

Minutes

Emergency Preparedness Committee Meeting

November 5, 2005

8:00 AM

**The Flyaway Bus Terminal
Community Meeting Room, 2nd Floor
7610 Woodley Avenue (Northeast Corner of Saticoy)
Van Nuys, CA 91406**

The second meeting of the West Van Nuys/Lake Balboa Neighborhood Council Emergency Preparedness Committee was held on November 5, 2005 at the above location. The meeting was called to order by the Committee Chair, Linda Pruett.

Introductions were made and a sign-in sheet was circulated. Those attending included Rick Pederson, Rosie Saenz, Bill Haller, Karen Olds and Patrick Hausske.

The Agenda was adopted, and a reading and approval of the minutes from the June 04th meeting took place.

A report was given by the Committee Chair, and Development of and Plans for the Committee were discussed, including meeting times and places and the general direction we wanted to see the Committee take.

The kinds of disasters that our Neighborhood might experience were further discussed, with special mention of the Oil Distribution Depot on Oxnard just off Sepulveda Blvd. and its potential for major problems. Community Warning Signals were discussed, as well as the necessity for teaching everyone in the family to deal with utility turn-offs.

Plans for families relating to evacuations and out-of-state contacts were brought up, as well as special needs of the elderly and disabled, small children and pets. We also talked about posting emergency phone numbers, teaching kids when and how to call 911, why we need to review insurance coverage, fire extinguishers and smoke alarms.

The Group discussed home hazard hunts, travel routes and the importance of good maps, as well as posting notes to leave for others in case of evacuation. We talked about checking on our neighbors, having cash available, and the possibility of coming up with a map for our community showing various resources available in the event of a disaster. (Thanks, Karen!)

Patrick Hausske discussed CERT training (Community Emergency Response Team) in depth, having just completed his own 8 days of training. He's highly enthusiastic, and it seems to be the general opinion of the Committee that as many people as possible within our Neighborhood boundaries (as well as throughout the city!) should consider this training sponsored and taught by the LA Fire Department.

The Committee adjourned at 10:00 AM with the distribution of materials from the Red Cross on Family Disaster Plans and Emergency Preparedness Checklists, and an article on Smoke Alarms from ABC TV.

The next meeting of the Committee will take place on Saturday, January 7th, at 8:00 AM at the FlyAway Bus Terminal in the Community Meeting Room on the 2nd Floor. That's at 7610 Woodley Avenue (Northeast Corner of Saticoy) in Van Nuys. Free parking is available in the short-term lot in the spaces closest to Woodley Avenue.

These minutes will be submitted for approval by the EP Committee on January 7, 2006,

**Linda Pruett
Chair**