

Operation Weather Survival Meeting
April 17, 2007– 2:30 p.m.

MINUTES

PRESENT:

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| Lisa Beatty, Mid-East Area Agency on Aging Declan Duffy Molly Martin, AmerenUE Michael Redman, County Police Department Sue Rundblad, Jewish Family & Children’s Services | Ellen Sherman, St. Louis County Office of Family & Community Services Anneliese Stoever, St. Louis Area Agency on Aging John Vincenzo, Home Services Becky White, American Red Cross |
| Presiding: Jim Kramper, National Weather Service | |

I. Minutes

Minutes were reviewed and approved as written

II. Jim’s update

Jim encouraged us to review the website: www.weather.gov/stlouis. On the menu, look under “weather safety” and click on “weather survival.” Direct website is: <http://www.crh.noaa.gov/lx/?n=ows> Please let Jim know if agencies want any documents posted on the website. Jim will add a link for the magnets that were recently made. If organizations are interested in requesting magnets, please let Gloria Thirdkill know. Jim also let us know that Dr. Kalkstein with the University of Miami would be visiting the NWS to discuss his heat warning system that looks at the atmosphere to identify maximum harvesting times (when more heat deaths occur). He will update the group on the visit during the next OWS meeting.

III. Excessive Heat Warning System

The Excessive Heat Warning System was reviewed. We recalled that the calling tree was changed to a listing of what responsibilities agencies are willing to take on. Each agency should review the document carefully to make sure they are still willing to take on those responsibilities. Sue offered to do outreach via the telephone for the group.

IV. Hot Weather Preparedness

Molly said that Ameren is getting ready to send information to the cooling sites to reaffirm that they are still willing to be a cooling sites. Molly reminded the group of

the gaps in services from last year. Lisa, Ellen, and Debbie will e-mail Molly possible additional cooling sites to be contacted from the lists used during last year's emergency. Anneliese suggested reaching out to the NSO again—she will follow-up on that. Becky said that Debbie and her are working on a letter that will go to the St. Louis Public Libraries as well as to the St. Louis Clergy Coalition. Michael discussed the weather training he does with Jim Kramper (1,700 volunteers that go through severe weather observer training). Jim mentioned that it is a 2-hour training and Molly asked that fliers about the training be brought to the next meeting. The group discussed outreach to CERT. Jim said that he will reach out to the weather forecasters again to start doing weather preparedness. Anneliese will work on a flier for their HDM folks and will get input on the flier from John, Molly, and Lisa.

V. Community Resources

Molly just turned in a application for Dollar More funds. Federal energy assistance cooling money will be available in June (through the CAAs). The funds are used for utility bills. There is still County Cares money available for electric and gas assistance in the County (CORP is doing the applications and it is a one time allotment of up to \$200 for people living in unincorporated St. Louis County who are 150% of the Federal Poverty level or less). Ellen said that the majority of applicants are coming from the North. Schnucks will probably be selling weather radios. Molly said that AmerenUE did do a pilot weather radio give away program. She encouraged Jim to contact Karen Floss at AmerenUE. John said that the radios would be a great program for caregivers.

VI. Media

John offered to have a air conditioner installation filmed again. Summer weather safety week will be June 24th-June 30th, which would be a great time to do media outreach. Discussed reaching out to Channel 10 in the City and Channel 20 in the County. John said he would send Jim Andre Holman's contact information.

VII. Next Meeting

Tuesday, May 22nd, 2007 – 2:30p.m.

Conference Call (Jim will e-mail the group with the details)

Following meeting will be June 19th at the St. Louis Society for the Blind Building (8770 Manchester Road)

Respectfully submitted by: Anneliese Stoever, SLAAA I&A Coordinator
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