17. NHMA Admin to send Vince Brown Word versions of any of these articles.- *IN PROCESS*

BEST PRACTICES / SUCCESS STORIES:

A18. Ed Thomas shared that one of the things really worth talking about is RNN Community member Joe Rossi and his Massachusetts Coastal Coalition – the stuff they did for hazard mitigation, harm prevention and for the people after the flooding on the Massachusetts coast was fantastic.

- A19. Roger Faris will work with Joe Rossi on coming up with a best practice success story to document the efforts of the Massachusetts Coastal Coalition in hazard mitigation and harm prevention and produce an article for Vince Brown focusing on how tremendously successful their presentations were.
- A20. Ed Thomas to get Joe Rossi's phone number to Roger Faris.
- A21. NHMA Admin and/or Veronica Criscitiello to draft Ned Swanberg comments on the Vermont website and the River Corridor Protection program for his review. – ***IN PROCESS***.
- A22. Ned Swanberg to flesh out this draft into an article from him complete with links for use in the NHMA Newsletter.
- A23. A copy of Ned's finished article to be posted to the NHMA and RNN websites, included in the NHMA Newsletter, distributed through social media, and sent to Vince Brown for distribution through FEMA to the marketplace of ideas.
- A24. Roger Faris to do another Best Practice story on Vermont for posting.
- A25. Roger Faris to write up his own observations about the Vermont practices as a testimonial for publishing and posting to the NHMA website and Newsletter, as well as distribute it through social media and forward to Vince Brown along with links to the Vermont story.

INCREASING RNN PARTICIPATION

- A26. The RNN to consider whether they want to put out a Doodle Poll or something to the RNN communities to ask if a different meeting time would be better and ask them to pick the day and time that they want to meet in order to increase participation.

Action Items from September Meeting

RNN IN-PERSON COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE Meeting:

- A1: - The Community Meeting is an Action item for the RNN Communities and the NHMA Board and the Committee Chairs that we'll come up with a team that's going to organize this meeting;
- A2: - John Weiner's draft called "Brief Note to RNN from John Wiener" to be used as an organizational approach for the Advisory Committee meeting.
- A3: - Tim Trautman, Chuck Wallace, and Vince Brown to work together to figure out options for putting the Advisory Committee Meeting together.
- A4: - Comments from everyone requested on this.

Success Stories and Blurbs:

- A5: - Roger Faris to get more info from Joe Rossi to write up a Success Story about his work with the Massachusetts Coastal Coalition and impacted communities in Massachusetts.
- A6: - Barb Miller will write up her experience about her volunteer effort to improve her new community's CRS rating and get it to Roger Faris as an important Success Story.

- A7: - Barb Miller will summarize her comments on helping her new community achieve CRS for Vince Brown;
- A8: - Roger Faris will write up Barb Miller's community CRS story;
- A9: - Ed Thomas will get Roger Faris some materials he promised on Montana.
- A10: - Ed Thomas will get out to everyone a little nugget he put together for the Hazards Workshop on bridging the gap between people who believe in Climate Change, and those who don't believe in Climate Change and the process of de-politicizing the whole concept of hazard mitigation and disaster risk reduction
- A11: - (Wightman & Associates?) will be writing up some additional things on the training we did in Utah, Montana, Colorado, South Carolina, as well as the Hazards Workshop.
- A12: - David Mallory and Ed Thomas will get out some material on Colorado, and will work with Veronica Criscitiello and Gina Wightman to get the South Carolina materials written up.
- A13: - Ed Thomas, Roger Faris and Traci Sears to work together on documenting Traci Sears' work on Substantial Damage Requirements from the South Carolina presentation as a best practice;
- A14: - Veronica Criscitiello to put out Module 15 – the Wildfire Module - as a first operational draft.
- A15: - Vincent Brown will send everybody the latest copy of the Newsflash.
- A16: - Joe Rossi will work with Roger Faris and possibly Ed Thomas to write something up on the presentation he did in Montana, as well as his work with the Massachusetts Coastal Coalition for Vince to use.
- A17: - Veronica Criscitiello will send out descriptions of the Modules to everyone after the meeting for feedback.
- A18: - Veronica Criscitiello to add Mr. Brian Varrella of the ASFPM Board to the distribution as we seek to improve and expand our relationship with the ASFPM Board.
- A19: - Veronica Criscitiello to add Rebecca Joyce to the distribution, as her community is very wild fire and flood prone, and it might be good to include her on this as something that might pull her back into the group.
- A20: - Veronica Criscitiello to add John Weiner's suggestion for an informational Module as a potential new Module.
- A21: - Ed Thomas to follow up with David Vaughn, the Professor of Practice, who is heading that for Clemson University, and see if we can get something written up on the Practical Community Resilient Project effort and how the NHMA and FEMA-funded CTP is used to support that on an ongoing basis.
- A22: - Vince Brown will get information out to us on the Building Codes Report.
- A23: - Vince Brown will send a slide presentation on the Culture of Preparedness for us to look at and see where we can further combine what FEMA is doing with NHMA and RNN, and see where Resilience Organization is going
- A24: - Vince Brown to send us a write-up on the High Water Mark Initiative that we can put out in our Newsletter and up on our website.
- A25: - Barb Miller to write up information on the NOFA and PDA grants for the NHMA Newsletter, so we can get that out and also put in a little plug for her new company.
- A26: - Barb Miller will get a copy of her notes on these to Vince Brown so he can track down these PowerPoint presentations.

