

COUNTY OF NORTHAMPTON



Angel L. Gillette
Chair

Julie C. Zumas, MPH
Vice-Chair

Robert F. Mateff, Sr., ENP
NCEMS Director

Citizen Corps Council

EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER
100 GRACEDALE AVENUE
NAZARETH, PENNSYLVANIA 18064-8430
Telephone: (610) 746-3194
Fax: (610) 746-3199

October 31, 2008 Meeting Minutes

The following members were present:

Angel L. Gillette	Julie C. Zumas
Robert F. Mateff	John Conklin
Kelly Berk	Tanya Light
Tom Nervine	Debby Hewitt
Cordelia Miller	Charlie Zeppenfield
Bill Hillanbrand	

I. Welcome and Introductions.

Angel Gillette called the meeting to order at 10:03 AM and provided a brief introduction of new members.

II. Review and Approval of August 22, 2008 Meeting Minutes.

Cordelia Miller motioned to accept the minutes as presented, Julie Zumas seconded. All were in favor.

III. NOAA Radios for Schools

Julie Zumas provided an overview of the “America is Safer When Our Schools are Safer” initiative launched by NOAA, Dept. of Health and Human Services, Dept. of Education, and DHS/FEMA. The initiative began in 2005 with a distribution of more than 97,000 Public Alert Radios to all k-12 public schools and more recently, approx. 183,000 NOAA radios were distributed to all remaining schools in the US. Citizen Corps Councils nationwide were asked to assist local Emergency Management officials with ensuring radios were received by the schools, properly registered, and programmed appropriately. Members agreed the most effective way to extend our support to assist schools with registering the radios is to go through the IU. Julie or Bob will contact Dr. Sandy Fellin to coordinate.

IV. Citizen Corps Website (www.nc911.org)

Angel Gillette discussed the new Citizen Corps page recently added to the County’s Emergency Management Services Division website and displayed the site for everyone to view. Ms. Gillette requested feedback/suggestions on what additional features to include that will make the site more appealing to volunteers.

October 31, 2008
Northampton County Citizen Corps
Council Meeting Minutes (continued)

Suggestions for website included:

- Adding additional links to the site that will prove beneficial to volunteers browsing: FEMA IS Training, ServePA, NOAA/Storm Ready, and ReadyPA.
- Include a section for outreach/photos of recent events (i.e. Preparedness Expo photos, drills/exercises, and volunteers/training events).
- Include a training schedule on the site (when developed), link to Red Cross training schedule, link to Citizen Corps National site, and additional Citizen Corps volunteer information and application.

V. ServePA

ServePA was discussed as the potential mechanism to track and effectively manage Citizen Corps volunteers. The group agreed to revisit the topic once a more formalized volunteer recruitment strategy is in place. ServePA is a free service offered by the Commonwealth to use for tracking and deploying disaster volunteers.

VI. Membership Recruitment

It was agreed to establish working sub-committees to assist the Citizen Corps Council with fulfilling its mission. Two sub-committees will be established including one for Strategic Planning and one for Training. The Strategic Planning sub-committee will meet to identify and prioritize goals for 2009 and develop a strategy on how to achieve those goals. The Training sub-committee will meet to identify local training opportunities already in place for volunteers and to develop a more formalized volunteer training program. The sub-committees will report progress to the Citizen Corps Council at the scheduled bi-monthly meetings.

VII. Member Comment

There was discussion on the possibility of Red Cross hosting Shelter Management training for Citizen Corps volunteers. The sub-committees will work to hash out details on volunteer recruitment, strategy, and training. It was suggested to request municipalities' assistance with promoting Citizen Corps by linking the NC Citizen Corps page to the municipal website.

VIII. Adjourn.

Cordelia Miller motioned to adjourn the meeting at 11:10 AM. Motion seconded by Julie Zumas. Meeting was adjourned at 11:10 AM.