

LEPC MEETING MINUTES

May 16, 2001

Chris Pfeiffer welcomed the LEPC to Pfizer and gave a brief history of the company. Bill Smith called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m.

Members in Attendance:

Lt. Larry Beld Scott Braak John Crozier Dick Davis
David Dongvillo John Edwards Al Federico Paul Hascher
Bill Lamain Anne McManus Randy Mergener Dale Myaard
Jerry Paauwe Chris Pfeiffer Dianne Phillips Myra Reimink
Bill Smith Rick Szczepanek Les Toth Rick Velderman

Members Excused:

Capt. Dave Guikema Jim Hancock Sindee Maxwell John McDonnell
Earl Mokma Susan Paauwe Chuck Pistis Bonnie Schuitema
Cornelius VanderKam Sen. VanRegenmorter Paul Ziegler

Members Unexcused:

Michael Averill Willie Beattie Mark Bethke Pete Jazdyk

Guests: Dean and Susan Blouser – Haz-Com Solutions, Mark Brandt - Hudsonville Fairgrounds, Michael Close – O.C. Commission, Lt. Don Woodward, 6th District EMD Coordinator

Approval of 3/21/2001 Minutes: Al Federico made the motion to accept the minutes. The motion was seconded by Dale Myaard and approved.

Handouts: SERC Meeting Minutes, Community Right-to-Know Manual Newsletter, NOAA Weather Radio Information, Extreme Heat flyer.

Executive Subcommittee (Bill Smith)

Reviewed agenda and made plans for the future.

Planning Subcommittee (Les Toth)

The following plans were reviewed and approved:

Cream Curls Bakery –
Donnelly – Hayes Street
Agsearch
Sears

July 1st is the deadline for plans to be submitted to the state for this years grant. We currently have five plans in process.

Public Information Subcommittee (Randy Mergener)

The group is working on a database for newsletters and looking for grant money for Public Education. Our LEPC banner will be displayed on a fire truck in the Georgetown Memorial Day parade. We plan to staff booths for two fairs this year: The Ottawa County Fair taking place July 22nd – 28th and the Hudsonville Fair from August 20th – 25th. Mark Brandt stated that a committee has met at the Hudsonville Fairgrounds, and an evacuation plan for the fairgrounds should be in place before the fair. Bill Smith offered LEPC assistance. The LEPC will be sharing a booth with the Red Cross to merge resources. Chemical Awareness week was May 6th through May 13th. A news release was sent out but the media did not pick it up.

Business/Industrial Outreach Subcommittee

Susan Ream reported that at the April 26th Zeeland CAER meeting a part of the group's discussion included Southern Energy, a new company in Zeeland. There was a recent natural gas release, from the new company, which has caused concern for the community. The group would like to reach out and encourage George Keefe, the manager of Southern Energy to participate and work with the Zeeland CAER group.

Emergency Response Subcommittee (Myra Reimink)

Myra stated that they are currently working with the Public Information Subcommittee.

LEPC Conference Subcommittee (Dianne Phillips)

There was a head count of 60 people who attended the LEPC Conference for Public Officials. Several facilities set up displays. (BilMar Foods, Zeeland Community Hospital, Holland Hospital, American Red Cross, Pfizer Chemicals, Zeeland Chemical, the LEPC and Ottawa County Emergency Management) It is felt the conference was fairly successful and reached out to a few new people. A recommendation was made to change the main, large conference to a semi-annual event, focusing on special needs groups on alternative years. Dianne asked for suggestions and ideas for future conferences. Bill stated that in the past the special needs group was one of the better conferences. A suggestion, for future conferences, was made to broaden the scope beyond hazardous materials to areas such as: severe weather, security threats etc. It was felt that a conference, covering all types of emergencies, would attract more interest.

May 5th Siren Test: Upgrade consisted of changing the frequency on all siren units. Different tones were entered. One tone will activate all sirens in the county with exception of Zeeland and Coopersville. EOC and Central were activated. Multiple activations occurred as the EOC tested each Individual System, and the OCCDA tested the County Wide, North, South and each of the Quadrants systems. A malfunction occurred when the cancellation button at Central did not work so a double test was conducted through the EOC. News coverage was gracious to us. It was noted that sirens can also be used for chemical emergencies and that there are a lot of possibilities once the Sirens get upgraded to 2-way.

Update on status of grant for NOAA Weather Radios: If we are able to get \$16,000 from our grant request, it will be adequate to purchase 280 radios. We should know more on the status of the grant early in July.

Tulip Time Parade: Our entry, in coordination with Holland Fire Dept., has been moved up to the 25th entry in the 5th division. Still checking to see if we will have a County Commissioner who will ride on the fire truck.

On behalf of the State of Michigan, Don Woodward made a presentation to honor Dianne Phillips. Dianne has completed 240 hrs of training and passed the exam to receive her title of and certificate for Professional Emergency Management.

Rich Szcpanek presented a certificate to Al Federico for helping to staff the booth at the Agricultural Fair.

Young's Environmental: New Contract with Government Units. Fire Dept's have received amended copy. It was stated that the new contract will meet with strong opposition. Rich Szcpanek stated that it drastically changes current procedure. During the Fire Chiefs meeting it was decided that Rich would speak to Young's expressing concerns.

Next meeting date will be on July 18th at Zeeland Hospital.

Dean & Susan Blouser: Haz-Mat Solutions Presentation. The presentation was well received and included many questions from the LEPC group.

Tour of Pfizer followed.