

MINUTES

City of Pacifica
Emergency Preparedness & Safety Commission
Pacifica Police Department Conference Room
2075 Coast Highway
Pacifica, CA 94044

DATE: Wednesday, March 18, 2009

TIME: 6:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER: Chairperson Blackburn called the meeting to order at 6:05 PM

ROLL CALL:

Commissioners Present: Erbacher, Chiechi, Shaw, Balestreri, Blackburn

Commissioners Absent: Johnson, Salisbury

Ex Officio Members Present: Wisell, Schultz, Lancelle

Ex Officio Members Absent: Maheley

STAFF PRESENT: Sgt Londerville

APPROVAL

OF MINUTES: The minutes for the February 18, 2009 meeting were approved.

COMMISSION COMMENTS:

Commissioner Erbacher reported on his participation in the Silver Dragon III exercise on 3-11-09. The training exercise was conducted in the area of the Doelger Center in Daly City. Commissioner Erbacher stated that the exercise was good training for CERT members. Teams of three that included two CERT members and one amateur radio operator were sent out to hand deliver flyers on residences. This was simulating delivery of medicine under emergency conditions. It was estimated that 1,100 flyers were delivered in less than two hours.

Commissioner Shaw also participated in the exercise as a CERT volunteer. Commissioner Shaw stated that it was a good exercise. Commissioner Shaw stated that more events like this should occur in order to identify problems that exist prior to an actual emergency.

Commissioner Blackburn stated he received a call from a representative of a property owner on Esplanade. Commissioner Blackburn stated that he received the call under his employment with FEMA. The representative was inquiring about federal grant money that may be available to be used to stop the erosion of the cliff side above Esplanade beach. Commissioner Blackburn stated that he provided the person with information about what was available and how to make application for funds. Commissioner Blackburn stated that the application period for 2009 funds has since closed and that the grants for Fiscal Year 2010 would not be available until sometime near the end of this calendar year. Commissioner Blackburn stated he directed the person back to the City of Pacifica, as the city would have to be the eligible applicant through the proper emergency management agency. Commissioner Blackburn stated he also referred him to the United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service who has a regional office in Half Moon Bay, as they may be able to provide assistance. Commissioner Blackburn stated that he believed that at some point the property owners would be in contact with the City of Pacifica regarding the cliff side erosion.

EX-OFFICIO COMMENTS:

Ex-Officio Member Schultz reported that he also attended the Siler Dragon III exercise on 3-11-09. The exercise required CERT members to go door-to-door delivering flyers simulating the delivery of medicine. He was part of a group that discovered an apartment complex in their assigned area had about 100 more residents than anticipated and the problems arising from trying to get additional supplies into the field.

Ex-Officio Member Wisell stated that the school district is looking into trying to tie fire alarms at the schools directly to the fire department. Currently when the fire alarm system is activated it requires an individual to place a phone call in order for the fire department to respond.

Ex-Officio Member Wisell also reported that the school system would like to

Ex-Officio Member Schultz reported that the JUHSD fire system is monitored by a call center and also directly tied to local fire stations.

STAFF COMMENTS:

Sgt Londerville reported that he attended the Silver Dragon III exercise being conducted in Foster City on 3-11-09 in Foster City. The goal of the exercise was to simulate door-to-door distribution of antibiotics using CERT personnel. The scope was to target specific neighborhoods and deliver items in a determined time frame.

The exercise briefing was very clear and concise. It outlined the goals of the operation and covered behavior on the part of participants and known safety issues.

Command was divided into sections and each delivered their part of information necessary. Roll call was conducted to confirm who was in attendance and assign groups.

Cert personnel were broken down into three sub groups for the distribution and assigned to specific ICP.

A separate briefing was conducted at the ICP putting CERT members into three man teams and each were given specific locations to deliver items to. Each team was assigned a leader and provided with a communication device. CERT teams were advised to check in via radio every 20 minutes.

Following assignments CERT teams were deployed to their delivery areas.

Delivery of the items was conducted without issue. The targeted number of homes within the time frame was met.

Identified problems.

There were issues with communication with the CERT teams. The common problem was mechanical problems with communication devices. The second issue was lack of familiarity with the operation of the communication devices.

Solutions were identified as. Testing of communication equipment, confirmation it was working and that the CERT team understood how to use the equipment prior to CERT teams leaving the ICP.

Overall the exercise was coordinated, ran smoothly and was a success.

The CERT class scheduled for March 2009 is full and there are 26 additional people interested in becoming CERT trained. Capt Realyvasquez is working with Matt Lucett to organize a second class to accommodate the additional people.

Sgt Londerville reported that he has been in contact with Elaine Larsen from the Pacifica Tribune and future Emergency Preparedness & Safety Commission meetings will be posted in the weekly newspaper.

Sgt Londerville reported that information concerning safety around the beach during storms due to heavy wave action will included in a future addition of the Pacifica Tribune. It was suggested that a future CERT course be conducted on weekends to accommodate those interested parties that cannot attend weekday classes.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Jean Johnson commented that on the Agenda the term "Old Business" was no longer being used and the correct term was "Unfinished Business" according to Robert's Rules of Order. The change will be made on all future posted agendas and minutes.

Jean Johnson also inquired about the application she submitted to join this committee. Ex-Officio Member Lancell stated that application reviews have not yet been scheduled but will be in the near future. Ex-Officio Member Lancell advised that Jean Johnson would be made aware of the date and time this would occur.

PUBLIC HEARINGS: None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Commissioner Erbacher commented that he it would be important to have quality maps and a simple form to track personnel in the armature radio room. Commissioner Erbacher stated that the armature radio operators would be in contact with CERT personnel in the field and needed some way of tracking their locations. Ex-Officio Member Schultz commented that the maps they were provided during the Silver Dragon III exercise in Daly City showed parcel numbers and not addresses and were originally very confusing. Commissioner Erbacher stated he is currently completing work on a form to assist in this area.

NEW BUSINESS: None

OTHER: None

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 1840 hours.