

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

SOUTHBOROUGH, MA

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

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

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

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

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

24  
25 Chief Achilles introduced himself to the group and shared his history and role in New Hampshire:  
26 Emergency Management, Big Events – air shows, disasters, etc., involved in incident management. His  
27 goal is to work collaboratively with the resources available and he is looking forward to help in any way  
28 including after hours and weekend.

## 30 Director's remarks

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

34 Updates:

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

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

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

45 Charles Goodwin [egoodwin@southboroughma.com](mailto:egoodwin@southboroughma.com) is the contact that can build maps and layers as  
46 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)

51 LHMP is out of date and looking for grant monies.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

53  
54 MPV – Melissa Danza coordinated a grant and received the full amount of \$4500. She is also awaiting  
55 other grants. Melissa described the process and the plan of 50% already designated. The purpose is to  
56 mitigate in advance and real time, very important to look at together.

57  
58 **Membership updates & recognitions**

59  
60 Lt. Aspesi recognized the retirement and service from Chief Mauro, who was the Chief and Emergency  
61 Director for 7 years. Many other retirees to mention. Doreen Ferguson the Director of Recreation who  
62 coordinated many events and helped with safety aspects. Lt. Sean James, he was always available to  
63 SEPC and worked closely with safety protocols. Christine Johnson, Superintendent of Schools was great  
64 to work with in many aspects including using the schools as shelters if needed. Greg Martineau will be  
65 taking over the position and we wish him well. Bonnie Phaneuf and Brian Shifrin, both Selectman did  
66 not run for reelection and we wish them both the best. Ellen Cumming – Verizon Rep and Joanne  
67 O’Leary our Eversource Rep also retired.

68  
69 **2019 Atlantic Hurricane Season Outlook**

70  
71 Hurricane season runs from August – November and this year is predicted to be near normal. There was  
72 a named storm in May. The Mid Season update in July really steers predictions. History of  
73 storms/seasons were shared. We need to prepare in advance with continuity of operations. Lt. Aspesi  
74 talked about the dynamics of storms and shared his involvement in deploying for Hurricane Florence.

75  
76 **Training**

77  
78 • New England Earthquakes: Potential, Hazards and Massachusetts/national Hazards Reduction  
79 Program

80  
81 Went through slide show regarding National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program which is a federal  
82 funding opportunity limited to states and territories who are considered “Moderate” or “Very High Risk”  
83 of earthquakes. Ms. Danza shared the purpose was how to best spend the \$30,000 spearheaded for  
84 Massachusetts and utilize the plan. It takes 100-150 years to equate to the number of earthquakes  
85 California experiences in one year. New England has ancient fault lines that run through it. It was asked  
86 how many miles of gas lines there are in New England? Don’t have an answer but will work to find out.  
87 The impacts of the Mineral, VA earthquake such as water lines, natural gas shut down, lost power as  
88 well as bridges, traffic, utility and business impacts.

89  
90 Briefly discussed the 1929 Tsunami. There are things to plan for use quakesmart tools to identify and  
91 mitigate. Useful tools – NIST Resilience Planning Guide for dam safety levels, National Grid US Business  
92 (National Grid will do a presentation at a future meeting). Building Code for Seismic Activity was  
93 discussed by Ms. Lavoli as well as the Great Shake Out that Southborough does not participate in.

94  
95 Ms. Cassell asked about Tornado preparedness and discussion was had on past storms.

96  
97 **Open discussion: ask questions, get clarification on roles and responsibilities, operations, plans &**  
**provide input and suggestions.**

98  
99 An update on the Mema conference was shared.

102 Any other topics raised without prior notice

103

104 None

105 Director's closing statement

106

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

108

109 **Documents Used/Circulated:**

110 • Massachusetts Earthquake Hazards Reduction Workshop PowerPoint

111

112

113 Respectfully Submitted,

114

115 Lisa Braccio

116 Recording Secretary