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SOUTHBOROUGH, MA

SOUTHBOROUGH EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE (SEPC)
MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, June 11, 2019 10:00 AM
Emergency Operations Center – Southborough Fire Department
21 Main Street, Southborough, Massachusetts

Members present: Chief Paulhus, Chief Achilles, Neal Aspesi, Alicia Porter, Lisa Braccio, Sarah Cassell, Melissa Danza, Karina Quinn, Sharon Lorince, John Tommaney, Paul Pisinski, Laurie Livoli, John Parent, Leslie Chamberlain

Members Absent: Dana Amendola, Matthew Braccio, Annette Casco, Aldo Cipriano, Charles Dilts, Karen Galligan, Christine Johnson, Thomas Laflamme, Robert Lagasse, Sherri Lajeunesse, Pamela LaFrancois, Richard Mattioli, Scott Navaroli, Mark Purple, Dana Sgrosso, Mark Spruill, Katelyn Willis and Carol Willoughby.

Others in Attendance: Brennan Barry – public, Sue DeLarda-Woods – Facilities, Diane Byrne – Fay School, Sandra Duran – St. Marks School, Bob Berry – MEMA, Robert Moran – National Grid, and Bryan Fantony – Facilities Schools

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 10:04 AM.

Welcoming of new Fire Chief/Emergency Management Director Steven Achilles:

Chief Achilles introduced himself to the group and shared his history and role in New Hampshire: Emergency Management, Big Events – air shows, disasters, etc., involved in incident management. His goal is to work collaboratively with the resources available and he is looking forward to help in any way including after hours and weekend.

Director's remarks

Lt. Aspesi welcomed everyone and asked that everyone introduce themselves.

Updates:

Relocation to the new Public Safety Complex at 32 Cordaville Rd.

The target date is August 1, 2019 but with transition will more accurately be mid August/Early September. It would be nice to see if a walk through of the facility for SEPC would be possible. Mr. Pisinski talked about decommissioning of the septic. There was discussion that if needed an alternate EOC could be the Senior Center as well as time to change the address.

ArcGIS mapping ideas from September 2018, meeting/training/presentation

Charles Goodwin egoodwin@southboroughma.com is the contact that can build maps and layers as needed for evacuations, events, etc. We have license under MEMA.

Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP), Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) program and Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)

LHMP is out of date and looking for grant monies. We could work with MAPC for a fee to work on and identify hazards for mitigation plans.

MPV – Melissa Danza coordinated a grant and received the full amount of \$4500. She is also awaiting other grants. Melissa described the process and the plan of 50% already designated. The purpose is to mitigate in advance and real time, very important to look at together.

Membership updates & recognitions

Lt. Aspesi recognized the retirement and service from Chief Mauro, who was the Chief and Emergency Director for 7 years. Many other retirees to mention. Doreen Ferguson the Director of Recreation who coordinated many events and helped with safety aspects. Lt. Sean James, he was always available to SEPC and worked closely with safety protocols. Christine Johnson, Superintendent of Schools was great to work with in many aspects including using the schools as shelters if needed. Greg Martineau will be taking over the position and we wish him well. Bonnie Phaneuf and Brian Shifrin, both Selectman did not run for reelection and we wish them both the best. Ellen Cumming – Verizon Rep and Joanne O'Leary our Eversource Rep also retired.

2019 Atlantic Hurricane Season Outlook

Hurricane season runs from August – November and this year is predicted to be near normal. There was a named storm in May. The Mid Season update in July really steers predictions. History of storms/seasons were shared. We need to prepare in advance with continuity of operations. Lt. Aspesi talked about the dynamics of storms and shared his involvement in deploying for Hurricane Florence.

Training

- New England Earthquakes: Potential, Hazards and Massachusetts/national Hazards Reduction Program

Went through slide show regarding National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program which is a federal funding opportunity limited to states and territories who are considered "Moderate" or "Very High Risk" of earthquakes. Ms. Danza shared the purpose was how to best spend the \$30,000 spearheaded for Massachusetts and utilize the plan. It takes 100-150 years to equate to the number of earthquakes California experiences in one year. New England has ancient fault lines that run through it. It was asked how many miles of gas lines there are in New England? Don't have an answer but will work to find out. The impacts of the Mineral, VA earthquake such as water lines, natural gas shut down, lost power as well as bridges, traffic, utility and business impacts.

Briefly discussed the 1929 Tsunami. There are things to plan for use quakesmart tools to identify and mitigate. Useful tools – NIST Resilience Planning Guide for dam safety levels, National Grid US Business (National Grid will do a presentation at a future meeting). Building Code for Seismic Activity was discussed by Ms. Lavoli as well as the Great Shake Out that Southborough does not participate in.

Ms. Cassell asked about Tornado preparedness and discussion was had on past storms.

Open discussion: ask questions, get clarification on roles and responsibilities, operations, plans & provide input and suggestions.

An update on the Mema conference was shared.

102 **Any other topics raised without prior notice**

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104 None

105 **Director's closing statement**

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107 Lt. Aspesi thanked everyone for attending and the meeting was adjourned.

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109 **Documents Used/Circulated:**

110 • Massachusetts Earthquake Hazards Reduction Workshop PowerPoint

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113 Respectfully Submitted,

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115 Lisa Braccio

116 Recording Secretary