

**CITY OF MILL VALLEY
EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
May 13, 2021**

Commissioners present: Vice Chair Max Perrey, Commissioners Christie Coleman, Brian Jolda and Victoria Lim. Staff attending: Southern Marin Fire Deputy Chief Tom Welch, City Staff Linn Walsh and Emergency Preparedness Coordinator Maggie Lang.

Meeting called to order at 6:37 pm by Vice Chair Perrey.

Public Open Time: None as no public was present.

Approval of minutes from April 8, 2021 were postponed until the June meeting due to questions regarding certain details in the minutes.

Old Business:

- **COVID-19 Update:** This week the FDA authorized a Pfizer vaccine for children 12-15 years of age, which will be available in Marin starting this weekend. At this point, ~ 72% of Marin residents 16 yrs. and older are vaccinated, nearly twice that of the United States, which is 35%; 51% of Marin's total population is considered fully vaccinated. This breaks down demographically: 58% Asian; 67% White; 64% Hispanic; and 57% Black.
 - Vice Chair Perrey added that he works for The Redwood Community Health Care Coalition and they have received a grant from State of CA to reach out to certain demographics re: vaccination promotion, including seniors and those in the LGBTQ community.
 - In the weeks to come, vaccine distribution will become less centralized and more reliant on primary care physicians, clinics and hospitals.
 - Linn Walsh commented that at an update from Dr. Matt Willis today, Marin is waiting for guidance from CA's Department of Public Health before making changes in our mask mandate, regardless of the recent CDC declaration re: masks. With a shift toward vaccinating younger residents, the sense is that we may be the first in the state to reach a level close to herd immunity.
 - Commissioner Jolda commented that he saw in the news that Pfizer is asking for approval for their vaccine for children 2 yrs. and older.
 - Emergency Preparedness Coordinator Lang commented that the CERT Hybrid training on Saturday will require masks and social distancing.

- **Schools Re-Opening:**
 - 100% Marin County schools are now offering in-person classes with 92 % of Marin's schools now open 5 days/week; 90% of students are attending in-person.
 - Mill Valley School District EPC had their first meeting of the year today.

- **Video Development:** Chief Navarro, Chief Tubbs and Ken Campbell are refining the text for the latest round of videos. The videos should be available shortly and it was suggested that they be posted on the readymarin and nrgmillvalley websites when ready. They will shortly be working on the Pet Preparedness and children's perspective on preparedness videos
- **Community Evacuation Planning:** Chief Welch reminded us that the annual evacuation drill was canceled in 2020 due to the COVID shut-down; that model required many hours of planning with a large planning team involved, as well as significant expense. This year's version is a hybrid one with 6 separate smaller evacuation drills in 6 different locations (some will be Community Refuge Sites-CRAs). Each will only be one hour with a short presentation on evacuation guidelines, Go Bags, CERT & NRGs basics, followed by short Q&A. Volunteer CERTs & Block Captains will be present to offer information and take sign-ups for those interested in being Block Captains & CERTs. Mailers are going to print tomorrow and will be in mailboxes by May 21st for the early events. If these are received well, may expand to reach other areas. Drafts of the information flyers were shared with the commissioners and a discussion about the effectiveness of the text followed.
 - Dates for the upcoming evacuation drills:
 - Tam Valley and Sausalito on June 12;
 - Blithedale Canyon and Hillside on June 19
 - Homestead and Alto (Eagle Rock) on June 26
 - Continued discussion focused on the Google evacuation mapping recently supported by Mayor McCauley. Commissioners would like to invite Mayor McCauley to a future meeting to continue the discussion of evacuation planning.

New Business:

- **Sub-Committee Reports:**
 - **Finance:** no report
 - **Communications:** no formal report other than previously discussed videos.
 - **NRG/CERT:** will be covered with EP Coordinator Lang's report.
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 - **Equity:** Both Vice Chair Perrey and Commissioner Raveche have reached out to Mill Valley's Diversity & Equity task force members, as well as the Sausalito/Marin City School Board, about possible collaboration efforts with the EPC. There are also plans to connect with the Islamic Center members in Alto NRG.

- **Southern Marin Disaster Council:** the So. Marin Fire District EPC is hosting the next Southern Marin Disaster Council meeting, which is June 17 with a fire season focus.
- **Evacuation Drills:** Commissioner Jolda reported that this sub-committee has contributed to the smaller evacuation drill planning (see report under Old Business for more details).
- **Community Partnerships:** covered earlier with the school report and Equity committee report. Commissioner Lum spoke with Jim Welte from the Chamber of Commerce, who asked if the EPC might be interested in re-visiting the Ready Businesses project, completed 6-7 years ago. That project worked with 22 “essential” businesses (essential to the recovery of the city following a major disaster), documenting their emergency planning status and offering assistance in developing continuity of operations plans. Some of these businesses were visited during the last PSPS to check on their status and initially at the beginning of the shut-down for COVID. The plans and research are on the www.readymarin website under Ready Businesses.
- **Website Update:** Linn Walsh reported on City of Mill Valley’s new update; will be bringing into the new website 150 out of 7800 pages so lots of site clean-up. Also working on design for the new website. Much of the emergency preparedness information will go to So. Marin Fire Dept. staff to determine what will stay on the city website & what will go to their site. Primary sites such as ReadyMarin and FireSafe Marin will be provided as links, rather than attempting to keep the city’s emergency preparedness information constantly up to date.

Staff Reports:

- **Fire Department Report:** Deputy Chief Welch reported that we are about 2 months ahead of schedule with fire conditions. There is no precipitation forecasted and a significant fire season is anticipated. We have already had one red flag warning period. Chief Welch earlier reported that the So. Marin NRG Coordinator position is progressing with a request for MWPA funding and an anticipated posting by July 1.
- **Police Department Report:** No report.
- **Emergency Preparedness Coordinator Lang:**
 - **Neighborhood Response Groups (NRGs):** The Block Captain Orientations have continued monthly. There is a county NRG group that has been meeting for most of this year to share best practices. The suggestion has been made to utilize the www.nrgmarin as a central focal area for sharing & networking with links provided for local websites, such as www.nrgmillvalley.org. There is interest in using the nrgmillvalley logo as a county NRG logo. The next NRG Drill is in November.
 - The **CERT** Hybrid course opened on March 25 with 28 students finishing the online course. The last session of Office Hours is this evening and the

in-person Skills Day is this Saturday, May 15. There are ~ 25-30 CERT volunteers who will function as instructors and proctors.

Meeting adjourned at 8:01 pm. Next meeting June 17 at 6:30 PM

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