

MONTGOMERY COUNTY LEPC QUARTERLY MEETING: 1/18/23 NOTES

Meeting Location: Virtual Microsoft Teams

New Action Items:

Task	Responsible Party
None	None

Previous Action Items:

Task	Responsible Party
None	None

Welcome / Introductions

Crisostomo, Chuck	C. Savard
Bruce Donato - EHS Consultant (Guest)	Swartz, Steven
John Gustafson (Guest)	Heather Pearsall
Genua, Daniel	McClelland, James
Kirk Mitchell (Guest)	Randy Norman
Jiggins, Timothy	Cakouros, Mike
Fleming, Patrick	Katelynne Paradise
Streater, Sareem	Brown, Connor (NIH/NIAID) [E]
John Gustafson (Guest)	Christine McKendrew
Miriam Sharp, UMD (Guest)	Burke, John
Dinowitz, Mitchell	Rytting, Brandon (NIH/NCI) [C]
Roman, Frank L.	Dwayne Davis
Kat Funtanilla	Patrick (Guest)
Moore, Barbara	Pedersen III, Olaf P:(PHI)
Brzakalska, Malgorzata (NIH/NCI) [C]	Smith, Michelle (BCFD)
Garvey, Jon (NIH/NHGRI) [E]	Dunaway, Lisa
Alderdice, Jeffrey (NIH/NCI) [E]	Merck, Rick
Elliott, Harold	Miller, Geoffrey (NIH/CIT) [E]
Dayton, Kathleen M	Miziorko, Matthias
Block, Michael (Contractor)	O'Donnell, Sean M.
Souders, Marianne	Martin, Steve
Laboy, Kristina	Kunz, Ronald (NIH/NCI) [C]
Lewis, Joseph (Michael)	Curtis Chappell (Guest)
Browning, Ivan	Eltermann, Dawn W.
Secunda, Miriam	Patrick (Guest)

New Business

OEMHS Updates – Marianne Souders, Planning Section Chief.

The OEMHS Planning Section is currently working on updating plans for the Hazard Mitigation Plan and the Emergency Operations Plan. OEMHS will be working on updating these plans during 2023 and it is anticipated that it will take up a fair amount of staff time to accomplish and keep everyone busy.

There is an Emergency Fuel Plan being coordinated through OEMHS, with assistance from numerous County Departments. The plan is intended to set thresholds and capacities on hand for county managed fuel. This effort will assist county leadership on how to make informed decisions regarding mission essential functions.

The Planning Section has staff vacancies which are expected to be filled in the near future. The positions are an Emergency Management Specialist and a Climate Manager. There is also contract support staff that will be filled shortly.

OEMHS Updates – Mitch Dinowitz / Chuck Crisostomo

Chuck: OEMHS has a new Director – Luke Hodgson, who started on December 27, 2022. Luke comes to the County with an extensive background in Emergency Management and was most recently the Executive Director of the MDERS, whose primary mission is to enhance emergency response capacity in Maryland (and NCR). Luke will soon become the chair of the LEPC.

The Planning Section will be a part of the LEPC in 2023 to provide updates on plans being developed in OEMHS and to solicit feedback from the LEPC.

Mitch: Grant money will become available for conferences, and other LEPC related activities. This funding has typically been around the \$10k to \$25k range. As the funding stalled during the COVID period, there is approximately \$27k available currently. Looking to bring in a response to compressed natural gas (CNG) incidents course for Fire Rescue hazmat and send 2 people to the NASTTPO conference, as well as send hazmat personnel to the IAFC hazmat conference in Baltimore.

Looking for ideas for how to utilize the grant funds – what opportunities are out there for hazmat or LEPC type trainings or conferences that we could use the grant funds for in the future. These grants are typically submitted in spring.

Hazmat Permitting Program – Barbara Moore

Currently processing permitting notices that will be due in 2023, bulk facilities in particular for 2023 and will be sending those out soon. Finalizing permits from 2022 and putting everything in bulk uploads to the system.

National Association of SARA Tier II Provider Officials (NASTTPO): Board meeting is January 31, 2023. Annual conference is April 17 – 20, 2023 in Salt Lake City. Barbara is running for vice-president position which will be voted on at the annual conference.

Fire Rescue Hazmat Update – Battalion Chief Ivan Browning

Hazmat Team ran 188 incidents in 2022. Last quarter of 2022 they ran a couple of mercury responses, refrigerant responses, unknown powder and vial responses, and 2 underground propane gas tank incidents. The small plane crash into the high tension power lines in Gaithersburg after Thanksgiving was a particularly challenging incident for FRS and the hazmat team. A hazmat technician class was held last year with 16 new hazmat technicians now in FRS. Received numerous new equipment items for the hazmat units that will assist the mission.

LEPC Core Group Update – Randy Norman

The Core Group has historically been a working group developed some time ago as a “revitalization” of the LEPC group and to examine how the LEPC functions. This has lead to the crafting of a Vision Statement, Mission Statement and a set of Bylaws. The Core Group assists with the selection of LEPC membership and helps facilitate the functioning of the LEPC. COVID stalled the Core Group a bit and some members of the group have transitioned elsewhere now. The group is currently looking for a few new members – contact Mitch Dinowitz if you would like to be a member of the Core Group or forward ideas to Mitch or Randy that you may have to keep the LEPC as effective as possible.

Mitch – we will need to go back and look at the Bylaws regarding voting members having a one- or two-year term. Need to look at that as we are now beyond that timeframe. There are also a few other little housekeeping things for the Core Group to adjust after this “COVID” time.

Speakers/Presentation

- Small Plane Crash and Power Outage – Battalion Chief Ivan Browning – Montgomery County Fire Rescue, Pete Pederson PEPCO
- Power Grid Resilience – (New Montgomery County) Protective Security Advisor - Dan Genua – US Department of Homeland Security
- UMD Hazard Signage System – Miriam Sharp – Lab Safety Manager - University of Maryland

Presentations will be posted online.

Moving Forward

Next Meeting – Mitch Dinowitz

Next meeting will be April 19, 2023.

For topics or to host a meeting please contact Mitch Dinowitz