

LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE
MINUTES
June 21, 2012

PRESENT: Anthony Schirillo, Chairman; Linda Barlow, Sikorsky Aircraft; Amanda Fauser, Sikorsky Aircraft; Nick Gentile, Sikorsky Fire Dept.; Beverly Pierson, Service Master; Robert Fox, Service Master; Michael Abramowitz, ARES; John Turbeville, Ashcroft, Inc.; Aimee Apetow, Ashcroft, Inc.; Mark Renna, Cray Valley USA LLC; Greta Roberts, Stratford Health Dept.; Maureen Whelan, Stratford Health Dept.; Andrew Anderson, Stratford Health Dept.; Dawn Severine, Stratford Health Dept.; Justin Rompre, Stratford Health Dept.; Chief Robert J. McGrath, Stratford Fire Dept.; Asst. Chief Douglas Reitmeyer, Stratford Fire Dept.; Brian Lampart, Stratford Fire Marshal; Lt. Kevin Lantowsky, Stratford Fire Dept.; Lt. Robert Sampson, Stratford Police Dept.; Omar Jimenez, Stratford Police Dept.; Donna Best, Stratford EMS

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Schirillo called the meeting to order at 9:02 am. The minutes of the meeting conducted March 15, 2012 were approved unanimously.

Director Schirillo had information regarding an upcoming Chemical Sector and Security Summit, that will be held July 31 through August 1. He also reported that everyone has submitted their Tier Two reports. There are no LEPC exercises lined up during the summer. He hopes to pick up again in the fall. Any company that would like to have a walk through by the Fire Department please contact him. A full exercise may not be needed. The fire personnel become familiar with the site and the companies become aware of potential problems.

Stacey Hafen, Senior Director of Community Preparedness for the American Red Cross made a presentation on the American Red Cross Ready Rating Program.

The Ready Rating Program is a free, Web-based, membership program designed to help businesses, organizations and schools become better prepared for emergencies.

Members complete a self-paced, online self assessment of their current readiness level and receive immediate, customized feedback with tips to improve preparedness.

Ms. Hafen said that following a natural or man-made disaster small businesses suffer. 15 to 40% of businesses fail after such an event. Four out of five businesses fail after the loss of a key executive. The Ready Rating Program helps businesses prepare for disaster and encourages them to help their employees prepare for an event. Close to 60% of all Americans are wholly unprepared for a catastrophic event. Only one in ten American households has taken the appropriate preparedness steps.

The program helps businesses to minimize loss by having an Emergency Response Plan in place to quickly contain costly situations. Prepared employees, faculty and staff are able to return to work sooner.

The Ready Rating Plan helps businesses:

- Assess the type of disasters that can impact a region
- Develop a written plan describing how to respond to a disaster
- Develop an action plan to train employees on a regular basis
- Determine what safety equipment is needed, etc,
- Educate the community.

The meeting adjourned at 9:32 am.

Laurie Goodsell, secretary