

# Emergency Preparedness Committee (EPC) City of Takoma Park

Meeting, January 26, 2017: Hydrangea Room //7-8.30 pm.

## AGENDA

Issue/ item	Who	Estimated Time	Hour
New Year, new issues—welcome back	Claudine	5 min	7.05
City Brief; county brief	Ron	10 min	7.15
Expanding the EPC boundaries: preparation & training, active shooter activities, etc.	Andy, Fred, Herma, ALL	30 min	7.45
December meeting items: grants, scenarios/THIRA, Incident command, gaps in city services	Jake, Donald, Ron, ALL	30 min	8.15
Outreach: news blasts to council, sending EPC column to listservs, EPC slogan idea; Long Branch mtg update	Claudine, ALL	10 min	8.25
Other?	ALL	5	8.30

**Next Meeting: February 23, 2017**

### Upcoming Events

Celebrate Takoma May 20, 2017

### **Emergency preparedness meetings**

MADRA: Mid-Atlantic Disaster Recovery Association; Next Meeting Thursday, February 16, 2016 11:30 AM - 2:00 PM//McLean, VA 22102; <http://www.madra.org/>

FEMA Higher Education Symposium, June 6-9: <https://training.fema.gov/hiedu/>

Montgomery Country training, Recovery from Disaster, May 3: <https://mema.maryland.csod.com>

### **Training:**

- Virginia Dept of Emergency Management: <http://www.vaemergency.com/em/training>
- Maryland Emergency Management Agency - <http://www.mema.state.md.us/calendar/index.asp>
- Federal Emergency Management Agency- <http://training.fema.gov/is/crslist.asp?page=all>
- International Federation of the Red Cross - <https://ifrc.csod.com/client/ifrc/default.aspx>
- Disasterready.org - <http://www.disasterready.org>

## 1. Attendance:

- Ron, Donald, Herma, Claudine, Fred, Tom, Jenny, Andy. Guest - Buddy

## 2. City Brief; county brief

- County
  - Functional Ex – cyber attack during a winter storm. Went well.
  - Looking to utilize a program called “Next Door”. Ron to find out more info. Sounds a lot like Alert Montgomery
  - COG still looking at situational awareness. PG & DC use program called Starlight, uses CAD data to get an idea of what’s happening around us, across jurisdictions.
  - Mosquito prevention task force held first meeting. Working with PG County health Dept. as well to coordinate efforts.
- City
  - Takoma Park Adventist Church is planning to hold a preparedness event, April 2. Ron will do a presentation on home preparedness. TPFD will do a fire safety presentation. Jenny reached out to Candice re: Pillowcase presentation
  - Ron met with a Boy Scout interested in working on a Zika virus Eagle Scout project. Would like to work with other troops and get an idea of how to get messaging out throughout Montgomery and PG counties.
  - WAH is hoping to hire a new Emergency Manager within the next month
  - Ron finished training on lockdowns. Will continue to share info quarterly to new employees.
  - Sent text message to 200+ employees. Had a 40% confirmation response. Spoke with Jason re: a functional test later this year.
  - Working with Chief on messaging on police shooting

## 3. Expanding the EPC boundaries: preparation & training, active shooter activities, etc.

- Expanding boundaries of how we have traditionally referred to as emergencies on the committee.
  - For example, can promote information about active shooters to the public for general awareness. Or info about evolving threats, etc. Would like to see what other kind of materials exist and what we can

tailor to TP. Can push out on web, TV and to local businesses, hold a presentation, etc.

- Looking at psychological and physiological responses to emergencies
- Next steps:
  - Claudine will compile information. Need to figure out what would benefit the Takoma community.
  - Ron has a lot of info already that he can share and see how to build off on. Can bring folks together to review

#### 4. December meeting items: grants, scenarios/THIRA, Incident command, gaps in city services

- A lot of this falls under the previous discussion (minus grants)
- Grants – there may be some funds available. First need to figure out what we want to do and who would support. Claudine will connect with MADRA members about types of grants.

#### 5. Outreach: news blasts to council, sending EPC column to listservs, EPC slogan idea; Long Branch meeting update

- Emails to Council – would like to coordinate and communicate.
- Claudine to start a list of awareness items. Ex. Preparing for a march.
- Long Branch group – made up of multiple groups. Way to communicate across different groups.
- Potential slogan – “Being prepared prevents being scared.”

#### 6. Other

- Would Committee be willing to sponsor a Sky Warning class from the Weather Service? Recommendation to hold in late March/early April, if possible. Weeknights (not Wednesdays). 7-9.30. Tom will check staff availability.
- Type of app that created its own network. Allows phones to connect to one another even when cell service is overwhelmed. Search cell phone mesh networking. Some apps include “MeshMe”, “FireChat”, “Open Garden”, “The Serval Mesh”, “Jott”,