

LEYDEN EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

April 11, 2024

6 pm

7 Brattleboro Rd.

Leyden, MA 01301

Present members: Sara Seinberg, Liz Kidder, Dave Pomerantz

Department Representatives: Beth Kuzdeba, John Richardson, Marcia Miller, Ken Medvetz, Erica Jensen

Remote attendees: Anders Furgeson

Other attendees: Janell Howard, Jeff Miller

Meeting called to order at 6:00 pm by Sara

Approval of Minutes:

Motion: Sara moved and Liz seconded to approve the 03-14-24 LEMC meeting minutes, unanimously approved.

CEMP Finalization

- The department heads were contacted about their part for the CEMP.
- Marcia and Jeff Miller have a system in place for emergency communication with snowmobilers. They are at the town's disposal year round not just in the winter, they have equipment for different types of weather with emergency vehicles on different sides of the town.
- David will present the overview at the beginning of the CEMP and then introduce the neighborhood captains idea.
- The CEMP is going to be about a 30-45 min presentation with plenty of time for questions and answers after the presentation.
- Everyone is encouraged to promote this event to as many people as possible to encourage a good gathering.
- Nate Moreau is working on getting all the town's EMDs to work as a team.
- The intent of CEMP is to inspire people to help one another in preparedness and being ready for emergencies.
- Beth can talk about the role of the BOH in emergencies.
- Dinner will be a potluck. As people come the food will be set up, they will get their food and then sit down at tables for the presentation while they are eating. Sara will make sure there will be a few entrees and a couple salads and then whatever people bring in addition to that will be great.

ACTION: David will invite Nate Moreau to come to the CEMP and share some thoughts.

ACTION: Janell will put a banner on the home page of the town website the week of the CEMP and a notification on electronic sign a few days before.

ACTION: Beth will work on what to present at CEMP for BOH and check in with Sara what she plans to share.

ACTION: Sara will make sure there are a few entrees and salads

ACTION: Beth will put up a flyer on CPR + First Aid on the Town Offices board.

Updates From Departments

Co-EMD - seat is available and candidates are being sought. Appointed positions can be held by non-residents and can receive a stipend, opening up more possible candidates. LEMC is looking for someone interested in helping out in a higher level of involvement.

Fire Department - The new fire truck is here and is awesome. The fire truck will be an asset to the Town of Leyden and their role in mutual aid with neighboring towns. The new fire truck is a wildlands/brush truck. In about a week and a half the fire truck will be registered and road worthy.

Public Safety - Leyden can apply for the Woodlands grant for \$25,000, To move forward the town needs a letter of support from the Select Board. Then the town can look for a UTV for rescues taking place in the forest. This is a new grant for Leyden. The town would start with a base UTV which could be purchased for close to \$25,000. Then in the following years accessories can be purchased to the UTV with other grants. There is another grant opportunity as a regional grant for all 21 towns to do a baseline assessment to evaluate the public safety capacity of the towns to handle increased outdoor tourism, a goal of the partnership.

Police department -

- The focus this spring time is on distracted driving, making people aware of people on the roads and keeping them safe.
- There is first aid training on choking and bleeding which is particularly valuable training for people living in rural area.
- A valuable event for emergency management could be educating people on the use of rain barrels and then offering wholesale purchasing of rain barrels. This event would be more beneficial to combine with Bernardston Police Department.
- Jeff Miller has a map through the snowmobile club of the area that would be useful to all emergency responders.

Priorities and Next Steps

The draft of the CEMP will go to the Select Board and Nate Moreau for approval.

ACTION: David will send the CEMP to the Select Board and Nate Moreau in about two weeks.

ACTION: David will meet with the Select Board to go over what his next steps are from withdrawing from the Co-EMD position and what role he will fulfill in the LEMC going forward.

ACTION: Sara will send a letter to Select Board to propose that the Co-EMD's positions be changed to an EMD and a deputy EMD with the deputy EMD taking over the PIO duties.

Public Comment:

The LEMC budget line items were discussed. The stipends will remain the same and the expense budget will be increased by \$600.

ACTION: Janell authorized to order 3 cellphone boosters from 413 Upfitting for the new fire truck , Engine 1, and one portable unit.

Next Meeting

May 29th next meeting.

Motion: Sara moved and Liz seconded to adjourn meeting at 7:00pm, unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Janell Howard

Administrative Assistant