

**City of Takoma Park  
Emergency Preparedness Committee  
Thursday, October 24, 2013  
Community Center Hydrangea Room  
Minutes**

*Minutes adopted December 5, 2013.*

**Members Present:** Jennifer Kurtinitis (Community Co-Chair), Andy Kelemen, Tom Horne (TPVFD), Jim Stoddard (WAU), Becky Zorn (OEMHS)

**Absent:** Patrick Kimvilakani (Resident Member), Kathe Quinn (Resident Member), Jim Stoddard (WAH), Alan Goldberg (City Co-Chair)

**Also Present:** Buddy Daniels, Resident; Jessie Carpenter, City Clerk

**Welcome and Approval of Minutes**

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m.

There were not minutes submitted for adoption.

**OEMHS Briefing**

Becky provided a briefing.

**Identifying Community Leaders**

The Committee discussed how to identify community leaders to invite to a preparedness session and to ask for assistance in reaching out to their constituencies before and during emergencies.

Groups/individuals suggested:

- The two farmers markets
- The two business associations
- Historic Takoma
- TPSS Co-op
- The TP Volunteer Fire Department
- Howard Kohn
- Takoma Voice

Other ways to convey information could be mobile sign boards and WAU Radio.

Residents often call their councilmember to get information. The Council gets information from the City Manager and also shares information through the manager about what they are hearing.

311 can be helpful – an update email can be sent to all 311 operators so they have the information for callers. It was also noted that there are issues with some Takoma Park residents who are unable to connect to Montgomery County’s 311 system.

It was suggested finding a late winter date for the meeting with community leaders.

A draft agenda for the session might include:

- What is the EPC?
- What we do and do not do.
- How to prepare for emergencies.
- Communication.
- Asking attendees about their concerns.
- Share information about available resources.
- How to be your own best advocate in an emergency.

### **Outreach Events**

Andy will cover the Prescription Drug Take Back Day on October 26.

### **Upcoming Articles**

Tom offered to write an article on emergency generators (for December?)

Upcoming article topics include “ice and snow” for January and “animal shelters” for February.

### **Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:56 a.m.