

Central Naugatuck Valley Emergency Planning Committee/Citizen Corps Council

Meeting Minutes Watertown Fire Department Conference Room 935 Main Street Watertown

**Thursday, February 13, 2015
5:00 pm**

Present: Mike Devine, Bethlehem; Fran Dambowsky, Naugatuck; Chet Sergey, Wolcott; Barry Rickert, Southbury; Ken Hanks, Naugatuck.

Staff: Joanna B. Rogalski, NVCOG.

Ken Hanks called the meeting to order at 5:15. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. There were no public comments. Since there was not a quorum present, the meeting would be considered a workshop.

Joanna B. Rogalski began with a Citizen Corps update Citizen Corps Program Funding grant for January 2015 to June 2015 has been submitted in December 2014; the application is currently under review. The 2015 Formidable Footprint Schedule was released via a Citizen Corps Informational Message from Bill Austin on Jan 11, 2015. Ms. Rogalski showed a copy of the email and asked the attendees if they were receiving the CT Citizen Corps Informational Messages from Bill Austin. Most of the attendees have not. Ms. Rogalski said she will forward these emails in the future and ask that EPC member email addresses are added to the email distribution list. The Citizens Corps Project Report was written and submitted on January 29, 2015. On January 6, 2015 there was an email from John DiCarlo of the Waterbury Regional Chamber of Commerce regarding an interest in taking part in CERT training; this was to help them with their Community Economic Resilience program. He was referred to Tom Vannini for more information. There was comment that this economic resilience program was similar to the business continuity elements of existing emergency planning actions. Ms. Rogalski next asked if attendees had received the information regarding Region 1 CERT training classes that was forwarded in December 2014 – all attendees had received them. Ms. Rogalski then relayed information regarding REPT 5 funding for equipment and training. She learned from Rick Lynn, Executive Director of Northwest Hills Council of Governments and fiduciary for REPT Region 5 that there was money available for training for the FY 2014 grant; that money is available on a first come first serve basis. The FY 2014 funding will expire in April 2016, but it is better to get training requests in soon since there is a 3 month funding approval/disbursement cycle. Training forms should be requested from Paul Esteban and returned to him upon completion. Meeting attendees expressed the need to better understand what type of training was eligible

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for this funding. A list of classes approved by DEMHS in the last year would be helpful. Janet Morgan may be helpful in obtaining this list. Ms. Rogalski will look into this matter and report back to the EPC committee. Returning to the topic of REPT Region 5 funding, Ms. Rogalski also relayed that Rick Lynn encouraged municipalities to submit quotes for equipment since there was fifty thousand dollars available. The equipment needs to be used on a regional scale. Requests could be submitted to Ms. Rogalski who would then forward the request to the ESF chair. Attendees commented that a list of regional equipment available would help them determine their regional equipment needs. Paul Gibb, Special Projects Coordinator for the Region 5 REPT, may be able to help. Ms. Rogalski relayed that she received an equipment maintenance survey from Paul Gibb, which none of the attendees had received. She will forward the survey/list to EPC members. Ms. Rogalski then discussed the Homeland Security Grant Program municipal MOA's for FY 2014. There were 6 NVCOG municipalities who had not submitted them by the December 1, 2014 deadline. She had followed up with the municipalities and as of 2-12-2015 has received MOA's from Middlebury, Naugatuck, Wolcott and Woodbury. She has not yet received MOA's from Plymouth, Beacon Falls and Waterbury. Attendees commented that these MOA's would seem to get lost if faxed to DEMHS. Rick Lynn has recently enacted a program whereby his office receives the MOA's, checks them for completion, and then forwards them to DEMHS. Ms. Rogalski will hand in the MOA's, with a transmittal letter, to Rick Lynn at the REPT 5 Steering Committee meeting on Wednesday, Feb 18, 2015.

Discussion turned to the DEMHS update. Ms. Rogalski read the minutes from the CT Statewide Citizens Corps Council meeting of January 15, 2015. At that meeting Gary Ruggiero reported on planning for a June 2015 Long Island Sound ship incident training exercise, and asked members to order CERT manuals 5-6 weeks ahead of the time they are needed; Spanish language manuals need 10-12 weeks lead time.

Discussion turned to regional issues.

Naugatuck has had difficulty in getting an extension on road salt supplies. Bethlehem and Southbury also are experiencing shortages. Southbury added that one reason they were experiencing shortages was due to a shortage of trucks; instead of trucks being used for salt delivery, they are being used to move snow. More salt may be available if a CRCOG contract is made with Morton's.

Discussion turned to the use of WEBEOC. Definitions of a "significant event" seem to vary thus causing confusion.

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There was a call for a regional list of licensed hotels to be available to the EMD's. EMD's expressed a need to find secure shelter for personnel who live outside of the municipality and carry weapons, and for other emergency shelter needs.

A regional list of service stations open 24/7 with their own generators was also requested.

The need for an online website for REPT Region 5 information, including the requested lists, was discussed. Tom Vannini's office was identified as the best place to host and keep information current. The website light also include a list of Points of Distribution (POD's).

A question was raised about the outcome of the letter sent to Rick Dunne requesting the NVCOG continue providing administrative services for the Emergency Planning Committee. The letter was given to Rick Dunne in December 2014. Ms. Rogalski relayed that Rick Dunne wanted the EPC to continue and for her to be involved in emergency planning issues with the NVCOG. Another question was raised about the legislative process to keep NVCOG's involvement with EPC. Ms. Rogalski stated that she believed there was no other legislative process needed, and would double check with Rick Dunne to be certain.

On a motion by Barry Rickert, seconded by Fran Dambowsky, it was unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 6:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Joanna B. Rogalski
Regional Planner, NVCOG