

Emergency Preparedness Committee (EPC) City of Takoma Park

Meeting: 28 March 2019 Hydrangea Room // 7-8.30 pm.

AGENDA

Issue/ item	Lead person	Est. Time
Welcome – guest ; Kejuana Walton Consumer Education and Advocacy Unit Maryland Insurance Administration		30min
City, County updates	Ron Hardy	15
Stop the Bleed: update on March; April dates, + promotion plans	Ron Hardy	15
Discussion, part I: Emergency Preparedness report- “bottom up” preparedness. Application to Takoma Park.	Claudine Schweber + ALL	15
2019 outreach and activity planning: --current EPC outreach: folk festival, street festival, --future opportunities: with your council member and at ward meetings, with your constituency, etc. --other activities	All	10
Topics for monthly column and radio	All	5

Next Meeting: 25 April 2019

Emergency preparedness links:

Financial Preparedness----- <https://www.ready.gov/financial-preparedness> + column March 2018

MADRA: Mid-Atlantic Disaster Recovery Association -- <http://www.madra.org/> : quarterly

Virginia Emergency Management: <http://www.vaemergency.com/em/training>

Maryland Emergency Management Agency - <http://www.mema.state.md.us/calendar/index.asp>

Emergency Preparedness <https://www.ready.gov/>

- 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>

EPC Meeting Notes, 28 March 2019:

I. Guest: Kejuana Walton, Consumer Education and Advocacy Unit, Maryland Insurance Administration. (www.insurance.maryland.gov)

The MIA regulates insurance companies in Maryland; thus it can help with consumers' conflicts with insurance companies and in some cases overturn insurance company decisions. MIA deals with varied insurance including auto, life, home, Medicare, health and long-term care, flood, and more.

Ms Walton shared the varied services offered by the MIA: offers comparative information about home and auto insurance; classes for first time home buyers; comparison rates; information re homeowner's insurance; explanations of renters' insurance; disaster preparedness.

Recommendations: everyone make an inventory list of items + photos and save in a safe place/with a trusted person; identify whether they have replacement cost policy or depreciation; be very cautious re 'insurance chasers'; recognize that 'renter's insurance' covers only personal items.

To contact MIA by phone, see website for numbers of different departments, such as Auto and Homeowners insurance complaints, Life and Health insurance complaints, insurance fraud tip line, and more. This also includes a contact link. Note: website also has a link for language translation.

II. Information and discussion:

- City and County items (Ron Hardy)
 - Stop the Bleed, 2 sessions in April—13 and 17.
 - Celebrate Takoma event, May 18. Need volunteers to staff the EPC table
 - Emergency lock-down training for City employees forthcoming
- Application of FEMA Emergency Preparedness Report to TPK (Claudine Schweber & EPC): focus on working closely with community groups and their representatives
 - identify groups in your area with whom you have /will develop contact, and establish a contact person, e.g., high rise buildings, elderly, disabled, youth council, individual neighborhoods/blocks
 - share information re Emergency Preparedness with Council member, local listserv, ward meetings
 - identify key preparedness concerns of the group
 - eventually, develop a brief handout with basic emergency preparedness items, in several languages
 - need to increase visibility of EPC?