

Emergency Preparedness Committee
Bel Air Ridge Center – 2760 Claray
Wednesday July 17, 2013 7pm

Call to order:

We started a little late because of a downed tree on Beverly Glen that is being cut up.

Roll call (no new attendees)

Present

Affiliation/Title

Chuck Maginnis	BABCNC Safety Chair, Bel Air Resident
Matthew Post	Benedict Canyon
Leslie Stojka	Bel Air Ridge
Bill Kabaker	Bel Air Ridge
Irene Sandler	Bel Air Crest
Rick Cole	Bel Air Crest, Operations Manager
Patricia Bell Hearst	Brentwood Resident, Fed. of Hillside & Canyon Chair Emeritus
Don Farkas	Casiano Bel Air Homeowner's Representative) <i>Formerly Representative of Roscomare Valley Assoc to BABCNC</i>
Gary Plotkin	Casiano Estates <i>Parliamentarian of BABCNC</i>
Bill Rowen	Casiano Estates <i>President of Casiano Homeowners</i>
Candy Mintz	Casiano Estates <i>Board Secretary</i>
Hildreth Simmons	Residents of Beverly Glen, Inc.

Approval of minutes:

Leslie Stojka motioned to approve the June 5, 2013 minutes, Irene seconded and the minutes were approved.

Discussion Schools Preparedness:

Gary Plotkin noted that he, Bill Roen, Buddy Jolton and Candy Mintz met with Sam Levitt at the American Jewish University two weeks ago. MECA (Mulholland Educational Corridor) meets quarterly, and that they are without a plan in place. Noted was that everyone but the university is primarily interested in evacuation. Gary stated that Sam wants to align himself with Casiano Estates and he will provide certain services as they are working out the details. "There's really not much there." The only other person Gary spoke to was Lonnie Mayfield, from Stephen Weiss, who is on their Board, and he could not attend because of illness in the family; and apologized that he could not come to these meetings. Candy Mintz indicated she thinks AJU is not considering evacuation because they have dorms and people are living on site, while other schools are with minors whose parents would want to get to them right away.

Chuck mentioned the highest risk in the hills is fires, and asked if members here have contacted the Fire Department to ask for a group meeting, because they will go over evacuation plans with you. He has a large map of our entire area from Fire Chief Schultz, whom he has seen several times including a lunch with Benedict Canyon board members, and the Fire Chief can go over areas on the maps with you, pertaining to each

of the roads/arteries in the canyons, as each HOA needs their own plans. LAFD Captain Stacy Gerlich gets a copy of these minutes.

Discussion about evacuation plans; in and out traffic, fallen electrical line dangers and traffic control during emergency were discussed. Don Farkas noted that the Fire and Police Departments overestimate their preparations for evacuation and there is no single plan that will suffice for each canyon, road, and situation."

Chuck mentioned the informational placard door hangers the BABCNC EP committee produced several years ago as it lists preparation in the event of a fire. Don Farkas noted that the Fire Department exaggerates their preparedness for evacuation, and that there are different plans for each canyon/street. He noted that there is a lack of coordination between Fire and Police Departments, and "No Plan B". Candy noted that there's no signage regarding routes that reach a dead end. Don asks who will direct traffic and mentioned that the City of L.A. could use already purchased low powered AM radio transmitters during disasters to continuously broadcast important information such as local road hazards, hospital closures, and evacuation routes.

Cindy mentioned a smart phone App called "WAZE," a traffic input site that she uses.

Gary brought up the two main issues are 1) Supplies and 2) Communications.

Patricia Hearst mentioned that all schools have their own plans, and that the Fire Department's position is that the children "stay in place" at the schools. She stated that people should know which schools have food, medical emergency capacity.

Patricia and Irene Sandler will check with Skirball and will be following up with the schools. Hildreth Simmons will check with the teacher's union about drills. Noted was that Ron Cornell does drills with BA ridge HOA.

Discussion on emergency supplies viewed at BA Crest - Rick Cole

Rick Cole discussed the history of acquiring their emergency supplies, first triage kits and the rest as follows:

- 1) Triage kits, basic first aide.
- 2) Search and rescue kits,
- 3) Block captain kits (which help protect self, to gather information, documents, and allow the captains to appoint someone to do tasks) additional medical supplies,
- 4) Oxygen tanks, oxygen generator,
- 5) Police & Fire Department scanners, so we can hear what's coming at us.

