

Disaster & Fire Safety Commission
Regular Meeting
Wednesday, March 27, 2019
997 Cedar Street, Berkeley, CA 94710

Present: Paul Degenkolb, Gradiva Couzin, Bob Flasher, Toni Stein, Annie Bailey, Shirley Dean, Ruth Grimes, Toby Simmons

Absent:

Staff: Khin Chin, Keith May

Public: David Peattie, Sarah Jones, Chris Cullander, Susan St. George, Caroline Swinehart

Preliminary Matters

Call to Order

G. Couzin called meeting to order at 7:01 pm

Approval of the Agenda

Approved by Acclamation.

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

Chris Cullander said that he received a useful business preparedness brochure in his Internal Revenue Service's mail that described the possibility of deducting costs from emergency preparedness.

Berkeley Disaster Preparedness Neighborhood Network (BDPNN) will work with BeCERTAINN to do an emergency activation drill on May 4. Participation is open to everyone and GMRS radio will be a feature. BDPNN's general meeting on May 30 will be a meeting on Fire Evacuation. August meeting may be used as a public forum on community preparedness efforts.

Gradiva Couzin said that there was a Wireless Emergency Alerting (WEA) system test for earthquake early warning today, March 27 in Oakland.

1. Fire Department and Office of Emergency Services Staff Report

3/2 Encampment Fire on Westbound University off-ramp.

3/2 auto vs. bicyclist with serious injuries.

3/2 19 y/o student fell 15-20 ft at a party.

3/14 Elderly male fall approximately 30 ft down a steep embankment near waterfall in Codornices Park resulting in a High-Angle rope rescue.

3/20 Small Fire on the 1400 block of Allston. Combustibles were placed over a floor furnace. No displacements or injuries.

Evacuation planning continues with mapping of the evacuation zones, vulnerable populations within the evacuation zone. We received input from Disabilities Rights Education and Defense Fund (DREDF), Berkeley Lab, Cal Fire, Berkeley Police.

Consent Items

2. Approval of Draft Minutes of February 27, 2018*

Motion approve minutes as revised: S. Dean

Second: R. Flasher

Vote: 8 Ayes: Degenkolb, Flasher, Simmons, Stein, Bailey, Couzin, Grimes, Dean; 0

Noes; 0 Absent; 0 Abstain:

Action Items

3. Support for Wildfire Evacuation, Emergency Alerting, and Public Education*

Motion to recommend that the City immediately begin the process to purchase, install, and maintain an outdoor public warning system (sirens) as a supplement to other alert and warning technologies within our boundaries and coordinated with abutting jurisdictions and Alameda County: R. Flasher

Second: P. Degenkolb

Vote: 8 Ayes: Degenkolb, Flasher, Simmons, Stein, Bailey, Couzin, Grimes, Dean; 0

Noes; 0 Absent; 0 Abstain:

Discussion Items

4. City Manager Referral to Improve Fire Safety Standards for Rebuilt Fire Damaged Structure*
5. Report from the Community-Based Response Working Group*
6. Next Steps on the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan*
7. BAUASI Cutting Alameda County Funding for Urban Shield*
T. Simmons left at 9:16p.
8. Future Agenda Items
R. Grimes left at 9:24p.

A. Bailey left at 931p

Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn: G. Couzin

Second: P. Degenkolb

Vote: 5 Ayes: Degenkolb, Flasher, Stein, Couzin, Dean; 0 Noes; 0 Absent: Bailey, Simmons, Grimes; 0 Abstain:

Adjourned at 934pm