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**Weston Emergency Reserve Corps  
WERC**

**Meeting Minutes**

**Thursday, Jan 14, 2019  
12:30 – 2:00 PM**

**Weston Police Station – Training Room**

**Present:** Rudy Ruggles (Chair), Sandra Ashley, Karl Benedict, Maxine Breen, Jane Brown, Wendy Diotalevi, David Kominz, Stephanie Lynch, Kelley Pesek, Barbara Meissner, Paul Martin, Al Neustadt, Marilyn Savage, Mary Shaw; Guest: Leon Gaumond, Jr. (Town Manager)

**Call to Order and quorum call:** 12:30pm

1. Approval of Minutes - RR asked for motion to Approve November 2018 minutes. Motion made, seconded, and unanimously approved.
2. RR led a short discussion on meeting frequency and times. RR suggested that we may do a quarterly meeting in the evening to foster greater participation and volunteer involvement.
3. Review of past programs and events and 2019 planning - RR began with a review of the responsibility of the WERC (Corps) to itself and to the Community (see WERC Goals below). He then led a group discussion on the following topics, writing comments on the whiteboard:
  - a. What Worked (in the past), see “What Worked” photo below
  - b. 2019 event / program possibilities: see “2019 /Actions” photo below
  - c. Actions planned for 2019:

**SPRING**

    - Participate in the annual Spring Fling (WD and LA to follow up) Sheltering Drill? This will depend on the availability of the FD and PD Opioid Crisis Education (AN to follow up)
    - Banner (to publicize events)

**SUMMER**

    - Banner (to publicize September as National Emergency Preparedness Month)

**FALL**

    - National Emergency Preparedness Month (September, KB to follow up)
    - Flu Clinic (date TBD)
    - Fire Dept. Open House (date TBD)
    - Annual Dinner (usually held early in November)
    - Also consider a banner on 'Main St.' to publicize these events. This will require advanced planning as space is limited.



4. Additional Discussion: It was suggested that when EC members attend other meetings on topics related to the WERC mission that they share this with the EC. JB brought up the question: How do we attract more volunteers?) This is a re-occurring question with no easy answer. RR noted that the registration for new volunteers has been simplified and this may help. He then asked, "What is the Face of the WERC to the public?" How can this be enhanced? Do we need a stand-alone website? Should we join Facebook? Should we begin by enhancing our presence on the Town Website? This seemed to be the best first step. Town Manager offered very supportive comments re coordination with other town resources to help promote and awareness of WERC and what the organization does for the community. Leon mentioned the Public Information Officer, town website to host presentation slides from WERC events, public access channels.
5. New Officers: Vice Chair Barbara Meissner, Secretary Paul Martin

Next Meeting Thursday, February 7, 2019, 12:30pm to 2:00pm at Weston Town Hall

Meeting Adjourned at 2:05 pm

#### WERC Goals

##### Corps (Response-ability)

- Increase roster (# of volunteers)
- Increase organizational engagement (% of people who do something)
- Increase readiness (badged; training, exercises)
- Increase connectedness (communications, interaction opportunities)

##### Community (Responsibility)

- Increase awareness (communications, events)
- Increase preparedness (72-hour self-sufficiency)
- Increase wellness (vaccinations, healthy behaviors)

## WHAT WORKED

Flu clinic

Fire station (Pumpkin Fest)

Police station tour

Living w/ wildlife (Police)

Annual dinner presentation  
(Until Help Arrives)

Newsletter

Sheltering drill

Extreme Event games

Training - stop the Bleed, Behav Health

Homeowners Workshop

Spring Fling

MYCHIP

Highland Meadows Ditony

2019

ACTIONS

Train the Trainer: Behav Health <sup>WD + M Show</sup>

Spring Fling presence (4/27) <sup>S + M LA WD + LA</sup>

Live Drill (Sheltering): March? <sup>WD + Som</sup>

National Prep Month (Sept)

Flu Clinic (Sept/Oct)

Annual WERC Dinner (Nov)

FD Open House/PFest (Oct?) <sup>Stor</sup>

Diabetes + Allergy emergency response

Newsletter - more than volunteers <sup>ncl. HAR ponds link</sup>

Large animal resource list update <sup>Schools?</sup>

Opioid outreach (incl. Narcan?) education <sup>Schools? Feb/Mar?</sup>

Related org mtgs: HAB, DART, <sup>Stor</sup> conferences

World Laughter Tour (behav. health) <sup>M Savage</sup>

Volunteer request/sign-up messages through Town <sup>do on regular schedule - Kara</sup>

Weston Media - do program(s) + send out as links

WERC web presence - start w/ Town site + YouTube

Banner display <sup>M Savage</sup>

Spring

Spring Fling (4/27) <sup>WD LA</sup>

Sheltering Drill?

Opioid ed. All

Banner

BARBARA MEISSNER

Summer

Banner

PAUL MARTIN

Fall

Nat Prep Month

Flu Clinic

FD Open House

Annual Dinner

Banner