



Southern New Hampshire Planning Commission

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Minutes of the Deerfield Hazard Mitigation Committee Meeting held on November 30, 2006

November 30, 2006 at the George B. White Building
8 Raymond Road, Deerfield, New Hampshire

MEMBERS PRESENT

Richard Pelletier	-	Building and Health Officer, Town of Deerfield
Cynthia Heon	-	Town Administrator, Town of Deerfield
Cindy Richard	-	Field Representative, NH Bureau of Emergency Management
Bonnie Beaubien	-	School Board Representative, Town of Deerfield
Colleen Guardia	-	Department of Welfare/Citizen
Mark Tibbetts	-	Fire Chief, Town of Deerfield
Alex Cote	-	Road Agent, Town of Deerfield
Mark Greeley	-	Lieutenant, Deerfield Police Department
Karl Berardi	-	NH Rural Fire Protection Initiative
Linda Ajello	-	Planner, SNHPC

Mr. Pelletier called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

MINUTES

Ms. Heon moved to approve the minutes of the October 26, 2006 meeting, as printed, and Ms. Beaubien seconded. The motion passed.

INTRODUCTIONS

There were a few new faces at the meeting, so the committee went around the table to make brief introductions.

REVIEW OF PAST AND POTENTIAL HAZARDS

Chairman Pelletier started with the review of the Areas at Risk. He asked if Freezes Pond and Blakes Road were the only two bridges in town. Mr. Cote added the following bridges to the list:

Cole Road; Candia Road; Ridge Road; Nottingham Road; Cate Road (near the substation); Stage Road; and Old Coffee.

A question arose as to whether or not culverts would be included on the list. Mr. Cote stated that he has a complete list of the culverts in Deerfield. Ms. Ajello stated that the complete list will be inserted into the non-public essential facilities document.

The Town does not have a bus station in town. The bus service used in Town is from Epsom.

Ms. Ajello asked about any historic structures in town that may be considered as Area at Risk. Ms. Heon stated that there were over 100 historic structures in Deerfield, including homes. Ms. Ajello mentioned that the Town of Chester has an extensive historic inventory in Town, but only 2 items were listed in regards to "Areas at Risk." She said she was not quite clear on the criteria for historic structures as related to "Areas at Risk" and that she would look into it before any historic structures are listed.

Mr. Cote asked whether or not the Old Inn should be listed as a boarding house. Nobody in the group knew if there was a name associated with the boarding house, but were certain that it was a transitional boarding facility. Ms. Guardia asked what constitutes as a boarding house. Mr. Pelletier stated that a boarding house is any place where people rent rooms and utilize common areas, including a shared kitchen. Boarding houses typically have shared bathroom facilities, similar to what is found in a dormitory. The committee agreed that the Old Inn should be listed under "special needs" due to the fact that some of the occupants may be senior citizens or have special needs.

Other areas that were also noted include:

- 4 baseball fields at the Fairgrounds – outdoor recreation
- Commercial Corners Shopping Center – this new shopping center may potentially have some commercial resources
- The Food Pantry will soon be opening at the Deerfield Community Church

Commercial and Economic Impact Areas (25 or more employees) were identified as the school, Town Offices, East Coast Signals and Van Burkham Nursery. The fairgrounds might also be included during fair season.

Mr. Cote compiled a list of contractors that was distributed to the group. Ms. Heon mentioned that she felt the list was not inclusive of all the contractors in Town. The committee briefly discussed different contractors that they were aware of.

Mr. Cote asked if general contractors should be included on this list even though they may not have heavy equipment. Mr. Pelletier expressed that due the fact the experience these persons have would be helpful in the event of an emergency that required the boarding up of windows, etc.

Ms. Heon mentioned that the Town’s internet service provider was operating in town as a home occupation on North Road. She wanted to know if the business should be listed as a critical facility. Ms. Ajello said that this business should be included since the Town depended on it for communications. She also reiterated that the name and location of the business would only be listed in the non-public document for Town use. The committee agreed that this should be included.

Short-term shelters that were identified in Town were the Fire Station, school, Town Offices, Deerfield Community Church and the Administration Building at the fair grounds. The issue was brought up as to whether or not these shelters would be required to have generators. Chief Tibbetts explained that the fire department had a few extra generators that could be moved to any of these sites in the event of an emergency. Ms. Richard also stated that these are different from the shelters that are reviewed and certified by the American Red Cross. Ms. Ajello added that once the Town starts to update the Emergency Operations Plan, a complete list of shelters that have been reviewed and will be supported by the American Red Cross will be listed. Additionally, Ms. Ajello explained that many towns have been inserting their Hazard Mitigation Plans into their Emergency Operations Plans as one of the appendices and that Deerfield could do the same when they update their plan.

The Highway Garage and the Transfer Station were added to the list as Hazardous Material facilities since they collect generate/collect used oil. Mr. Mike’s gas station was added to the list as emergency fuel facility since they are the only gas station in Deerfield and have the largest fuel storage capacity.

REVIEW OF GOALS FOR DEERFIELD

Ms. Guardia passed around the list of goals for Deerfield. The committee unanimously agreed to adopt the State of New Hampshire’s Hazard Mitigation Goals for Deerfield.

ESSENTIAL FACILITIES IN DEERFIELD

Ms. Ajello asked the committee if they had completed the map with the past and potential hazards. Mr. Cote and Chief Tibbetts indicated that they were in the process of completing this.

The meeting date has been set for Thursday, December 21st at 10 AM.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:05 p.m.