

MINUTES
JUNEAU LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE (LEPC)
Wednesday, August 12, 2020 - 12:00 P.M.
Telephonic-CBJ Assembly Conference Line
(Questions Call – 586-0371)

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Dan Garcia called the meeting to order at 12pm.

Roll Call: Michelle confirmed a quorum with Recorder Ben Murray absent.

Members Present: Scott Erickson, Ed Quinto, Destiny Sargeant, Kim McDowell, Bill Legere, Warren Russell, Britt Tonnessen, Carolyn Garcia, Dan Garcia, Nicholas Zito, Karen Wood, Ed Williams, Michael Tunley, Zachariah Fisher, Paul Chisholm, Tom Mattice, Michelle Brown

Members Absent: Rob Edwardson, David Campbell, Todd Cameron, Ben Murray, Tonia Montez, Bryan Caffrey, Elaine Hickey, Ty Cunningham

Others Present: Alicia Learner – Travel Juneau, Beth McEwen – CBJ City Clerk, David Pikul – AK DEC, Gina Halverson – Salvation Army, Jennifer Mannix – CBJ Risk, Joe Zarlengo – USCG, Kelly Roseman – Juneau Urgent Care, Michael Pierson – USCG, Tom Gemmel – Emer Mgmt Consultant, William Hayes SFC – AKARNG, Kaleb Cravens – NWS

AGENDA CHANGES

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES - Juneau LEPC – August 12, 2020
Hearing no objections, the minutes were approved as presented.

II. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - Non-Agenda Items (10 Minutes)

None

III. REPORTS

A. CBJ Happenings – by Tom Mattie

Online ICS trainings will be announced, with increased potential via online/distance. Weather has not accelerated completion of outdoor projects (Pederson Hill Radio tower for Police and Fire, and security improvements). First 10 days of August was rain record, and Jun 1 – today was the second wettest summer (after 2014) recorded. Active shooter exercise yesterday. Mike Pierson said SEAK Air and Maritime Security committee sponsored this, apologies for limited space, event included JPD Docks and Harbors, AST, CG, CBP, NOAA OLE, Haines and Sitka PDs; helped to develop partnerships and plans for responding to these scenarios under new CG policy guidance allowing for supportive response. Bravo Zulu (“well done”) to Tom and Ken Phillips for facilitating.

B. Elected Official Report – by Rob Edwardson

Absent

Other Reports:

Mike Pierson (USCG) – Introduced Lieutenant Joe Zarlengo, new supervisor for emergency management planning. DHS AWR-144 courses (Port and Vessel Security for Public Safety and Maritime Personnel)

are scheduled for 2 Zoom sessions in Sept & Oct, sponsored by Ketchikan's and Juneau's Port Safety and Security Committees. Open for anyone interested. Flyers will be distributed included with minutes.

Britta Tonnessen (Red Cross) discussed working with CBJ to distribute masks and information to general public, and discussed plans and processes for mobilization of volunteer responders for more mask distribution and other response to COVID. Digitally shared RC's Decision Matrix for Operating in COVID-19. Projecting to maintain Red operation level through December. Seeking Operations and Logistics management leader volunteers.

Karen Wood (JNU Animal Control) requested 30 masks. Michelle will follow up.

Gina Halverson (Salvation Army) – volunteer effort coordinated with CBJ to deliver food boxes and snacks is working well, demand is up.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

The group unanimously decided to cancel the November 11, 2020 (Veteran's Day) LEPC meeting maintaining possibility of rescheduling.

V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Presentation on Mental Health during COVID-19 Pandemic – by Destiny Sargeant
Summary of the American Psychological Association Congress virtual meeting last week. "COVID", broadly including traumas and distress from the circumstances unprecedented in modern times, has produced behavioral and psychological changes including pent up energy from "hunker downs" contributing to civil disobedience and unrest. Takeaways from meta-analysis of surveys on life satisfaction shows people are experiencing: Anxiety/uncertainty/depression, unemployment (or fear of), loneliness. Overall life satisfaction is down from 80% to 50%, denial masking a possibly higher rate. Disproportionately affecting poor, disenfranchised, essential/front line workers, younger, minorities, and females. We are facing long term mental health outcomes including increased opioid deaths, suicide, domestic violence, child abuse, and delays in receiving care. Persistent fear, chronic uncertainty, despair, loss, "COVID fatigue" could result in general PTSD. Compared to 2008 recession. Major concern towards impact on children, effects of distress and acting out cyclically affects parents who've lost child care, facing increased work demands/stress, exhaustion of coping mechanisms. Important to support parents as models of good behavior for children. Sleep and hygiene, routines, safety, and focus on purpose within the "now new" normal need to be primary focuses. Using decision making and problem-solving skills, and positiveness, are especially helpful to maintain control, reduce despair. <https://sesamestreetincommunities.org> has free support ideas for kids. Self-care: make things simple, give up unimportant things, emotional check-ins and support without social closeness, need to practice sharing more in large group Zoom meetings (up close individual pictures instead of the whole group), accept grieving, temporary bad moods, remember feelings are not facts, recognize internal overwhelm. Monitor thoughts, feelings, behaviors, physical portions, and spiritual self. Exhaustion and lack of motivation is not laziness or normal depression, it's "COVID exhaustion". Step back from media, "doom scrolling" on Facebook. Demand is growing for natural leaders – people want confident, transparent, decisive and consistent leaders. Loneliness kills, diminishes will to live, particularly concerning for children and elderly. Thoughts (distinct from plans) of suicide are rising – community wide, stay open for dialogue, connections. Model hope, realistic optimism. Reach out.

B. Census – Extended through August 3. Be Counted <https://beta.juneau.org/census>. See stats here <https://2020census.gov/en/response-rates.html>

C. Training and Exercise Planning - EVERYONE please get any training or exercise events you intend to hold to Tom Mattice. The State requires CBJ prepare and submit a Juneau Training and Exercise calendar to the State. Please help us all shine.

D. USCG – Mike Pierson - Active Shooter Exercise Scheduled - planning team meeting July 14, exercise August 11. Limited to law enforcement participants (JPD, Docks & Harbors, CBP, CG station Juneau) for now, possibly opening for more. The course providers for DHS AWR-144 courses (Port and Vessel Security for Public Safety and Maritime Personnel) are scheduling SE AK for 2 4-hour sessions Sept/Oct, 20-40 participants.

E. All-Hazards Preparedness Activities

Dan – UAS Campus Kickoff is virtual, and asked the LEPC to help promote the message of preparedness through their giveaway bags.

VI. ACTION ITEMS

VII. INFORMATION ITEMS

A. Census – General Communications Messaging, April 15-June 30

B. LEPC Seat & Bylaws Changes (From January 2018 LEPC meeting) – On hold
Resolution Change to add new Health Seat, change Vulnerable Populations seat name to Access & Functional Needs, and update Bylaws is on hold until State SERC & LEPCA changes are announced

C. CERT Program – Ongoing Item – Inactive. Seeking strong partnership with CCFR & JPD

VIII. NEXT MEETING/S

***Wednesday, Sept 9th, 2020 – 12:00 pm, - **to be announced**

**Regular Meetings are held on the 2nd Wednesday of each month*

***Future Temporary Meeting Locations*

IX. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, meeting adjourned at 1 P.M.