

**Town of Londonderry , Vermont
Mighty Londonderry CRO Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, January 8, 2020 - 6:00 PM
100 Old School Street, South Londonderry, VT 05155**

Committee members present: Dick Dale, Bruce Frauman, Jennifer Probst,

Others in attendance: Helena Woo, Carl Lill, Marge Fish

1. Call meeting to order

Chair Bruce Frauman called the meeting to order at 12:08 PM.

2. Additions or Deletions to the Agenda

None officially, though given the presence of three guests, Dick, Jennifer, and Bruce talked about the history of the CRO in general and Mighty Londonderry in particular.

3. Minutes Approval - Meeting of November 6, 2019

Dick moved to accept the minutes of November 6 as presented, seconded by Jennifer, passed unanimously.

4. Visitors and Concerned Citizens

None

5. History of CRO and Mighty Londonderry

Jennifer talked about towns responding very differently to Tropical Storm Irene and the resulting effort to find towns who are willing to improve communications. Londonderry was one of 6 initial CRO towns. Jennifer said Mighty Londonderry went on to host a meeting then a tabletop exercise with various entities in town including the two fire departments, the rescue squad, Neighborhood Connections, the Baptist and Congregational Churches, and town officials.

Bruce said we started working with EMD Kevin Beattie by trying to conduct an inventory of those with needs in town and those with resources. We ran into resistance due to confidentiality issues but found that through Neighborhood Connections, the Baptist and Congregational Churches and Just Neighbors, most everyone who is vulnerable has someone to watch over them and help when necessary.

Dick talked about our participation in the CAT-4 exercise on October 24-25 concluding that our town and Kevin Beattie in particular are well situated to respond to emergency conditions.

5. Old Business

a. CAT-4 lessons

Dick said that we have three potential sites for warming and cooling centers: the 2nd Congregational Church with no generator, but which is on the main power line, so loses

power less often than other parts of town; the Rescue Squad Building with showers, a kitchen and a generator; and the town office building with a generator but no showers. Dick also said the Red Cross provided cots were found at Flood Brook in another room from the gym and are not in good shape- they are rusty.

b. Shelter Group updates

Jennifer said the shelter group is pretty well set. Laurie DiStasio will coordinate when a warming or cooling center or overnight shelter are needed and she has about a dozen volunteers to help. Bruce said there was a Red Cross training, and Jennifer said there will be more.

c. Update on State CRO activity

Jennifer said there are now 12 CRO teams of which 3 are from the original 6. 2 of the original 6 are no longer active and 1 has merged with another group. They represent different facets of resilience from hazard mitigation to emergency management and more. Notably CRO is co-hosting an event on January 22 in South Royalton with BALE, Building a Local Economy, an environmentally active group, to discuss Resilience Hubs. Jennifer, Bruce, Helena and perhaps Marge ,plan to attend.

d. Update on CRO state initiatives

Jennifer said food sustainability and security are next on the state CRO agenda to include classes, workshops and community gardens. Dick said there was a potato fest in Hartford.

e. Londonderry update (informal addition to agenda)

Jennifer asked what do we do now that emergency management and shelter plans are pretty well set. Dick said the Planning Commission is working on water and waste water issues since there are a number of properties in town with out adequate water supplies or waste water infrastructure which preclude any chance of a foot print change. Bruce added that this also precludes a change of use on the property. Bruce said GMP in an outage situation will now have two conference calls a day with Windham County EMD's to share information. If this works, GMP will do it statewide.

Jennifer said the Londonderry Community Forum is a useful tool for residents to share information when roads are icy, pets are missing, to talk about the change of ownership of Clark's and other issues. She also touted GMP's power outage website and Vermont Alert which can target all cell phones. Bruce said individuals can sign up for VT Alert alerts and the town is registered to send out messages to cell phones, land line phones and computers via text, emails, and voice calls. He said Kevin decided it is easier to call the emergency management watch officer who can send out messages on VT Alert.

Marge said that during the last long term outage, Clark's IGA threw food out and was wondering if we could do anything to distribute the food instead before it expired. Dick said the Londonderry Community Market can replace food within 12 hours and that Margret Barton is the one to call about sending the food to the Food Pantry instead of throwing it out. Jennifer said the town health officer should also be involved. Dick said during the last outage, the new owners brought in diesel refrigerator trucks to store food

temporarily and they are not interested in spending \$100,000 on a generator.

Jennifer said new EMDs in Weston, Landgrove and Peru are piggybacking on Kevin's success.

6. New Business

a. Possible CRO/Energy Committee coordination

Bruce said this depends on what we learn about Resilience Hubs and energy. We will table this discussion until after the Jan 22 meeting.

7. Visitors and Concerned Citizens

Bruce said since there were three new people at the meeting, he would like to hear what brought them here and if their questions were answered.

Carl said he was interested in seeing who were are and to get educated. Bruce mentioned Resilience and emergency management conferences that are informational and fun. Jennifer agreed and said that the Red Cross is reorganizing to join together Vermont, New Hampshire and Maine. Meetings might be in Maine. Dick said we encourage community action where people can relate to each other, but we are not party planners.

Marge talked about the two distinct and often separate groups in town: those native to Vermont and those who moved here. The first group is concerned about any change that might raise taxes and traffic. The few in the middle of the two groups tend to be members of essential services such as the fire departments and the rescue squad. One example is George Lang who he brought air packs into the fire service.

Helena said as a birth mid-wife, she is interested in alternate resources in town. She is interested in emergency planning, resilience, a town farm, a community food coop (?), and alternative medicine. She said we need to take care of each other. Jennifer said Mindy (?) is available from the state to offer canning workshops. Marge said this would bring together the two groups she talked about.

Dick said the PC is gathering information about what the town wants via Project Londonderry, especially since with out solving the water/waste water issue there will be more abandoned properties and the tax base will go down. Jennifer said the goals sound the same as Mighty Londonderry.

Marge initiated a discussion about the Farmers' Market which has purchased land on Derry Woods Road. She is concerned that lack of shade or a view and traffic on Route 11 making it hard to turn in and out might not bode well for its future.

8. Set next meeting time and date

Jennifer moved, Bruce seconded to hold the next meeting on Thursday, February 20 at 11 am. Motion passed unanimously.

9. Adjourn

Dick moved, Bruce seconded to adjourn at 1:35 pm. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted on January 16, 2020

Bruce Frauman

Chair

Approval expected February 20, 2020

Mighty Londonderry Community Resilience Organization

Bruce Frauman, Chair