

TO: Deer Park CAER/LEPC Team

13-163

SUBJECT: Minutes of September 27, 2016 - Hosted by the City of Deer Park

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman James Stokes called the meeting to order at 11:02 a.m.

INTRODUCTIONS

Self-introductions were given by John Carnahan of Novvi, located at the Texas Molecular facility, Courtney Guy and Chris Hampton of Horizon Environmental.

PRESENTATION

Robert Hemminger introduced first time visitor and speaker, Victoria Cummings, PHEP Training Coordinator of Harris County Public Health. Ms. Cummings introduced her coworkers Jennifer Kiger, OPHPR Program Manager, who would be helping answer questions regarding the presentation and Alison Hare, a new employee of HCPH. Ms. Cummings began the presentation by asking what the group wanted to know about Zika. She expounded on the Response to Zika by Harris County Public Health. Ms. Cummings covered Zika Virus topics such as transmission of virus, pregnancy, guidance for travelers, the history of Harris County mosquito control and preventing the bite, day and night. She provided information on mosquito tracking in Harris County and areas of the County that are the primary focus. Ms. Kiger answered questions regarding the mosquitos which cause the virus and more information regarding pregnancy and the virus. Contact numbers were provided for residents regarding mosquito related calls and dead bird reporting for the West Nile virus.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON LEPC MISSION/FUNCTION (3 MINUTE TIME LIMIT)

There were no comments.

MINUTES

Motion was made by Robert Hemminger and seconded by Norma Hysler to accept the minutes for August 2016. Motion carried unanimously.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Motion was made by Buddy Rice and seconded by Rick Anorga to accept the financial report for September 2016. Motion carried unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Jay Stokes, Executive Committee Chair, reported: “We have the adoption of the 2017 budget.” Mr. Stokes asked if Robert Hemminger had any input, having helped in planning the budget.

Robert Hemminger commented, “The budget was very similar as it has been in the past, with a few items being moved around. Some items that are budgeted were included in the TCEQ grant application, but at the present, there’s been no feedback regarding the grant monies.”

Motion was made by Rick Anorga and seconded by Norma Hysler to approve the adoption of the 2017 Budget. Motion carried unanimously.

Appointment of Emergency Response/Transportation Committee Chair: Chairman Jay Stokes commented, “Ray Cook was asked to serve as our Emergency Response and Transportation Subcommittee Chair and he has agreed to do that. He’s not here today, but he’s willing to serve in that capacity.”

Motion was made by Robert Hemminger and seconded by Kevin Rodgers to appoint Ray Cook as Chair of the Emergency Response/Transportation Subcommittee. Motion carried unanimously.

Robert Hemminger, Communications Subcommittee Chair, reported:

Robert Hemminger commented, “There were several incidents since our last meeting We had thirty-nine level one courtesy notifications. These are not always a release. They’re a variety of things that you communicate with us on. We had one hundred twenty-six of drill system tests and training events which shows that we’re getting good practice and training on the system.”

On August 24th Dow reported on a level two incident, sirens sounded for a process upset in the HR1 Unit due to a sulfur dioxide release which was quickly downgraded to a level one.

On August 31st Hexion experienced a fire in a storage silo visible to the community. A Shelter in Place was issued for the North of P Street. However, the fire was extinguished quickly. The all clear was issued within 45 minutes. We reviewed the incident the next day with Dan Heiken and he discovered why the notification did not go out through E-Notify. Mr. Heiken has corrected the issue without making a change to the E-Notify system. Initially it was reported as a level two, but it was upgraded to a level three due to the smoke and then the Shelter in Place was issued. Discussion regarding reporting to E-Notify followed the report.

On August 30th, Shell had utility water discharged into the ship channel. An all clear was sent in an hour later.

Norma Hysler, Community Awareness Subcommittee Chair, reported:

2017 Calendar – “The Committee met this morning and we’ve decided on the photos that will be going into the calendar for Deer Park celebrating one-hundred twenty-five years. The photos will be sent to the printer in October.

Hot Zone - “The Hot Zone is October 21st and 22nd, which is a Friday and Saturday at the Crowne Plaza Hotel by NRG Stadium and we need workers for our booth on those days. We’ll have Wally there also. We hand out information about our LEPC and gadgets. If you can work a couple of hours on one of those days, please let me know.”

Emergency Response/Transportation, Jay Stokes reported:

“We’ve just appointed Ray Cook who’s not here today, but we’ll be getting with him and talking about drill activity and bring him up to speed on what’s been discussed previously.”

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairman Jay Stokes announced the benefit for Sandi Watkins will be held on October 1, 2016 at the Jimmy Burke Activity Center on 13th Street. Mr. Stokes also announced that the TCEQ grant applications has been submitted and we appreciate the effort that Robert put forth in submitting the application.

Frank Lerch announced Union Pacific will be hosting an Emergency Responders appreciate event on October 8, 2016 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Amtrak Depot in downtown Houston.

Buddy Rice, Fire Marshal announced that October 8th is the parade which begins Fire Prevention Week. If you have a fire truck, bring them out. We'll be meeting at 8:30 and the parade starts at 10 a.m.

Robert Hemminger thanks the ladies with Harris County Public Health for sharing their presentation with everyone.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be on October 25th and final meeting November 29th the last one for the calendar year. Meeting was adjourned at 11:27 a.m.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

Shannon Bennett, TRMC
Acting Secretary/Treasurer

James Stokes
Chair

