



**EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS ADVISORY COMMISSION**  
**MONDAY, March 4, 2019 - 7:00 P.M.**

**Meeting Minutes**

**CALL TO ORDER - Present:** Chair Gila Katz, Vice-Chair Buckland, Commissioners Alan Benson, Michael Detoy, and Nadine Skye-Davis.  
**Absent:** Commissioner William Hallett  
**Department Representatives:** Jeff Robinson, Area G DMAC and Officer Faulk  
**Start Time:** Meeting began at 7:06 p.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE –** Officer Faulk

**ANNOUNCEMENTS –**

1. The City of Los Angeles deployed the Shake Alert LA app which allows community members to receive early warning notifications for earthquakes.
2. Chair Katz thanked Mrs. Villanueva for the hard work that was put into the presentation for the Joint City Council and EPAC study session on January 14, 2019.
3. Chair Katz thanked the Hermosa Beach City Council for the memorial ceremony held for Mr. Julian Katz on February 12, 2019. Council will be naming a number of bike sharrows in his honor.
4. Redondo Beach leadership community will be hosting a service to honor Mr. Katz on Friday, March 8, 2019. The City will name a number of bike sharrows in Mr. Katz honor.
5. The Community-wide Garage Sale will be held on Saturday, March 30, 2019 from 7 a.m. – 12 noon and the donation center will be open from 11:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. Please register online at [www.hermosabch.org/communitygaragesale](http://www.hermosabch.org/communitygaragesale).
6. CERT Basic training begins on Saturday, March 9, 2019 from 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. in Classroom 4 at South Park.
7. Tsunami Preparedness week will be held March 25 – 29, 2019. Residents and visitors are encouraged to locate the tsunami evacuation signs within the community, to learn more about the impact's tsunamis will have on the community and how to prepare themselves for tsunamis.
8. Volunteers Appreciation week will begin April 14, 2019. The City of Hermosa Beach Volunteer Appreciation luncheon will be held on April 13, 2019 in Council Chambers.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION –** None

**PRESENTATIONS –** None

**MATTERS FOR COMMISSION CONSIDERATION**

1. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE MEETING OF JANUARY 7, 2019**  
Commissioner Benson motioned the approval of the EPAC meeting minutes for the meeting of January 7, 2019. Vice-Chair Buckland seconded the motion and the motion was approved.
2. **ROLE OF THE EPAC COMMISSION. THE ROAD AHEAD, CONSIDERING THE SHORT-TERM AND LONG-TERM GOALS FOR THE COMMISSION**  
Commissioner Benson began the discussion regarding the role of EPAC as a follow up to the joint study session with City Council on January 14, 2019. He stated that stakeholders need to sit down and have a discussion regarding how to move the volunteers and community in the same direction as it relates to disaster preparedness. There are 20,000 residents with 8,000 to 9,000 households.

In addition, identifying resources, manpower, training needs, and promotional materials are essential in order to address the plan to develop work product. GOALS: 1. Conduct outreach utilizing subcommittees focused on pets, businesses, individual preparedness. 2. Identify resources needed to address the goal. 3. Plan neighborhood events to achieve the outreach goal. Host six trainings per year in Council chambers and within the Neighborhood Watch meetings. 4. Meet with stakeholders (Department Heads, Police Department, Fire Department, City Manager, and Emergency Service Coordinator) one to two times per year to evaluate effectiveness of the program. This would be similar to the Community-wide garage sale. Once volunteers are on board, then the commission subcommittees can participate in the program and participate resources based on knowledge of animals, businesses, etc.) The program would be fairly basic, inexpensive and could utilize already existing resources within the City.

Vice-Chair Buckland likes the idea of utilizing CERT volunteers as the ambassadors to promote the plan. CERT volunteers are already interested in emergency preparation. Commissioner Benson stated that there will be participants who would participate in the CERT training. Meeting with the leaders of volunteer groups, commissioners and stakeholders to help with providing structure to the overall program. Chair Katz requested that one of the commissioners work with the faith-based community as they have a large community and know who may need assistance. She also suggested a commissioner work with the schools not only Hermosa Beach School District but pre-school, private schools and others. She also stated City officials cannot collect a list of names for those who may need assistance, but commissioners can and need to start compiling the list and provide it to the police department. Chair Katz stated that there is not a structure for assisting the homeless population during a disaster. A commissioner should begin working with the homeless population to identify potential needs. Chair Katz stated that there are members in the community who can't carry sandbags therefore they cannot prepare themselves for large amounts of rain.

Map Your Neighborhood is a program that neighborhoods could implement to prepare themselves and identify needs. Commissioner Benson stated that the community will not have quick hitting tornados but that the City will be impacted by earthquakes that impact the community without notice. A community siren could assist with warning and notifying the community. Cell phones will not be available during a disaster due to the increase in usage. Commissioner Skye-Davis stated that the early warning labs utilizes the internet to send out messages. Commissioner Benson stated that those in Paradise had no warning to evacuate the area therefore a back up form of communication is needed.

Officer Faulk stated that iPhones have an option to allow emergency alerts to be sent to the phone. Amber alerts and IPAWS are sent via the County of Los Angeles Sheriff's office. It was stated that community wide outreach is needed regarding disaster notifications. Chair Katz is a volunteer of the Disaster Healthcare Volunteer. EPAC needs to ensure emergency notification awareness is created within the community.

## **REPORTS**

### **3. FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT**

Mrs. Villanueva stated that Station 100 participated in the Read Across America event on March 1, 2019 and that they will participate in the St. Patrick's Day parade on March 16, 2019. In addition, Los Angeles County Fire Department will be participating in the pre-planning meeting for St. Patrick's Day parade and Hearts of Hermosa events.

