

CITY OF WILMINGTON
LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE
MEETING
January 11, 2008

Convened as the local emergency Planning Committee for the City of Wilmington.

The LEPC staff meeting was held on January 11, 2008 at the Public Safety Building 300 N. Walnut Street, Wilmington, Delaware.

The meeting was led by George Giles.

The minutes were approved with the correction to the date of the next meeting.

LEPC BUDGET

Director Giles stated that 60% of the budget is used for salary. We do have funds for outreach and training so call the office if you need anything. 'We will ask for more in the budget if there is a large project to do. We also can tap other ways for money for legitimate reasons.

TRAINING

We are trying to create our own City 24/7 Hazmat Teams. We completed Hazmat Training Response level for 175 Wilmington Fire Department Personnel and personnel from the Wilmington Police Department. We will conduct Hazmat Team Training in February along with Field DECON training. SERC was approached for funding and they can not help at this time so the WFD took money out of another fund. There are no restrictions on forming this team that we are aware of. If anyone knows about anything please let us know. Kara Coats from the City Law Department will look into the statute. DNREC and SERC are ok with this. With MOU's these teams will probably respond out of the City. We are looking for funding for this unit. Pam of DuPont might have a lead on this. Richard Antoff stated that there are 2 avenues- penalty phase monies to LEPC, 2, under DNREC penalties sent to local projects. It was stated that Ellen of DNREC collects a piece of the gasoline tax and this is used for small gasoline spills.

Director Giles said that we are working on the Hazardous Mitigation Plan and that his office has a \$20,000.00 commitment for hazardous clean up with HMHTTC a year for incidents that a responsible party can not be charged.

Director Giles stated that we are just trying to have a quicker, safer response. Big thing is getting all involved properly trained. We are not trying to take over DNREC or private sectors. It is to protect our responders and citizens.

Six members attended the EPA Conference in Pittsburg. Next years conference is in Norfolk, VA. Chairman DiPinto asked if anyone is interested to let us know so some money can be put aside. This conference is very informative.

New Castle County will host a conference in April which will also include some type of hazmat training. We will be sending around 15 members to training.

Art Paul of DEMA stated there are definitely monies for training they are just waiting to see how much will be used for the conference.

EDUCATION & OUTREACH

We now have our own radio station WQFL 1640 AM which we control. This will keep the public informed right away of any situation that occurs. We will be doing public safety message to run 24 hours a day. DPH is very involved with us for public health statements.

Margie Williams and George Giles have presented over 500 people their shelter in place and evacuation presentation. This has included the private citizens as well as corporate personnel. The presentation can be used anywhere because most of it is generic but there are some added perks for the citizens of Wilmington such as all of our notification systems.

Director Giles told the committee about our AmeriCorps volunteer Tracy Carpenter and that we are working on several projects at this time. We are focused on the elderly special pops who don't seem to be informed on preparedness and how they could be helped. We will also go to the area schools and do presentations.

HAZARDOUS RESPONCES

There was on response at the Riverfront. Chris Wagner of HMHTTC stated that it was and old underground hydraulic elevator shaft. The river was at high elevations causing the substance to spread over the road surfaces. This incident turned out to be non-hazardous. Kara Coats asked for a copy of the report.

SITE VISITS

Al Ostrand reported that a group out of Fredericksburg MD is interested in their work with the local LEPC's.

OLD BUSINESS

Inspections at the Port of Wilmington:

George has contacted the Director of the Port and we are in the process of

getting the new information. Maybe we can check to see if they would be interested in being a member of the LEPC.

Chief George Cunningham of the Wilmington Fire Department is also working on this.

DNREC reported that they were told there is no ammonia at the Port.

NEW BUSINESS

We will be looking for funding for the Hazmat teams for the initial introduction of the teams to include training and for the continuous training and material used for the upkeep of the teams.

SERC is doing the funding for the Local Emergency Planning Committee Conference in April.

DNREC will be doing training at the April 3rd conference.

George Giles said that it would be a good idea to encourage the parties reporting to Tier II be encourage to join the LEPC.

Dr. Llewellyn reported the issues with Carbon Monoxide. Wilmington is unique with having CO2 detectors in homes. A partnership with Delmarva Power has provided CO2 detectors and smoke detectors to the citizens of Wilmington. Also our EMT's have been provided identifiers on the equipment bags. If activated they call for an immediate response.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00.

The next LEPC meeting will be held on March 14th, 2008 in the 2nd floor conference room of the Public Safety Building
300 N. Walnut Street.

Respectfully Submitted,
Margie Williams, Staff Secretary to the LEPC