

Operation Weather Survival

Minutes for August 19, 2008

Attending: Debbie Fagin, Kelli McCurdy, Ellen Sherman, Becky White, Pat Ferrell, Ruth Castalano, Jim Kramper, Anneliese Stoever, Sherri Thompson, Rich Krueger, Lizzie Kucharski, Dennis Diehl

I. Welcome and Introductions

II. Weather Report

Jim Kramper reported that the weather should stay reasonable for the next few days. The normal high is 87 or 88 degrees, so we have been having weather that is 5 degrees lower than normal. By Sept. 15th, the normal high is usually 80 degrees. The peak time for heat events is coming to a close (the record highs through Sept. are 100 or higher, but by the end of month, the weather is usually no higher than upper 90s). The weather reports are showing that the temperature should be higher than normal on August 29th and 30th.

Predictions for Fall and into Winter for the Midwest are that we will have above normal temperatures. Jim added that the Excessive Heat Briefing page now has a 3 month outlook option that looks almost a year in advance.

III. Heat Related Illness

St. Louis County: 11 persons were treated for heat related illnesses and 5 additional persons were admitted to the hospital, for a total of 16 people affected with no confirmed deaths.

Jefferson County: no heat related illnesses were reported.

St. Louis City: No one from St. Louis City Health Department was on the call. Anneliese will check on that information.

IV. Energy reports

Salvation Army: Pat mentioned that they have Dollar More funds at some sites (Gateway, South County, Maplewood, Central County, and a few more).

CAA: CAASTL is out of funds. Think conservation! Think cool weather!

IV. Air conditioners:

Salvation Army: gave away 4 air conditioning during that time and fans.

SLAAA: had 53 requests for air conditioners, 21 installed from City units, with a few still pending. SLAAA received funding for an additional 85 air conditioning units from the City. SLAAA does have 50 fans.

CAASTL: has been giving away fans during their weather conservation classes with fliers on safe fan use. Rich will e-mail the flier to the group.

V. Outreach

Meet the Heat is going forward. Molly was not able to be on the conference call but will update the group at the next meeting.

SLAAA has reached out to the senior centers in the form of faxes, fliers, additional water, and ice. Five Star also had a "Hot Weather Event" last week for community members to inform them about safe fan use.

VI. Announcements: CAASTL will be doing a "Health and Energy Forum" at Forest Park on October 11th primarily for seniors. Rich will send the information about the event to the group.

VII. Next Meeting: September 16th at St. Louis Society for the Blind at 2:30