

**DRAFT**

**Town of Londonderry , Vermont**  
**Mighty Londonderry Community Resilience Organization Meeting Minutes**  
**Thursday, February 20, 2020 - 11:00 am**  
**100 Old School Street, South Londonderry, VT 05155**

**Attending:** Helena Wu, Laurie DiStasio, Kevin Beattie, Bruce Frauman

**1. Call meeting to order**

Chair Bruce Frauman called the meeting to order at 11:07 am.

**2. Additions or Deletions to the Agenda**

Kevin Beattie moved to add the town update of the Hazard Mitigation Plan to the agenda. He said the town will hire a consultant (possibly from the WRC) who will spend time with town officials and some public involvement. Frauman suggested we discuss this under item 7: Partnerships. Helena seconded. Motion passed. Frauman moved to add a discussion of membership to the agenda. DiStasio seconded. Motion passed.

**3. Minutes Approval - Meeting of Jan 8, 2020**

Frauman moved to table approval of the minutes of Jan 8 as he is the only one present at that meeting also present at this one. Beattie seconded. Motion passed.

**4. Visitors and Concerned Citizens - None**

**5. Membership**

Frauman gave a history of the CRO, starting with himself, Dick Dale and George Mora. Mora resigned to take her place on the Selectboard. Jennifer and Fred Probst joined. Beattie has been involved but does not want official membership. Our official membership still needs to be determined. Frauman welcomed everyone who did show up, and made everyone present an honorary member for today.

**6. Resilience Hub**

Frauman said that state CRO Executive Director Mindy Blank is proposing Resilience Hubs and read a few sentences from her letter describing the idea and the purpose. It did not feel very concrete in that context. He said one way to think of it is as a community center. Frauman printed a primer on Resilience Hubs which goes into more detail. He said he will distribute Blank's letter, the primer and an online magazine with specific examples for the group to read and consider.

Wu asked what do we want in this community? She suggested food issues which tie in with Emergency management and energy. She wants to avoid duplicating efforts, but wants to enhance each group's efforts.

Beattie noted that Wu was involved with Transition Town (still active in Manchester) and that Resilience Hubs seem totally redundant with CRO. Frauman said the Resilience Hub is one way the CRO could spend its time and efforts. He said Neighborhood

Connections (NC) may be good site and that a Resilience Hub is a space where people can get together to eat, play and listen to music, talk, and pursue an agenda. DiStasio and Wu mentioned Flood Brook School and NC as possible sites. Beattie suggested the Depot which could double as a warming center if a generator were added.

Wu talked about Map Jam as a resource. Beattie said he started with maps but it takes effort to keep them current. Frauman said the CRO started out trying to compile Beattie's idea of an inventory of people with needs and people with resources, but ran into a confidentiality issue. Beattie said CARE is now doing the same thing, providing the information to fire chiefs, and now EMDs as needed through E211. Frauman said application forms are available in the town clerk's office.

Beattie said residents are still learning about emergency management as a town function. Wu and Frauman talked about installing neighborhood captains to be aware of those in need in their neighborhood. Frauman said we would need to recruit and train captains if we went in that direction.

Wu talked about Maker's Spaces and Beattie said that gathering of tools in a safe space is something he would use.

## **7. Possible Partnerships**

### **a. Planning Commission (Project Londonderry)**

Frauman said the idea is for CRO to offer help to the PC on Project Londonderry since the goals of each are aligned. He said he was waiting for a proposal from Marge Fish. Beattie asked if we should bring this up at town meeting and on Facebook. Wu asked if we should talk to the new select board after Town Meeting and if we could get information about the town demographics from the Census.

### **b. Neighborhood Connections (Window Dressers, Resilience Hub)**

Frauman showed a sample Window Dressers inside storm window and explained that these are made in workshops attended by those who are buying the windows for about \$30 or \$40. He said that about 40 people needed to sign up for a workshop to take place. The whole operation is based in Maine and has considerable logistics worked out. People are trained to use laser distance measurers for each window. Frauman said that if Window Dressers is brought into Londonderry, NC would be a good partner to find households who could partake. Wu asked if we should also encourage energy audits.

### **c. Energy Committee (Window Dressers, other?)**

Frauman said some, but not all members of the Energy Committee are interested in hosting Window Dressers at least without further research. He will tell the committee that some CRO members are interested in pursuing this idea and offer to collaborate.

### **d. Just Neighbors (open - based in Weston)**

Not discussed. Frauman did say he would like to make contact with Visiting Nurses as a possible partner.

### **e. EMD Hazard Mitigation Plan**

Beattie has an extensive form he needs to get going on filling out. He will need to get the SB approval for a Request For Proposal for a consultant and will work with Town Administrator Shane O'Keefe. Beattie will have to pull together ideas of what we have

to do for various hazards including flooding, the Williams Dam, the Emerald Ash Borer beetle, and power outages as well as identify various types of storms and the potential damage each could cause. Frauman talked about the GMP phone app that identifies areas within towns with power outages. Beattie said he thinks he had something to do with GMP developing the app. Frauman said that EMD's in Windham County are also meeting regularly and that GMP has agreed to a twice daily conference call with the group during outages. Beattie said that last November, this call did not happen before a nudge from him. We all agreed that outages will get worse because of aging infrastructure, more severe storms, and steps falling on power lines.

## **8. Old Business**

### **a. Shelter group update**

Frauman said there has been no meetings of the Shelter Group this year. DiStasio said she and Jennifer Probst have a good relationship with the Flood Brook School principal and both have contacts to call to unlock the building in the event of an emergency. Beattie will get DiStasio the name and contact information of the Fire Marshall. Beattie said contact with GMP during an outage is important to understand how much longer the outage might last when deciding whether or not to open a warming or cooling center or an overnight shelter. He said opening a warming or cooling center will take place a few days into an outage. Wu asked what happens in a two week outage. Beattie said he would open an overnight shelter at Flood Brook. He said the generator is diesel powered because there is a diesel tank at Flood Brook for the buses and a 10,000 gallon diesel tank at the town garage for the town trucks.

### **b. Update on state CRO activity**

No update. Frauman did give a brief history of the CRO including breaking down the silos between town organizations responding to emergencies, a resulting meeting and table top exercise during which tasks were handed out to various people, and the Oct. 2019 state exercise. Frauman said that his biggest takeaway from the state exercise was that Londonderry is well set to handle emergency situations and because of the state exercise the Windham Vermont Disaster Animal Rescue Team introduced themselves to the town. He said he learned that many people refuse to leave their home in an emergency because they do not want to leave their pets behind. He said WVDART set up a temporary shelter at the animal shelter near Brattleboro. Beattie said that farmers' stalls and the animal control officer are also prepared to take in animals if needed. Frauman mentioned Wagmore Kennel as another possibility which someone will look into.

## **9. New Business**

- a. See items 5, 6 and 7.

## **10. Set next meeting time and date**

Frauman moved, and Wu seconded to meet next on Wednesday, March 11 at 5:30 pm. Motion passed.

## **11. Adjourn**

Frauman moved to adjourn at 12:58 pm. Wu seconded. Motion passed.