Meeting Notes, January 10, 2017

Present: Bob Henneberger, CERT/RACES; Kate Hammond, VDH; Mike Collins, Global Foundries; Dustin Keelty, Town of Milton; Stephen Cushing, St. Michael’s College; Peter Murray, Geotech; Rob Evans, Margolis Healy; Emily Harris, DEMHS; John Berino, UVM MC; Andy Johnson, ENPRO; John Audy, Jr, City of Winooski; Mary Ellen Mendl, VT211; also CCRPC senior planner Lee Krohn, AICP.

There were no changes to the agenda, nor public comment on items not on the agenda.

With no questions or concerns, the meeting notes of December 13, 2016 were accepted by unanimous consent.

School safety, emergency planning/preparedness: Emily Harris of DEMHS and Rob Evans of Margolis Healy and a partnership between DPS and the Dept. of Education gave a powerful presentation, with particular focus on active shooter incidents. This included showing the video “The Coming Storm”, along with discussion of the importance of planning for and being prepared for a broader range of risks, vulnerabilities, and hazards, as well as prior threat assessments, and the importance of clear plans and communication. Schools and first response agencies should be collaborating on advance planning and exercises, and these issues should be incorporated into school emergency operations plans. Resources exist to help, whether via Emily and Rob, and/or documents available at www.schoolsafety.vermont.gov/planning; www.rems.ed.gov.

Planning is important, but what about training for what to do if one is caught up in an active shooter incident: resources include ALICE, ALERRT Texas State, IS 907, CRASE, I Love U Guys Foundation. The video “Run Hide Fight” was shown, offering brief illustration of these three key strategies.

Lee gave a bylaws committee update; Kate, Zack, and Lee are working to distill into a simpler format that still satisfies applicable requirements. LEPC 5 also redoing bylaws.

Kate still seeks opportunities for more closed PODs for distribution of medical supplies in case of major incident. Towns? Businesses? First responders? Those staffing Critical Infrastructure are all eligible. Also residential care facilities… but needs someone with a medical license to dispense. MRC is also alive and well; they did cold weather shelter training, especially important when hotels are full at holiday times.

Emily reminded that LEOPs are due in the spring; Lee will again be contacting municipalities to remind them, and offer assistance. Base plan stays the same, but the State is adding more optional annexes… including one on continuity of operations (“COOP”). Lee asked about training options for this essential concept.

Red Cross shelter exercise to be held at the end of the month, CERT will participate.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday, February 14, 2017 at 0900 hours. With no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:15 A.M.

Respectfully submitted by Lee Krohn, AICP.

Please note: LEPC meeting agendas, minutes, and other information may also be found at http://www.ccrpcvt.org/about-us/committees/local-emergency-planning-committee/