

Correspondence: Kiley, Thomas H., 1972
September-October

FLOOD RECOVERY TASK FORCE, INC.

Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

September 25, 1972

Mr. John B. Hibbard, President
Economic Development Council
of Northeastern Penna.
P. O. Box 777
Avoca, Pa. 18641

Dear John:

We have been asked to define the respective roles of the Economic Development Council and the Flood Recovery Task Force in the planning aspect of the recovery process.

Our understanding of these roles is as follows:

- 1) The EDC and the FRTF have different primary areas of concern: the EDC's is the northeastern Pennsylvania 7-county region; the FRTF's is the Wyoming Valley municipalities directly affected by the flood.
- 2) Inherent in the EDC's and the FRTF's agreement to fulfill the request made jointly by the Federal Regional Council and Pennsylvania's Secretary of Community Affairs are responsibilities for each agency:
 - a) The EDC is responsible for reviewing all applications by Wyoming Valley municipalities for flood recovery planning and redevelopment grants with a view to coordinating their plans and avoiding needless duplication of effort and expense.
 - b) The Planning and Development Committee of the FRTF is responsible for reviewing each such application during early discussions and again after the EDC has made its final recommendations.

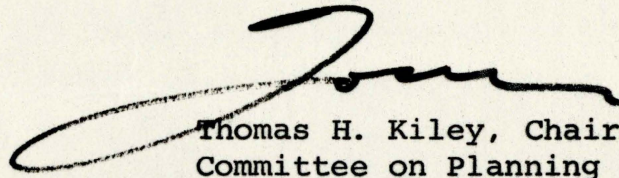
Recognizing the expertise the EDC brings to any economic planning and development assignment, we on the FRTF look forward to a cooperative and fruitful relationship in which there will be .

Mr. John B. Hibbard
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two-way communication providing constructive aid and direction to Wyoming Valley communities as they rebuild and develop a new living environment.

If you have other thoughts on this matter, I would be pleased to hear from you at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,



Thomas H. Kiley, Chairman
Committee on Planning
and Development

THK:emn

Copies to The Honorable Max Rosenn ✓
Andrew Shaw, Jr.

Mr. John Hibbard
EDC

9-15-72

Dearf John:

It is very desirable and important that the Economic Development Council of Norheastern Pennsylvania and the Flood Recovery Task Force fully understand their relationship in the vital program of recovery.

We believe that the best way to achieve the maximum effectiveness of both agencies is to have all proposals generated in the flood-affected area ~~be~~ submitted to the Flood Recovery Task Force for our review. Upon completion of review by the staff of EDC, we think the final proposal should be re-submitted to this Task Force for final review. Hopefully, any difficulties which may arise could be resolved by the two agencies with little difficulty before final submission to the appropriate federal or state agency.

As a final note, it is assumed that the staffs of both agencies will formalize an ongoing communication system as quickly as possible

Mr. H. H. Hiley

THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK

OF EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA

THOMAS H. KILEY
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

11 WEST MARKET STREET
WILKES-BARRE, PA. 18701

October 19, 1972

Mr. Oliver Bunting
Executive Editor
Eastern Banker
519 Bankers Securities Bldg.
Philadelphia, Pa. 19107

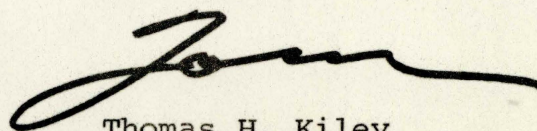
Dear Oliver:

Since writing you last week I have found a number of black and white prints of snapshots taken early in the week following the flood. Most of them would appear to have been taken on Tuesday after the disastrous weekend and I have placed a brief legend on the back of each photo.

When you were here, we commented on a letter which had been written by me to Congressman Flood urging implementation of a flood relief program based upon the principle of reimbursing homeowners and businessmen in the disaster area for a percentage of the appraised value of their flood loss. The same letter was written to Senators Scott and Schweiker and on a trip to Washington a few days later, I found the letter had been reproduced and distributed to other policy makers in Washington, including the White House Staff. Although the concept was supported by Flood, Scott and Schweiker, they were unable to sell the concept to the Congress at that time for a number of reasons.

Those of us who are working for restoration of the economic viability of the flood area are as firmly committed to the rightness of our proposal as we were at the time it was made to the Congress. Massive financial help has come to the Wyoming Valley and for this we are grateful. However, the application of the money is neither efficient nor equitable and it is still hoped that the presumption of insurance concept can be legislated by the Congress to apply to future disasters of any kind and retroactively to cover the victims of Agnes and possibly other recent disasters.

Sincerely,



Thomas H. Kiley
Chairman

THK:emn
Enclosures - 5

BC: Judge Rosenn and Mr. Harold Rose

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