



Citizen Corps Council – September 20th Minutes

Attendees: Claude Talford, Kim McGrath, Raymond Hoffman Jr, Cassadra Dove, Andrea Merriweather, Ivette Monzon, Charlie R. Martin, Jennifer Price, Winston Cross

We still did not have enough people in attendance to hold nominations of officers for the Council like we were planning on doing at the meeting. In spite of this, we still had a great meeting and spent most of it brainstorming on how we can get more people to attend the meetings and participate in the Citizen Corps Council. Here is an overview of what was discussed at September's meeting.

1. Introduction – The Council is designed to promote community preparedness through citizen involvement and it is intended to be led by an elected city official. We are still trying to figure out what agency will take charge of the Council away from the EMA and Claude Talford as he is retiring at the end of the year. The Office of Preparedness was mentioned for this role.

Once the Council is established and the core group and leadership are formed then we will reach out to all community organizations to join in the Citizen Corps Council. Our biggest challenge of the Council is educating and getting the Community involved without money to spend. But there are resources out there that we can use and we just need to find those resources and tap into them.

2. Agency Update – Some things that we would like to see from the Council is a centralized information and volunteer recording system, so that we can track the different organizations that volunteers are trained by.

3. Preparedness month update – We did not hold anything as a Council for September's National Preparedness Month, but organizations and companies present at the meeting did do some things individually. It was also said that many of us do preparedness education throughout the whole year not just September. Here is what some of the Council members are doing:

- The City of Memphis has a booth at the Mid-South Fair and the EMA will be present at their table to pass out information about Preparedness.
- Public Health Emergency Preparedness Program teamed up the Aging Commission of the Mid-South to recruit volunteers for Public Health Reserve Corps and educate seniors about Preparedness during the month of September.

- The Shelby County Fire Department has an ongoing youth program for CERT training 14-21 year olds. They also have an Explorer Program where they partner with area Boys and Girls Clubs to educate the youth about Preparedness.
- Methodist Healthcare Systems posts tips for the employees in their newsletters about the importance of disaster preparedness.
- The Mobile Canteen at the Salvation Army is manned by 25-30 volunteers from First Evangelical Church are available whenever they are needed.

4. Nomination for office – We will do this when we have enough people present for proper nominations.

Janet Hooks of the The Office of Multi-Cultural and Religious Affairs told us about the Multi-Cultural Housing Fair coming up on November 10th at the Pipkin Building from 11 to 3. The fair is to educate the community about FHA. There are booths available for \$100 for government agencies and \$150 for private organizations. The deadline for booth sign-up is October 20th. Contact her for more information about this event at Janet.Hooks@memphistn.gov.

Our next meeting is October 18th at the EMA at 11 am.