Rick discussed being prepared in advance, having volunteers, doing fairs and using vendors, such as Gary pointed out. Plumbers and electricians can be very helpful in addition to doctors, and emergency personnel, etc.

Chuck noted the need for people who do odd things like contractors or those handy with tools, as very helpful. Lists with doctors, nurses and others could also be distributed to block captains for immediate attention to injured persons rather than in centralized

location with limited access to the community. Rick stated that the block captains are responsible for 26 homes in BA Crest.

Rick Cole discussed having a resident as Community officer/Incident Commander, who handles everything. A flow chart serves a big need. Chuck noted the need for 4-5 people knowledgeable to dictate what to do, e.g., supplies people, etc.

Patricia noted that there are simple things we can all do, that can be learned, such as how to set up an automatic gas shut off, how to shut off water, and suggested a survey on this.

Updates on Emergency Notification

Chuck reviewed the system that he has discussed previously and as noted in the prior minutes, from Newport Beach, MessageBroadcast.com. There is no monthly fee and \$.039 per one-half minute voice message. He has sent a few test calls thus far.

Discussed was need for contacts list, with home/cell phones, and texts, which can be set up. Candy noted connection to LAPD alerts, which come up as a phone text message. Rick Cole mentioned Data Systems Corporation where you can get a quick broadcast and is who they use for emergency notification.

Don Farkas suggested having a "Plan B" Community Notification System, e.g., honking horns, with a specific cadence, to notify people of an imminent danger. This would involve educating people to know the signal; that you're not hearing a car alarm.

Rick Cole mentioned having a siren system such as that set up on the top of the clubhouse for his hill.

BA Ridge ideas on forming and maintaining interested homeowners

We discussed motivating factors for getting in Emergency Preparedness. Noted was the need for having a charismatic person at the helm, and networking.

Irene noted that there is a need for a core group to plan, and Rick Cole noted that the block captains meet twice a year. Otherwise, to keep people involved, communicate emergency preparedness with the Executive Committee.

There was discussion about CERT training, Community Emergency Response Team, which is 17-1/2 hours or 8 days long.

Don Farkas noted the need for a brief video and/or power point "Disaster Safety Training" presentation, prepared under guidance of the Fire Dept, that could be shown and practiced at Community Meetings. There is information available through LAFD Captain Stacy Gerlich and the Red Cross. Much of the information is on the orange placards prepared by BABCNC.

Candy mentioned having laminated forms with emergency instructions for her household, which would be individual for every home. Irene mentioned her experience with CERT was that it was overwhelming and that they want you to do a second course to get it all. Hildreth mentioned that much emergency information is in the telephone book.

Next Meeting:

The next meeting in August could possibly be at the Getty on a Wednesday at 10am as Chuck thanked Bill Kabaker for introducing Chris *Petrarchs*, the Emergency Preparedness Officer.

We will have to find out about parking.

Everyone but Candy and Hildreth will be able to come to the next meeting.

Bill Kabaker suggested opening up the opportunity for the greater community to attend the Getty EP program; the more the better. Chuck will ask Chris how many people they can accommodate for this meeting, and Chris is also available to show up at group meetings for presentations.

Topics for further discussion:

Bill Rowen noted that we should do an alert test to see how the message notification system works.

Don Farkas brought a copy of the Casiano Bel Air HOA emergency plan which is full of vital information, to be distributed to committee participants as it would be beneficial to everyone. With Don's consent, Chuck said he would distribute them.

The need to pool information was mentioned, and Rick Cole noted that there are area maps with zones of the areas, and asked who is responsible for what, like an incident map would indicate. There is a need to chart what's happening at any given movement, e.g., for medical personnel.

Rick Cole has another item of interest by having access to fresh clean water, which is a modified version of storage tanks, a 2,500-gallon storage tank, and he is interested in looking into this for a reserve of fresh water for emergencies while the common grounds continue to be watered.

Irene inquired about if questionnaires regarding resource people might be effective, and what type of response one would receive.

Adjournment at 8:40 pm.

Chuck Maginnis

Submitted: August 9, 2013
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