A27: - Barb Miller will communicate directly with Vince and pass these on to the RNN and NHMA communities.

A28: - Vincent Brown will get us copy of the PowerPoints named: FY2018 FMA NOFO and FY2018 PDM NOFO.

Action Items from July Meeting:

A29: - Ed Thomas to distribute a copy of our developing responses to FEMA initiatives for the RNN Communities to weigh in on.

A30: - Roger Faris and/or Veronica Criscitiello to write up the work that Traci Sears is doing, and Florida is doing, as a way of giving people an on-the-ground view of what is required by FEMA which is different from what FEMA used to expect.

A31: - Roger Faris to work on writing up the Montana Workshop as a model presentation and get out the benefits of the idea of coming to a workshop where you have planners, engineers, flood plain managers, and attorneys in the room at the same time.

A32: - Veronica Criscitiello to help put a map up on our website showing areas of the country where we have SMEs or at least come up with a way of showing where we have this availability. This would also help identify gaps where we don't yet have expertise to assist in other parts of the country.

A33: - Ed Thomas to send copy of FEMA post-disaster curriculum materials out to the RNN Community for comment.

A34: - Veronica Criscitiello to work with NHMA Admin to get today's material out as a draft to folks on the call and then move it forward as one of the elements of our Grant proposal to FEMA.

Action Items from the June Meeting:

A35: - **Who would like to work on a committee to pick a date, location, etc. for the RNN Community in-person meeting?**

A36: - NHMA Admin to ask Jaime Marso, our webmaster, if there's a way of tracking the downloading of new materials as we turn them out. Can we spot where interest is in topics and location? – ***DONE – awaiting reply.***

A37: - Ed Thomas to work with Vince Brown and FEMA to distribute the new post-disaster materials.

A38: - RNN Community members to distribute information about the new materials via word of mouth effort. That's one of the purposes we've designed and carefully put this material out there for.

A39: - Ned Swanberg and Tim Lovell to write up their thoughts on 'what the RNN means to me' as part of building this into the DRR Curriculum and showing the benefits of involvement in the RNN.

A40: - Ned Swanberg, Ed Thomas, to write up their thoughts on mitigation accountability and think about how we can take this further forward.

A41: - Vince Brown to get together with David Mallory on the grant application.

Action Items from April & May Meetings:

A42: - **ONGOING:** Roger Faris requested a reminder on the Agenda that success stories are still needed from members of the RNN Community. His role is to get from each person a little story about what their most proud of that their community has accomplished with regard to hazard mitigation. **STATUS:** Roger Faris reported he has received several excellent Success Stories and is looking now for about ten more. More stories are needed and welcome.

A43: - **ONGOING:** Vince Brown to offer more information next month on status of inviting Regional Coordinators to participate in the RNN calls.

A44: - **ONGOING:** NHMA Admin awaiting confirmation from RNN Community members regarding their info in the Contacts List and their approval to post this to the website.

A45: - **ONGOING:** RNN Communities to provide comments to Tom Hughes on Multi-Hazard Mitigation material (copy of Emergency Response Guide and Emergency Checklist).

- A46: - **ONGOING:** RNN Communities to provide feedback to Tom Hughes on External Stakeholders Workgroup PDFs he sent out for their next meeting in August.
- A47: - **ONGOING:** Still needing feedback from RNN members to Ed Thomas on whether they want to be part of NHMA's response to Keith Porter on the Multi-Hazard Mitigation Council's draft Cost Benefits of Hazard Mitigation.
- A48: - **ONGOING:** Discussion of Membership Memorandum to continue on next month's agenda.
- A49: - **ONGOING:** Veronica Criscitiello seeks recommendations for a good candidate to interview as a real life risk reduction leader for the Leadership Module.
- A50: - **ONGOING:** Tom Hughes and NHMA Admin to collaborate on sending something to Vince Brown to publish about the RNN.
- A51: - **ONGOING:** Vince Brown to get us information on FIMA's 50th Anniversary Celebration Program. The RNN to let Vince know if there's anything we'd like to get involved with.
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