



EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE
Tuesday, November 24, 2015 at 9:00 am
Location: Council Chambers

Agenda

<i>Item</i>	<i>Page #</i>
1. Call to Order	
2. Approval of Agenda	
3. Approval of Minutes: <ul style="list-style-type: none">July 28, 2015	1
4. Muster Points and Signage <ul style="list-style-type: none">Discussion	--
5. Working Group <ul style="list-style-type: none">Recovery and Mitigation Strategies following a disaster	--
6. Strategic Planning <ul style="list-style-type: none">Priority projects for 2016-2017	
7. Discussion:	
8. Public Input	
9. Schedule Next Meeting: <ul style="list-style-type: none">January 28, 2015 at 9:00 amMeetings – Every two months on the fourth Tuesday of the month	
10. Adjournment	



DISTRICT OF SOOKE
Emergency Planning Committee

Meeting held July 28, 2015

at 9:00 am

Council Chamber, 2225 Otter Point Road

Committee Members Present:

Jeri Grant, JDF Emergency Program Coordinator

Jana Lamontague, Sooke EMS

Alison Makkinga, SD #62

Dick Nimmo, Sooke Amateur Radio

Brenda Parkinson, Councillor

Janna Lamontagne, Sooke BCAS

Christopher Vanderfoord, VIHA

Staff:

Steve Sorensen - Fire Chief-Sooke Fire Rescue, Chair

Richard McLeod - Deputy Chief-Sooke Fire Rescue

Elisabeth Nelson - Municipal Engineer

Jan Stope - Recorder

Guests:

Patricia Baye, Alex Beresford, Ed Gorse, Bill Mickle

1. The meeting was called to order at 8:59 a.m.
2. **Approval of the Agenda:**
MOVED to approve the agenda with the addition of discussion on Service Agreements
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
3. **Approval of Minutes:**
MOVED to approve the minutes of May 26, 2015 as amended
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
4. **Amended Terms of Reference:**
 - Council Resolution June 22, 2015
 - Amended Terms of Reference – the committee received the amended Terms of Reference.
5. **Grant Manor Fire:**
 - **Lessons Learned** – Fire Chief Sorensen provided the Committee members with some details and an update of the Grant Manor fire that occurred just after midnight on July 04, 2015
 - Fire displaced 19 people many of whom are still looking for permanent residence
 - Entire building is deemed a hazardous site due to asbestos contamination leaving nothing salvageable
 - Structural damage, and major smoke and water damage to the building

- Clean-up and repair to the building will take approximately 1 year
 - The Committee discussed the challenges after the fire such as the impact to the Community and tenants of the building.
 - This incident serves as a real eye opener for the challenges facing communities when such an event occurs, and also raises concerns on how we can effectively respond to a larger scale event with limited recourses
 - It was suggested that a District of Sooke staff member be responsible for the day to day administration of Sooke's Emergency Program since the Fire Fighters will always be involved in the emergency operations and response
 - Mick Rhodes is an advocate for saving the victims recoverable items that are most valuable to them, and is organizing a fundraising campaign to store and help pay for the costly cleaning process
 - Sooke Fire Rescue membership is at its lowest ever. Currently there are a total of 18 fire suppression volunteers and 5 career members for a total of 23. Coverage continues to be a challenge
 - Discussion as to the importance of having contents insurance, taking photos of your possessions and having a "Grab and Go" bag ready at the door
 - Homes built prior to 1990, should have insurance polices that include a clause for a decontamination cleaning plan in the event of asbestos being present in the building
 - The public need to have realistic expectations of Communities Emergency resources and be prepared to look after themselves
6. **2015 VIEP Conference:**
- It was suggested that funds from the VIEP Conference be used for something Emergency Preparedness based that will be of benefit to the whole community
 - **Wish List**
 - Ideas included shelters, 40' container to store boom and other emergency related supplies
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7. **Emergency Supplies:**
- **Shipping Container Update** – Fire Chief Sorensen
 - Remaining funds from the VIEP Conference could go towards the purchase of a shipping container that can be stored on the east side of the Sooke River Bridge
8. **Fire Department:**
- **The Future of Wildland Fire Management in Sooke**
- The Committee discussed their concerns and challenges surrounding Wildland Fire Management
- Wildland fire is the biggest challenge that communities may face and the Province is predicting that next year will be dryer than this year
 - This is not just an issue for Sooke as a wildfire in the area could affect all of the surrounding communities
 - **Wildfire Protection Plan** (created 5 years ago) – look at some of the recommendations in the Plan and see what's been accomplished and what our priorities are
 - Look more globally at the Development & Planning process – big houses in forested areas on narrow driveways are a recipe for disaster. It was suggested to work together with Development, Planning, Fire Chiefs,

- Engineering, Building, and Council to address some of these concerns
- Working with the same services from 30 years ago – Tanker truck is 30 years old – 1400 gal = 1 min worth of water
- Mutual Aid exists with other fire departments. Otter Point and Metchosin are on automatic callouts for structure fires or wildland fires
- Roundtable sessions are a valuable networking tool for Chiefs and emergency program members

9. **Working Group:**

- **Recovery and Mitigation Strategies following a disaster**
 - The committee agreed by general consensus to discuss recovery and mitigation strategies following a disaster at the next scheduled meeting

10. **Discussion::**

- **Communications - (Logistics) Ham Radio Mr. Nimmo & Mr. Gorse**
 - Mr. Nimmo & Mr. Gorse are going through the Communications section of Sooke's Emergency Plan, and will forward their concerns and recommendations to the committee
 - Require an ham radio antenna at the designated Reception Centre (Sooke Community Hall)
 - It was suggested that the Communications members meet internally with appropriate District staff
- **“Cascadia Rising”– Multi Year Exercise by the province – a large scale Federal /Provincial Government project in conjunction with FEMA (Fema Capstone Exercise)**
 - Ms. Grant announced the upcoming exercise – more information to follow
 - 1st exercise will be starting sometime in 2016 and will probably be held in the Port Alberni area
 - **The purpose of the exercise is to:**
 - Evaluate the response to an earthquake
 - Deploy various ministries
 - Determine response times for deployment of other Heavy Urban Search and Rescue (HUSAR) teams
- **Alert Ready system:**
 - Deputy Chief McLeod reported that while he was visiting southern Ontario the alert system was activated twice (TV and radio) to test their emergency warning system and to create public awareness

11. **Addition of Service Agreements** – carried forward from May's meeting

- Mr. Vanderfoord – VIHA is working on an initiative with doctors
- Jana Lamontague – BCAS – Stated that Bryon Longeway is working on draft agreements for Ayre Manor, local schools and the doctors in Sooke

12. **Public Input:** There was no input from members of the public.

13. **Next Scheduled Meeting:**

- Tuesday, September 22, 2015 at 9:00 a.m.

14. **Adjournment:**

MOVED to adjourn the meeting at 10:18 a.m.

CARRIED

Steve Sorensen
Acting Chair

Bonnie Sprinkling
Corporate Officer