

**City of Sonoma Disaster Council
REGULAR MEETING
Emergency Operations Center
175 First Street West
June 5, 2008
Minutes**

Present: Mayor Joanne Sanders
City Manager Linda Kelly
Milenka Bates, Public Works Director
Teresa Mae Leveille, Administrative Assistant, City of Sonoma
Robert Taylor, THMM
Neal Ross, Sonoma Valley Sun
Herb Golenpaul, Pueblo Serena Mobile Home Park
Jackie Lyons, Sonoma Valley Hospital
Phillip Garcia, Sonoma Valley Fire Department Chief
Hans Steuck, Chantarelle Homeowners Assoc.
Cindy Scarborough, Vintage House
Sondra Costello, Vintage House
Richard Dale, Sonoma Ecology Center
Bret Sackett, Police Chief, City of Sonoma
John Saguto, American Red Cross
Rhonda Stallings, Local Veterinarian
Sarah Tracey, Sonoma Valley Visitors Bureau
Ken McTaggart, Auxiliary Communications Service
Joanne K. Hurley, Disaster Food Action Project
Nancy Mathison, Sonoma Valley Unified Schools
Jaqueline Alvarez, Sonoma Valley Chamber of Commerce
Bob Smyhie, DES

1. Call to Order

Mayor Sanders called the meeting to order at 3:35 PM.

2. Comments from the Public

There were no comments from the public.

3. Minutes

The minutes of May 8, 2008, were approved by consensus.

4. Display of sample Emergency Supply Kits

City Manager Kelly displayed disaster kits from two supply locations, American Disaster Supply in Santa Rosa and the San Rafael Earthquake Supply Center. She described the contents of both. Richard Dale stated having a kit in your vehicle, as well as your home, is a good idea. John Saguto stated to remember to personalize a pre-made pack, and not to forget special need items for you and your family, such as medications and instructions about your care.

5. Update On Disaster Plans Submitted by Various Agencies

Police Chief Sackett stated the EOC will hold hard copies of collected disaster plans, and electronic versions will be posted on the website. He stated he would like to collect and compile a list of disaster plans submitted.

6. Report from Subcommittee on Public Information

Public Work Director Bates discussed a few avenues for public information, such as an attachment to utility bills, newsletters and refrigerator magnets. A webpage is being established and there has been discussion about having short videos in KSVY, as well as Block Parties and Safety Fairs to garner more attention to the cause. She said a certain amount of information will be available for distribution at the City Party.

Jackie Lyons of Sonoma Valley Hospital, stated the hospital has an emergency plan which includes over 80 preparedness standards, one of which is collaboration with community partners. She stated the hospital updates the top 5 hazards for the community every year. Currently they are (in order) Earthquake, Fire, Hospital Utility Failure, Extreme heat/cold, and HazMat incidents. She stated they conduct a minimum of two drills a year to test the response structure. She stressed that the hospital is not a shelter, and will in times of need still assist those who are injured or ill. She stated the Department of Public Health is able to respond to SVH without use of a phone call.

7. Overview of role of the American Red Cross in a local disaster

John Saguto, American Red Cross Volunteer, wore and described the uniform and equipment he would wear during an emergency and stated is all about communication. The more information one has, the more one can make an informed decision. He stated Sonoma is ranked top 5 in the nation for its local chapter of the ARC and described the general structure of the organization. He talked about the new president, Gail McGovern and described the ARC's relation to international Red Crosses. He stated the ARC is 95% volunteer, with approximately 84% of donations going directly to the cause. He described the history of the Red Cross and stated the impartiality and neutrality are stressed in the organization. He stated people should be prepared to survive for 5 days on their own without assistance, as that is the approximate time line to get help into an emergency area. He described the five levels of response and displayed demographics and position hierarchy. He stated a large scale disaster is classified as a level 5, and local food providers are some of the first to be contacted. Coordination efforts are essential so people are working from the same information, and it helps to keep people calm. A discussion ensued regarding text messages and their usefulness in an emergency. Mr. Saguto stated the ARC does not provide transportation, which communities need to keep in mind since it is usually the "at risk" population that is without means of transport. A discussion ensued regarding collaboration with the Sonoma Airporter and Sonoma Valley Transit. Mr. Saguto also stated that faith-based organizations are entities which provide services as well, while the ARC is neutral with regard to faith, these organizations often have faith-neutral disaster programs.

8. Future Agenda Items and Projects

Linda Kelly, City Manager, stated the Citizens Organized to Prepare for Emergencies (C.O.P.E.) 45 minute DVD will be viewed at the next meeting. The Council would like to encourage representatives from the Developmental Center, La Luz and the Ministerial Association to be present at future meetings. The Sonoma Valley Unified School District has site maps for all the schools for use and information. Neal Ross stated he would like to cover disaster drills and other related items in the Sonoma Valley Sun and asked members to contribute their ideas. Herb Golenpaul stated there is a funding program for mobile home seismic upgrades. Applications are available through the County of Sonoma.

9. Next Meeting Date – July 10, 2008

10. Adjournment – 4:45pm

Respectfully submitted,

Teresa Mae Leveille