

CIVIL PREPAREDNESS ALL HAZARDS COMMITTEE

MINUTES

December 20, 2012

PRESENT: Anthony Schirillo, Chairman; Linda Barlow, Sikorsky Aircraft; Michael Abramowitz, ARES; Mark Renna, Cray Valley USA LLC; Aimee Apatow, Ashcroft, Inc.; John Turbeville, Ashcroft, Inc.; Andrea Boissevain, Stratford Health Dept.; Maureen Whelan, Stratford Health Dept.; Dawn Severine, Stratford Health Dept.; Greta Roberts, Stratford Health Dept.; Bernice Bova, Stratford Health Dept.; Andrew Anderson, Stratford Health Dept.

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Schirillo called the meeting to order at 9:00 am. The minutes of the meeting conducted Sept. 20, 2012 were approved unanimously.

Director Schirillo reported the next Citizen Emergency Response Team (CERT) training class has been scheduled. Attendance on January 12, 2013 is mandatory. Then, either January 19, 2013 or January 26, 2013 may be chosen for the second class. If a class is missed, one of the instructors will help the trainee to make up the work. The first class is mandatory because outside medical training personnel (medical and fire) will be brought in. There is an effort to try to build the CERT team. The team was very active during Hurricane Sandy. There are plans to provide CPR training and first aid training. Funding is available for the CPR training. Andrea Boissevain reported that the Medical Reserve Corp. of Region One has joined together and created the Fairfield County Training Institute. This group could be helpful with various training classes. CERT is a regional asset and the people involved are volunteers.

Regarding Hurricane Sandy, Director Schirillo said that the exercise held in July, while difficult at the time, was very helpful when the hurricane hit. Director Schirillo continues to be an advocate for drills and training. The town departments are going through debriefing after the hurricane and have met with FEMA representatives. Flooding was not as bad as was predicted because right at the peak of the storm the wind changed direction, which lessened the surge. Also, there was less rain than was anticipated. This helped businesses prone to flooding. Director Schirillo urged businesses to apply for funding to help prevent flooding in the future. Mitigation funding is also available to private homeowners. Both businesses and homeowners should get the paperwork started.

Some suggestions made were: 1. For businesses to get generators ready before the power is lost to prevent days without power and 2. To get training for shelter workers in transfers (lifting and moving people from wheel chairs, cots, etc.) so that more people could be helped. Director Schirillo will investigate the options.

The emergency notification system (Everbridge) used by the town was very helpful during the storm. The town response to the storm was excellent.

The EOC is currently being updated. Various options and costs were discussed.

Director Schirillo reported that the Federal Government is trying to develop local partnerships to support homeland security priorities. Director Schirillo asked everyone to review the Executive Order Establishing the White House Homeland Security Partnership Council.

The meeting schedule for 2013 was presented. The meetings are planned for the third Thursday of March, June, September and December at 9:00 am. The dates are March 21, 2013; June 20, 2013; September 19, 2013 and December 19, 2013. They will be held at either the Emergency

Operations Center at Fire Headquarters or at the Birdseye Complex. All in attendance unanimously approved the meeting dates for 2013.

The meeting went into recess at 9:25 am

The meeting came out of recess and adjourned at 9:35 a.m.

Laurie Goodsell, secretary