

Minutes of the
EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE

Friday, January 22, 2010
Council Chambers

Present: Committee Members Vice-Chair Molly Edison, Robert Mushen, Les Wierson and Fire Chief Cleve Rooper

Absent: Chair William Brehm and Don Hull

Staff: Lieutenant Rob Schulz, City Manager Rich Mays, Public Works Director Mark See, Administrative Assistant Brandy Brien and Administrative Specialist Alisha Smith

CALL TO ORDER AND APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA.

Edison called the meeting to order at 10:00a.m.

(1) Consideration of the Minutes of the Emergency Preparedness Committee Meeting of December 11, 2009.

Motion: Rooper moved to approve the minutes of the Emergency Preparedness Committee meeting of December 11, 2009; Mushen seconded the motion.

Vote: Wierson and Rooper voted AYE, the vote was 2/0 in favor and motion passed unanimously. (Edison and Mushen abstained from the vote since they were not present at the meeting.)

(2) Election of Chair and Vice Chair

Motion: Wierson moved to re-appoint Bill Brehm as Chair and Edison as Vice-Chair. Rooper seconded.

Vote: Edison, Mushen, Wierson and Rooper voted AYE, the vote was 4/0 in favor and motion passed unanimously.

DISCUSSION

Edison suggested that the Committee discuss the "Committee Goals and Projects", item #6, and then continue on with item #3.

(3) Additional Pedestrian Signs North End

Edison introduced the item. Wierson reviewed that he has discussed signage concerns on the north end of town with the Public Works Department. Committee members will continue to review the matter and additional signage for the areas of "Breakers Point" and "Chapman Point" will be implemented. See confirmed.

(4) South Cannon Beach Cache Site

See reviewed that prior to moving forward with the cache site, the Planning Commission will be considering making a recommendation to the Council for a zoning text amendment to permit a municipal structure in the Park Management Zone to place the emergency storage cache sites in that zone. He continued that the cache site will be assembled following the City Council's final action on the matter.

See reviewed the he is currently reviewing site plans with Building Official Mark Brien to design the emergency storage structure.

(5) April Public Forum

Edison noted concerns with regard to the previous public forum. Rooper reviewed that the Committee will not be requesting a guest speaker this year, the presentation will be conducted from a local perspective. Wierson recommended that Rooper lead the presentation, committee members agreed.

Committee members discussed potential agenda items for the forum.

In response to comments made by Edison, Bob Necker, Cannon Beach resident, stated that he agrees with the topic of alternate transportation and noted that he plans to evacuate the area on a bicycle with an emergency backpack.

(6) Committee Goals and Projects

Wierson reviewed his recommendations for the Committee's long term goals:

- 1) Feasibility Engineering Study for a pedestrian earthquake resistant structure at Ecola Creek – Wierson noted that this is critical for the Cannon Beach Elementary School's evacuation route and also serves the Christian Conference Center and the downtown area.
- 2) An alternate route for crossing Ecola Creek, possibly at the Highway 101 Bridge.
- 3) Evaluate a Tsunami Safety Structure - Wierson reviewed potential locations with committee members.
- 4) Evacuation Walking Trails – Committee members reviewed that locating walking trails will be difficult in some instances. Wierson suggested low energy trail markers or signs more illuminating in the night.

See reviewed that with regard to the earthquake resistant bridge that he is reviewing this matter with technicians. He noted that the technicians are evaluating options to determine the appropriate replacement bridge for that location.

Mays reviewed budget concerns for funding the construction costs for this project and noted that, realistically, he would have to approach the School District and Conference Center to discuss funding before proceeding with this. Committee members concurred and noted that the downtown area should also be approached.

In response to a question from Edison, the Committee discussed a recommendation to the Council.

Motion: Wierson moved to request that City staff proceed, with the City Council's permission, to investigate the feasibility to place an appropriate earthquake resistant bridge for evacuation at Ecola Creek. Mushen seconded.

Vote: Molly Edison, Robert Mushen, Les Wierson and Fire Chief Cleve Rooper voted AYE, the vote was 4/0 in favor and motion passed unanimously.

Mushen reviewed the ongoing flooding issue along Highway 101 and noted that it has been determined that the solution is to move the highway further away from the ocean.

See and Committee members reviewed that this matter will continue to be evaluated for possible alternate routes with the County and the State to remedy the flooding issue. Mushen agreed to take the lead on this issue and will report back on his findings.

The committee further discussed potential locations for a Tsunami Tower structure, the proposed Tsunami

Evacuation Building (TEB) and the need for a new City Hall structure. Wierson noted that he is not against a Tsunami tower; however a tower at the current location of City Hall is a concern.

In response to a question from Mushen, See confirmed that with regard to potential Tsunami evacuation trails that solar powered lights are feasible and in response to Edison, See confirmed that the reflective signs are beneficial, but require light to reflect.

(7) Good of the Order

See distributed materials to the committee and noted that members of the Public Works Department staff attended in-house training and are now certified as Level 1 Inspectors in the event of a seismic disaster.

Rooper reviewed the ongoing efforts of the Fire Department to organize Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT) for Cannon Beach. He noted that interested parties are urged to attend CERT meetings and if 2-3 local citizens are willing to get involved teams may be implemented.

Rooper provided See with County Emergency contact information to attend a Wastewater Disaster Management Program on April 21 and 22, 2010.

Rooper also noted that "NIXLE.com" is a good resource for notifications of road closures. Register online and NIXLE will send a text to your cell phone. Schulz added that you may also opt to be contacted via email for closure information as well.

Rooper announced that the next County Emergency Response meeting will be held at 10:00 a.m., Thursday, February 18, 2010, at Camp Rilea.

Rooper concluded by reviewing the importance of having some form of government intact following a natural disaster.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:11 a.m.

Brandy Brien, Administrative Assistant