

Town of Seabrook Island
Public Safety Committee
Meeting Minutes
January 13, 2020

The Public Safety Committee met Monday, January 13, 2020, beginning shortly after 10:00 AM in the conference room at Town Hall, Committee Chair Crane presiding. Committee members attending included Frank Farfone, Ed Maher, and Elizabeth Murphy. Town Administrator Joe Cronin also attended. The agenda for the meeting is attached.

The Chair confirmed that all requirements of SC FOIA had been complied with for the meeting.

1. Approval of minutes of previous meeting

Minutes of the Committee meeting of December 9, 2019, were approved as presented.

2. Committee Member Status

The Chair reported that Mayor Gregg had approached Art Jones as a potential committee member, and that Art had accepted. Mr. Jones has provided a resume to be presented to Council. Current members of the committee who know Art enthusiastically endorsed him. Art is expected to join the committee at the February meeting. Subsequent to the meeting the Chair distributed Art's bio.

The Chair relayed to the members that a resident had stopped in to Town Hall and discussed with Town Administrator Cronin becoming part of the committee. Joe and the Mayor referred the matter to the Chair. The committee discussed the size of the committee, and, with the addition of Art Jones expected in February, the committee voted unanimously to hold at 4 members in addition to the Chair.

3. Website Update

Since the meeting in December, 2019, the committee had received the source file for the CERT flyer we decided to use as the basis for populating the web site for Emergency Preparedness. We will use the panel from the flyer titled "Preparation and Planning" and link the remaining parts of the flyer to the website.

4. January DRC Exercise Review

The committee reviewed the results of the DRC exercise from January 6, 2020. After discussing the Exercise Improvement Plan the committee agreed on how to move forward on each issue:

1. Emergency Contacts for Property Owners

Consider implementing a request for emergency contacts from each property owner to allow for communications to these emergency contacts should the property owners require assistance (or external pressure) to evacuate.

- a. Assigned to SIPOA
- b. Committee did NOT agree that “external pressure” tactics were a good strategy

2. Hotel Options

Verify hotels in various locations and options for generators (ask what exactly the generator powers), conference rooms, and on-site dining.

- a. Assigned to Logistics Official (Appendix 14)
- b. Complete by March 15

3. Evacuation Compliance

Survey residents to determine their compliance with recent evacuation orders and compare to county and/or state compliance rates.

- a. Assigned to SIPOA (SIPOA has the tools in place to accomplish this)
- b. Crane will initiate conversation
- c. Complete by March 15

4. Security and Access Control at Freshfields Circle

Meet with Charleston County Sheriff’s Office to discuss if and how they will prevent residents from returning to Town after the Governor has rescinded the general evacuation order (and Town is still not ready for residents to return).

- a. Assigned to the Mayor and Public Safety Official to initiate discussion
- b. Complete by March 15

5. CEP Updates updates:

The committee wants to move the item “Engage SIV (Village to Village) organization to assist with identifying people who may require evacuation assistance” from OPCON 2 to OPCON 3; it’s too late to start that process under OPCON 2 conditions. This item should be included in RP OPCON 3 as an annual “by April 15” action.

The committee wants to move the item “Consider multiple evacuation locations to place evacuated Town Officials in safe location should path of storm deviate from forecast track” from OPCON 1 to OPCON 2; this is a timelier alternative.

The committee wants to remove the “Step by Step” items in App 9. A single copy will be maintained by the Town Administrator and distributed as events occur on an as needed basis. This is a matter of ensuring appropriate security of that information (eg; logins, passwords, and instructions). It is noted that our IT provider (VC3) supports this approach.

Skip will initiate updates to App. 7 and 11 by March 15

The facilitator suggested “Given the relatively small number of action items contained in my report, a DRC meeting may not be necessary as the Public Safety Committee and/or Town Council could address these items.” The committee agreed, and Skip will initiate an email conversation with DRC members to review the Afteraction Report and the recommendations of the Public Safety Committee (noted above) to reach consensus on Plan updates (to be started by Jan 31).

Other Business

- In response to a question Crane confirmed that Mayor Gregg had discussed the use of pictures of accumulated debris in lieu of an onsite visit with FEMA.
- The question of having a siren as a warning device for an approaching tornado was referred to Chief Waltz at SJFD. They have no plans for implementing such a system.
- The POA has asked for a response from the Town regarding the issue of culling the turkey flock that has arisen in the community. Under consideration is issuing an exception to the firearms ordinance similar to what Town has done in the past (most recently in Dec 2019). Discussion was brief, and the consensus was we should not approve the firearms exception until we see as robust a culling plan as we have seen with the deer request.

6. Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Committee was scheduled for 10:00 am on Monday, February 10, 2020.

7. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at about 11:15 AM.

MEETING
Public Safety Committee
January 13, 2020
10:00 am at Town Hall (Conference Room)

AGENDA

Agenda has been posted and all other aspects of SC FOIA complied with.

1. Approve minutes from previous meeting
2. Committee member status
3. Status of web site update for Emergency Preparedness
4. Review DRC exercise
5. CEP Updates

Next Meeting February 10, 2020 (10 AM)

Adjourn