

South Bay Fire Department – Citizens Advisory Group Meeting Minutes

November 13, 2014

* Underlines indicate action items

List of Attendees: Mike Born, Todd Eckstein, Cora Morley Eklund, Tom Engle, Art Getchman, Susan Goff, Kim Gylys, Carolyn Logue, Bill Pedersen, Camille Pedersen, Marie Potter, Tom Thayer and Chief VanCamp.

I. Call to order.

Camille Pedersen opened the meeting of the Citizens Advisory Group at 6:00 PM on 13 November, 2014 at South Bay Fire Department, Station 8-1.

II. Approval of minutes from last meeting

Minutes from the August meeting were previously approved.

III. Open issues

1) Camille discussed the results of the voting for the approved merger and corresponding tax increase propositions. She also provided an update from the combined meeting of the Joint Commission Board; stating that they were moving to more on-line communication and from a Quarterly Newsletter to a Semi-Annual one in order to save funding. For the same reason, the Board has decided not to spend money to change the name and logo on (former) FD7 equipment. The changes will be made when the equipment is replaced.

2) Commissioner Engle talked about the way forward with regards to some of the items that the Commissioners are reviewing prior to the merge. These include the number of Commissioners on the board, finding commonality in meeting styles and policies, staffing issues, etc.

3) Chief VanCamp discussed how he was working with his staff to ensure that there would be seamless coverage in the new combined district and also working on a plan to cross train all employees on the various types of apparatus. He also talked about how Heidi was lining up the separate accounting systems and some of the resolutions adopted by both boards.

IV. New business

1) Carolyn introduced Vivian Eason from Thurston County Emergency Management office, (360) 867-2825, easonv@co.thurston.wa.us.

- 2) Vivian provided a great presentation on the importance of being prepared for emergencies and preparedness as a lifestyle. She talked about how some of the schools are also helping by teaching kids about some of the various hazards at the schools.
- 3) Vivian discussed some of the other local hazards to include gas pipelines, train cars, etc., and Chief VanCamp also commented on some of the All Hazards mitigation strategies employed by the SBFD.
- 4) Other items discussed by Ms. Eason:
 - a) Ensuring that in the event of emergency, community members would be prepared to be on their own for up to 7 days. This includes having enough medication or dietary needs; especially for those with special needs.
 - b) Importance of having a “72 hour kit” in their vehicles to include a road hazard kit.
 - c) Plan in place for pets.
 - d) Plan in place for known emergencies like snow storms.
- 5) Numerous other members also provided valuable input regarding emergency situations to include powering wells and other household utilities during power outages, importance of having a land-line phone (not connected to cable), etc.
- 6) Vivian also discussed how some community members with 4 wheel drive vehicles will volunteer with the Red Cross to take people to Emergency Medical appointments during snow storms or other emergencies. She also suggested that people call her if their churches were interested in hosting the homeless.
- 7) The committee briefly discussed dates for the upcoming meetings. As previously approved, the meetings will be held quarterly on the 2nd Thursday of the Month. Next meeting is the 12th of February, followed by 14 May, 13 Aug and 12 Nov.

V. Adjournment

Carolyn and Camille adjourned the meeting at 7:05 PM.

Minutes submitted by: Todd Eckstein

Minutes approved by: Camille Pedersen & Carolyn Logue