

EMERGENCY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Oct 7, 2015 - 5:00 p.m.
Music Room, River Market
Minutes

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT:

Councillor Chuck Puchmayr	- Chair
David Lowe	- St John Ambulance
Hennisea Hoy	- Community Member
Vickie Trurvey	- Community Member
Richard Desaulniers	- Royal Westminster Regiment
Jon Evans	- Community Member

VOTING MEMBER REGRETS:

Glen Henderson	- School Board Representative
Vacant	- Fraser Health Representative
Sony Johal	- Community Member
Steven Reid	- BC Ambulance Representative
Pastor Sharon Tidd	- Salvation Army
Amy Van Sickle	- Community Member

STAFF:

Cory Hansen	- Committee Secretary
Fire Chief Tim Armstrong	- New Westminster Fire & Rescue Services
Deputy Fire Chief John Hatch	- New Westminster Fire & Rescue Services
Constable Wendy Bowyer	- New Westminster Police Services

1.0 ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

2.0 ADOPTION OF MINUTES

2.1 Received the Minutes of June 10, 2015

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the notes of the Emergency Advisory Committee meeting held on June 10, 2015 be received and adopted

CARRIED.

All members of Commission voted in favour of the motion.

3.0 PRESENTATIONS

4.0 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

5.0 NEW BUSINESS

5.1 EOC Activation August 29, 2015

Cory Hansen, Emergency Planning Assistant presented a slide show that summarized the windstorm that occurred On Saturday Aug 29, 2015, where strong winds reaching up to approx. 90km/ hr led to power outages and fallen trees across New Westminister and many parts of Metro Vancouver. The City's Emergency Operation Centre (EOC) was activated at a Level 1 Activation; At 1:15pm City Staff responded to Glenbrook Fire Hall to set up the EOC.

In total there were over 200 calls received in a 6 hour period and during the EOC activation there were 46 documented events that needed attention in New Westminister. Most of the documented events were largely due to trees and branches falling on power lines, and or falling trees in the road. According to City Electrical at the peak of the storm power was out to 25% of the City of New Westminister.

5.2 Evacuation Exercise in the Quay held on Sept 26, 2015

The Emergency Planning Assistant presented a slide show of the evacuation exercise that took place in the Quayside area. The Fire Chief discussed further promoting the message of emergency preparedness out to the community. The Chair discussed the restrictions of the Quayside Area and communications will continue with the Quayside Area and to promote emergency preparedness. The committee discussed the messaging that was given out in each of the buildings and how there may have been too much information given to the residents and that would be why they did not participate. The Fire Chief discussed that more residents need to be placed on their resident list that they have

mobility issues and or language barriers. The Fire Chief also discussed holding an information session with the property management companies to further educate them and their buildings. The Fire Departments task force will be door knocking and providing further information to the Quayside Area. The committee discussed a river evacuation.

5.3 UBCM Spill response resolution

The Chair discussed that there was a resolution from the UBCM to have the seniors level of government to have an adequate response to spill response and emergency response, this resolution past unanimously. The Chair discussed the models that were taken to Victoria regarding spill response.

5.4 Safe Energy Alliance Meeting in New Westminster

The Char discussed that a meeting was held for the Safe Energy Alliance at the Anvil Centre, there were approx. 30 people on conference call and approx. a dozen that attended the meeting. The committee discussed thermal coal, and crude oil terminals. After the federal election the committee will be going to Ottawa to continue to provide information.

6.0 REPORTS AND INFORMATION

6.1. New Westminster Emergency Management Office

The Emergency Planning Assistant discussed the various events that were attended throughout the summer and the planning that goes into these types of community events. The Emergency Planning Assistant advised that planning is currently underway for 2016 for community events in the City.

At the end of November an Emergency Operations Centre Level 3 drill will be set up. This is a large set up that will test all communication equipment. This is to insure that the layout of the set up works for each operational section. This drill will include New Westminister Emergency Management, New West Fire & Rescue, New West Police and Emergency Support Services.

6.2 New Westminister Fire & Rescue Services

The Fire Chief discussed that New Westminister Fire & Rescue Services held their Firehall Open House this past Sunday on Oct 4, 2015. Moving forward we are looking to implement our Home Safe Program and initiating a smoke detector program in the City to ensure that there are working smoke alarms in each home. The Fire Chief also discussed looking at the Carbon Monoxide Campaign

Deputy Fire Chief John Hatch discussed the completion of our Hazardous Materials trailer and that it is fully outfitted and that our Department is approximately 85 % trained to a technician level. Classes will be held with the remaining staff. Drills are currently being completed with Southern Rail. The next drill is scheduled for November. The Department is currently in a restructuring phase and we will be obtaining 2 new Training

Captains. The Fire Chief has had discussions with Southern Rail regarding forming a response team with Southern Rail. The committee discussed tampering of rail cars.

6.3 Fraser Health Service

No Representative on the Committee.

6.4 New Westminster Police Services

Constable Bowyer discussed the restructuring of the Police Department, and that they will be offering personal preparedness sessions. Currently they are also working on a food and water plan for the department.

Jon Evans will be leaving the committee, and moving into Burnaby.

9.0 ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m. Next meeting Oct 7, 2015 River Market

**COUNCILLOR
CHUCK PUCHMAYR
CHAIR**

**CORY MCLAREN
COMMITTEE SECRETARY**