### **4. POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT**

Officer Faulk reminded residents to lock vehicle doors and do not leave anything in vehicles as there has been a rash of vehicle break ins.

### **5. OFFICE OF DISASTER MANAGEMENT – AREA G REPORT (South Bay Area of Los Angeles County).**

Mr. Robinson will host section specific training in March and April for all Area G cities. Mr. Robinson encourages residents to prepare for the impending rain that could potential cause water spouts in the community.

### **6. CITY EMERGENCY MANAGER'S REPORT - Brandy Villanueva, Emergency Manager**

Mrs. Villanueva provided a written emergency manager report and highlighted the following: 1. Safety Fair planning has begun. The event will be held on Saturday, June 1, 2019. 2. Mrs.

Villanueva provided an emergency preparedness presentation to Leadership Hermosa Beach on January 17. 3 Mrs. Villanueva attended a presentation titled The First 48: A Crisis in Ventura County which highlighted the responses, impacts and recovery aspects from the Boarder line Shooting and the Woosley Fire. 4. Mrs. Villanueva attended California State Training Institute's Basic Public Information Officer training in the City of Los Angeles.

**7. HERMOSA BEACH CERT PROGRAM - Brandy Villanueva, Emergency Manager**

Mrs. Villanueva provided a written Hermosa Beach CERT report and highlighted the following: 1. Basic CERT training will be held on March 9, 16, 23 from 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. in Classroom 4 at South Park. At the time of the March EPAC meeting, there were 25 participants registered for the course. 2. The first quarterly training of 2019 was held on January 17, 2019 which reviewed ICS forms to ensure volunteers understand the purpose of the form and how it will impact their role during a disaster. 3. April 16, 2019 at 7 p.m. will be next HbCERT quarterly training. 3. The first educational booth for CERT will be held at the Pets in the Park event in May.

**8. HERMOSA BEACH AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION (HBARA) - Commissioner Hallett**

Commissioner Hallett was unable to connect with HBARA.

**9. HERMOSA BEACH VOLUNTEERS IN POLICING (VIP) – Vice-Chair Dave Buckland**

There is one new volunteer for the Volunteer in Policing program totaling eleven volunteers. The new volunteer is interested in patrol operations.

**COMMISSIONER REPORTS**

**10. BUSINESS PREPAREDNESS OUTREACH – Commissioner Detoy**

Commissioner Detoy stated that some modifications have been made to the documents and he continues to look for funding for the program.

**11. Community-Wide Emergency Alert System –Commissioner Hallett**

Chair Katz stated that Commissioner Hallett is committed to completing this project. She stated that Commissioner Hallett informed her that there has been funding raised for the purchase and installation of the siren and requested that Mrs. Villanueva reach out to Commissioner Hallett to determine the amount raised. Mrs. Villanueva stated that she submitted a request for funding through California Office of Emergency Services in September of 2018 to fund the purchase and installation of the siren along with an educational campaign. The current timeline for approval is six to nine months.

**12. Promotion of Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) – Commissioner Buckland/Commissioner Skye-Davis**

In February of 2019, a debriefing of the Los Angeles County Equine Response Team deployment at the Woosley Fire was held. The debriefing focused on what worked and didn't at each shelter location, shelter management, and provided equine response team updates. The Woosley Fire was the largest response for Los Angeles County Animal Care and Control. The meeting was in Agoura Hills. Commissioner Skye-Davis stated that the team is preparing for a very active fire season due to the new plant growth in the area. As a reminder to the residents, please build a kit, make a plan for not only family but for pets as well and get involved by volunteering either with the Equine Response Team and with South Bay Animal CERT. One of the South Bay Animal CERT volunteers was recognized for their service as a shelter manager at Pierce College during the Woosley Fire. Some trainings recently offered by South Bay Animal CERT include shelter set-up, identifying health issues, the items best suited for a CERT backpack and what should be included in a pet preparedness kit. There will be a tabletop exercise on shelter operations and a training on how to create tranquility and calmness in a chaotic environment in the near future. The South Bay Bird Society will be giving a presentation on how to prepare for emergencies for birds. Commissioner Skye-Davis will be speaking to a local girl scout troop regarding pet preparedness.

Chair Katz encourages residents to ensure their animals have a microchip. When she responded to Hurricane Katrina, there were over 1,000 animals who did not have a microchip making it difficult to reunite the animals with their owners. Chair Katz requested a demonstration on what to put into an

animal preparedness kit at the May meeting. She also stated that the Red Cross does the pillow case program for not only kids but for animals as well.

**13. Community Wide Emergency Preparedness Subcommittee – Chair Katz/Commissioner Benson**

Commissioner Benson stated that the subcommittee provided the update during item number 2 Role of EPAC.

**COMMISSION MEMBER REQUESTS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

- Commissioner Benson requested to have his requested agenda item “Access and mobility issues as it relates to Emergency Preparedness in Hermosa Beach” kept in the future agenda items.

**14. ADJOURNMENT**

- Chair Katz requested that the community gets to know their neighbors.
- Chair Katz asked the location of where to pick up sandbags. Mrs. Villanueva stated sandbags can be picked up during business hours at the City yard and after hours and the weekends at the Fire Stations. Sandbags are generally pre-filled but if demand is high and the pre-filled bags are gone, then residents will need to fill their own bags. The recommendation is to bring someone to assist as the bags are heavy. In addition, place a towel and/or blanket down in the vehicle prior to loading the sandbags as the bags may leak sand.
- Vice Chair Buckland motioned to adjourn the meeting and Commissioner Benson seconded the motion. All were in favor of adjourning the meeting at 8:08 p.m.
- Meeting adjourned at 8:08 p.m.