

CITY OF WILMINGTON
LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE
MEETING
March 9, 2007

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

The LEPC staff meeting was held on March 9, 2007 at the Public Safety Building 300 N. Walnut Street, Wilmington, Delaware.

Staff member George Giles conducted the meeting in the absence of Chairman Joe DiPinto.

The minutes from the January meeting were approved as written.

LEPC BUDGET

Mr. Giles explained to the committee that a lot of work goes into the budget & audit. The LEPC must comply with written guidelines.

These guidelines contain a performance ledger to be filled out for what the committee does in a year. Continuing outreach and public information must be submitted along with making sure that the Hazmat plan is reviewed and up to date. Participation with drill must be documented. We must meet with our first responders whom we meet with the Wilmington Fire Department monthly and also attend all State Emergency Response Committee meetings and training. We also participate with the quarterly testing of the DENS System with our city residents. The EHS must be inspected which DelEasi does for us every three years. They will begin with the inspections soon

Most of the budget that Wilmington does get is for salary. Because of having only 15 EHS we do not get as much as the other LEPC's. George is working with the city to increase the salary of Margie Williams who is the committee secretary and also works full time in Emergency Management as part of the agreement with the city. George is hoping to her the salary meet the other equivalent salaries.

We have about \$3000.00 dollars for the use of the committee for training and any education and outreach. If you need any assistance for training please contact our office. We will probably be able to help with the registration and training but we can not pay for travel or hotel accommodations.

We are able to put in a request to increase the budget with legitimate explanations so if anyone feels they have something to be done for a good reason then let us know.

TRAINING

We completed ICS & NIMS training at the January meeting which meets one of our requirements.

The Hunt Valley Hazmat conference will be in June if you are interested call us. There are usually 4-5 of us that attend from Wilmington.

EDUCATION & OUTREACH

We are in the process of getting ready to train the citizens on, Evacuation & Sheltering in Place, How to Prepare and also Notification. A power point presentation was completed and is in the process of being reviewed by the Mayor. We will also be training our First Responders on the same but including for them decision making during these situations.

DECON

We are fortunate to report no responses this last period.

SITE VISITS

DelEasi will be doing the site visits to our 15 EHS beginning after the spring. Letters were sent out with the questioner.

Vince Jocono from Delmarva Power asked if we could incorporate asking each facility if they had a back up generator. if they do will it supply the entire facility or only parts of the area. Margie will add the question and resend it.

OLD BUSINESS

We had discussed AM weather alert radios. We have sent a letter to the large business employers in the city explaining this indoor system to co-inside with our outdoor Emergency Alerting and Notification System. We have narrowed it down to about 67 large employers thru our Fire Marshalls Office inspections. The response of interest has been very good. Some of

the corporations have 2 or 3 buildings so we will give them 1 radio and they will be responsible to communicate with the other properties.

NEW BUSINESS

New Jersey will be holding their Emergency Preparedness Conference May 10th & 11th. There is very good information and training at this conference. There also are multiple vendors with informative displays.

SERC wants to hold a conference in the Wilmington area next year. The New Castle County LEPC will semi host the Conference but all the LEPC's will be involved.

Vince Jacono gave an update on the recent ice storm and the sub-station investigation up north. He said the first responders did a wonderful job with the employee that was badly injured. He is in Crozier at this time. Many customers along with major businesses lost power. Oil had to be cleaned up etc. before repairs could be done. Rich Antoff of DNREC said this was a significant event.

The ice storm turned ugly quickly. At 0500 399 customers were without power and by 0900 2900 customers in New Castle County with 4 in Kent and 1 in Sussex. Work orders were the same amount as Hurricane Isabelle. Crews were called from all areas and worked Tuesday thru Friday. It was a 36-48 hours event.

Vince reminded everyone that outages can be checked on their website.

Joe Taraba from Tetra Tech introduced himself to the committee. They work with the EPA and represent them his company coordinates with the LEPC's.

George stated that the city has switched over to 800 digital radios. We have provided Delmarva with two and will provide HMHTTC with one.

RFP were sent out for the hazmat response for the city. We wanted a one stop contract. Training, response, clean-up and recovery. 3 responded HMHTTC and Guardian.

Al Ostrand wanted to know our relationship with the Port of Wilmington. City did own it but now it belongs to the state.

The city is responsible for the land and the Coast Guard for the water. We have a very good working relationship with them.

We do get hazardous material notification. The city is in the process for a new 3.2 million dollar boat request.

The city has to come up with \$750,000.00 to match the grant the state will help.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:50.

The next LEPC meeting will be held on May 19th in the multi-purpose room of the Public Safety Building 300 N. Walnut Street.

PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGE OF THIS MEETING DATE BECAUSE OF THE NEW JERSEY PREPAREDNESS CONFERENCE.