



## Meeting Minutes

Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) District VII  
Bennington County, Vermont

**January 26, 2017 from 6:00 pm to 8:45 pm**

Bennington Project Independence  
614 Harwood Hill Rd.  
Bennington, VT 05201

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Attendees	
Name	Affiliation
Allison Strohl	BCRC
Bill Camarda	Bennington Rescue Squad
John Gagnon	American Red Cross (Bennington volunteer)
Keith Squires	LEPC Chair/Arlington EMD
Lissa Stark	LEPC Treasurer/Town of Windhall
Rich Cogliano	DEMHS
Robin Greene	Interfaith

**Meeting Minutes:** Keith Squires asked if there were any edits to be made to the September 29, 2016 meeting minutes. No one had any comments. Lissa Stark made a motion to accept the minutes, Bill Camarda seconded. All were in favor.

**Treasurer's Report:** Lissa went over the report, which covered the time from July 1, 2016 to current. The balance began at \$14,532.43. The LEPC 7 paid BPI \$110 for the last meeting and applied for and received \$4,000 in SERC allotment funds. The ending balance is \$18,422.43. A motion was made by Robin Greene to accept the report, Bill seconded. All were in favor.

### **BCRC contract changes/proposal:**

Keith mentioned that the LEPC should consider thinking about paying the BCRC for more items, such as printings and mailings, etc., and trying to generate more interest among people to attend LEPC meetings. The SERC funds would be used to do new things, possibly developing a LEPC web page under the BCRC website. Allison Strohl said she would ask the BCRC about the web page.

Allison mentioned that the SERC grant has many items listed under allowed costs and that the LEPC could take a look and see if there were items they would like the BCRC to complete.

Lissa mentioned that the funding could possibly provide food for the ICS 402 in Sunderland coming up. Rich Cogliano will check if that is an allowed cost.

Robin mentioned the International Critical Infrastructure Foundation (ICIF) and trainings they used to hold. She mentioned that it would be nice to hold trainings they offered in Bennington County and that they could be facilitated by the LEPC.

Keith said that him and Lissa will discuss what might be possible and then develop a contract by the next meeting. Robin made a motion for the LEPC to work with Allison to develop a proposal/contract. Bill seconded. All were in favor.

Robin asked about a motion to be made to pay for the meeting space and meal for this evening. Lissa said yes, that the cost was \$110. Robin made a motion, Bill seconded. All were in favor.

John Gagnon asked about kinds of drills that occur in the region. Keith talked about drills of the past: a bus roll, police drills, etc. Keith explained that things have changed and that tabletops and other steps need to take place before drills are held. Rich chimed in that a tabletop could be held on a Saturday afternoon and that he could help facilitate the tabletop. Keith was concerned about the lack of interest in tabletops. Bill mentioned certain types of topics that could bring people out and get them interested. Rich mentioned that he and Allison were talking about holding a seminar/training on an active shooter for schools and that he could look for a speaker to perform a tabletop or seminar for schools. This could generate interest, with participants from first responders to those that work at schools. Rich is going to research school crisis seminars.

**Presentation – Mobile Home Preparedness:** The Champlain Valley Office of Economic Opportunity (CVOEO) gave a presentation on emergency preparedness in mobile home parks. Please see the attached PDF for the presentation.

Some notes from the presentation:

- CVOEO suggested a tabletop on displaced mobile home parks if they need to be evacuated.
- White Birches MHP in Bennington would be a good park to do a tabletop exercise on.
- CVOEO has a packet on how to hold a tabletop on one of the MHPs and would be able to help with a tabletop.
- Royal Pine in Pownal would also be a good tabletop MHP.
- Would be good to have residents take the lead in an exercise but with emergency personnel there with them because the responder time may lag and the residents should know what to do in the time before responders arrive.
- CVOEO suggested that someone in the park be designated, instead of the first responders, to go around to get people to evacuate in an emergency.
- CVOEO can help with outreach to the MHP and assist with the tabletop.
- All park data is available on the UVM website: [www.uvm.edu/~cdaemhp](http://www.uvm.edu/~cdaemhp)
- Park information is also available through CVOEO (info on owned, rented, occupied, vacant).
- CVOEO website: [www.cvoeo.org/mhp](http://www.cvoeo.org/mhp), anyone can contact them about any questions or concerns about homeowner rights.
- Most park residents are better with face to face and phone call conversations. Mailings and emails have not proven to be as effective.

-Pets are also a concern in MHP. Pets should be planned for and considered when emergency and evacuation planning.

-Asking MHP owners about whether or not they have considered their pets during an emergency would be beneficial. It is a good way to start a conversation and to get them thinking about emergency preparedness.

**DEMHS Report:** Rich said there have been new staff changes at DEMHS and new positions created. Rich is now the regional coordinator in southern Vermont. Emily Harris is the new regional coordinator in northeastern Vermont. The northwestern Vermont position is still open.

Upcoming trainings:

ICS 402: Sunderland on April 29

ICS 300: Rutland on April 25, 26, 27

HSEEP: Pittsford on June 6, 7, 8

For the training calendar: <http://demhs.vermont.gov/calendar>

New map for locating where plow trucks are in the state: [plowtrucks.vtrans.vermont.gov](http://plowtrucks.vtrans.vermont.gov)

#### **Agency Reports:**

John Gagnon – Red Cross: working to develop a disaster action team in Bennington trying to get the word out.

Bill Camarda – Rescue Squad: EMT program is currently being held. There are 11 students in the class. Class is held everyday from 8am-4pm, which has been more successful than the class in past years with a different schedule. Five of the students are Bennington College students (they get school credit for the class). Once finished, they will have completed 200 hours in six weeks. They can take the test in two weeks.

**Adjourn:** Meeting ended at 8:45am.

**Next Meeting:** April 27, 2017. Meeting topic: EMD rolls, LEOP help, and what an LEPC is and how it can help the community.