

Warren County EPR/LEPC Committee
Meeting Minutes 10/24/2023

In Attendance

Dan Durkee – Warren Co. Public Health
Don Stack-Warren County Public Health
Laura Stebbins – Glens Falls Hospital Dr. Leach, MD
Don Lehman- Warren County & SW
Dr. Leach, MD
Ashley Rivers, Warren Co OES
Bret LaBar The Pines
Paul Marozzi, National Grid
Mallory Lloyd, Washington Co Public Health
Pat Williams, Washington Co
Jack Armstrong, Hudson Headwater
Andrea Glogowski, GFH

Robert Higgins, NYS DEC
Tom Iwinski, National Grid
Sandy LeBarron – Finch Paper
Joe Combs, Northern GI
John Waszak, DHS/CISA
Rob Coughlin, Red Cross

The meeting was called to order at 9:05 am. Dan Durkee gave a brief overview of the agenda items. Apologized for it being cold in the room. For the next meeting, he was hoping to have both options, a in person and a virtual option at the January meeting. Will keep everyone posted. Dan gave a brief history of the committee, when it started and if you think of anyone who should be apart of this meeting to contact Don or him.

Introductions were made.

Laura Stebbins, Glens Falls Hospital Director of Emergency Preparedness - GF Hospital Update

Spoke about ChemPak drill at the Airport. Spoke about the process and at last minute had to change due to Washington County was not available. Detail how the drill went and who was involved. Made changes after Hot wash and considered the drill a great success. Also, did a drill “A person with a weapon” exercise, which involve the whole hospital and law enforcement. Many things were discussed and all believe it was a good drill. Spoke about her involvement in Regional Pediatric Emergency Preparedness Work Group, Had seminar with 60 in person, and 120 remotely. Is working with NYSDOH about a Pediatric and Obstetrical Tool Kit, revisions to be developed over next 1-2 years. Slides will be sent to all.

Ashley Rivers, Warren County OES

Haz Mat Plan has been updated, and plan to be available by next meeting. Flare Kit Training available. By-Laws completed and will send to the committee. Spoke about table top at Sheriff Department, sponsored by OES. Discussed the situation that a power outage to area during the Balloon Festival. Each of the organization, companies gave feedback, what each group could provide to the situation. Positive feedback and discussion was a great exercise that received positive feedback in additional to more concerns, like how to handle an Adult care facility. Also, spoke about Citizen Preparedness meeting, which had 50 people at August, while 20 people at the September meeting. Had a drill at Great Escape, which deal with how to get trucks to what area, and where do you need trucks, plus can the truck fit and work properly. Was at Balloon Festival, which had Verizon bring cell tower, which was helpful with the number of people. Waiting for feedback. Participated in Car Show in Lake George,

Volunteer Firemen Convention. Future plans include Mass Care Review which is in review. Working on Chemp Pak. Started working on a Degree Management Plan, which talks about what to do with debris after a large event. COVID Tests coming soon, while they have masks & N-95 masks.

Dan Durkee, Public Health update - Revised the Pandemic & Influenza Plan into the new Plan called Pandemic Viral Respiratory Disease Response Plan. A 3 on 3 drill will be on Nov. 17– notified staff to assemble for POD site- used staff available, we don't have to staff to run POD, would need Nurse's, student nurses, and community partners. COVID update – still monitoring, numbers are the same, vaccines are available, but with cost. Not sure the cost, check with your insurance carrier. No mandates coming, no political will for it. Schools having issues with COVID and flu. Warren County has NarCan training available. Also, Stop the Bleed as well.

Member Updates

Bret LaBar, Pines – Talked about starting the process for Active Shooter Drill. Had meeting last Friday, had a lot of groups involved. Concerned about residents and their reactions to drill like this. Will keep the committee updated.

John Waszak, DHS/CISA – C Pak not renewed by Congress. Must use Volunteer plans. Concerns.

Tim Iwinski – National Grid – wrapping up Gas pipe install downtown in Glens Falls, tree trimming completed in Queensbury, Infrastructure upgrades are ongoing with security a concern. Unsecure sites are a real problem. Cybersecurity easier to do than physical damage, we are monitoring that. Gas lines are also under attack.

Pat Williams Washington County – lack of staff, 6 senior nurses have retired since COVID. New staff with on going training.

Dr. Leach – Concerned about Bio-terrorism. Spoke about his small pox vaccine, and how sick he got. Spoke about COVID, lacking of testing, getting vaccines. Flu numbers are down, spoke about Adirondack Welcome Circle, which welcomes immigrants into area. Concerned with flow from NYC and talked about local not-for-profits that provides services. Has retired DR's available for screening. Has 2nd list which is a survey Tool to give to immigrants when they get off the bus. Said won't happen till Warren Co stops emergency Order.

Sandy LeBarron Finch Paper- is a C Pak facility. Had inspections recently. EPR plan updated, and had Jamie from Warren Co Haz Mat made a site visit.

Rob Coughlin, Red Cross – spoke about COAD, a meeting was held on Jan 2020 with 50 people from Saratoga, Warren, Washington County. Looking to network with a list of what each group, organization had to assist in a event. Then COVID happen and we went virtual with people not having time to help. Looking for in person meeting at the beginning of the year. Will reach out when that happen. Leaving his business card to reach out for contact information.

Jack Armstrong, Hudson Headwaters - HHHN has new Health Center in Glens Falls. Training on De- Escalation for staff in 80% completed. We decided to do so after staff concerns involving increased aggressive patient behavior. Dan asked about Ihans getting into Hudson Headwaters, Jack to look into. No additional updates.

Andrea Glogoowski, Glens Falls Hospital Ed Pharmacy –No updates.

Robert Higgins, DEC – Hunting season starting, be careful hiking. Wear Orange. A lot of ticks in Queensbury, Glens Falls.

Dan closed the meeting by thanking everyone for their time and reminding them that next meeting has been scheduled for January 31, 2024 at 9am in Warren County Board of Supervisor room. He asked that you share this information with who you think would benefit by attending this meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 10:40am.

Future Meeting dates:

January 31st., April 24th, July 31st, October 30th at 9am
Warren County Board of Supervisors Room – 2nd Floor Warren County Municipal Center

Minutes Submitted by

Don Stack
Warren County EPR/LEPC Committee
October 31, 2023