

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
NEW LENOX SAFE COMMUNITIES AMERICA COALITION**

Meeting 14-06

**Held at the New Lenox Village Hall / Community Room
1 Veteran's Parkway New Lenox, IL 60451
Wednesday July 30, 2014/ 2:30 p.m.**

Call to Order

Dan Martin called the meeting of the New Lenox Safe Communities America Coalition to order at 2:30pm.

In Attendance

Daniel Martin/NLPD, Bill Byerley/Illinois Radio League, Will County ARES and New Lenox ESDA, Emily Johnson/New Lenox Chamber of Commerce, Erin Hunter/New Lenox Public Library, Gary Cheney/ShareFest, Kathie Johnson/New Lenox Township, Lauren Lotz/New Lenox Community Park District, Leslie Newbon/Silver Cross Hospital, Liz Schwenke/Presence St. Joseph Medical Center, Marta Keane/Will County Waste and Land Use-Will County Green, Michele Batara/Crisis Line of Will-Grundy County, Noe Santiago/Pinnacle Physical Therapy, Rachel Ridge/Rosecrance Health Network and Tom Donegan/Metra.

Also in attendance were the following:

- Cindy Staskiewicz, Chair of the Workplace Safety Task Group
- Al Murry, Chair of the Emergency Preparedness Task Group
- Lindsey Chojnicki/Senior Services of Will County
- Analiese Moyer/American Red Cross

Approval of the June 25, 2014 Meeting Minutes

The minutes for the June 25, 2014 meeting were sent to members via email prior to the meeting. Bill Byerley made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Liz Schwenke. After no further discussion, the motion carried and the minutes were approved.

Guest Speaker

Gary Cheney provided everyone in attendance with an overview of the 2014 New Lenox ShareFest event that is rapidly approaching. Gary spoke about many of the ShareFest activities, which included, but were not limited to the following:

- Book Drive
- Clothing and Home Goods Drive
- Food Drive
- Collection for the Troops
- Job and Resource Fair (and Dress for Success)
- Health and Safety Fair
- Blood Drive
- Service Projects
- Forest Restoration Project
- Household Hazardous Waste / Recycling

Gary shared with those in attendance that there is a need for over 500 volunteers in order to make ShareFest a success. Gary advised that there is a new tool available this year (Sign-Up Genius) that is available through the ShareFest web site. Individuals then choose and register for their favorite project. In addition to Gary's synopsis of the ShareFest event, there was also a period for discussion as well as Q & A.

New Business

Dan Martin advised that he represented the New Lenox Safe Communities America Coalition in Owensboro, KY on July 16, 2014 for a meeting of the Green River Area Development District (GRADD). GRADD was interested in submitting an application to become an accredited Safe Community and Dan was asked by the National Safety Council to provide an overview on Safe Communities as well as a summary of Emergency Preparedness programs in New Lenox, IL. Dan was happy to report that following the presentation, GRADD is moving forward with the application process and he is looking forward to their future accreditation as a Safe Community.

Old Business

Task Group Reports

Youth Sports, Health and Safety

No report.

Workplace Safety

Cindy Staskiewicz advised that this Task Group has completed a survey for local businesses, designed to determine what types of injuries are occurring in local workplaces. Emily Johnson, through the New Lenox Chamber of Commerce, launched the survey, completed by approximately 30 individuals representing various size businesses and sectors. Although the sampling was relatively small, the results will provide some direction for the Task Group. Since the survey was recently completed, Cindy advised that the Task Group will further examine the results to determine how to proceed.

Suicide Prevention and Awareness

Dan Martin advised that the Suicide Prevention and Awareness Task Group, in partnership with Sertoma Centre, hosted another QPR Class on July 9th. Much like the previous class held in the Spring, it was well attended and the instructors (Derek Harris and Gia Washington) were excellent. Dan advised that this Task Group will be meeting in the near future to plan a QPR Class, as well as a Mental Health First Aid Class, for this Fall.

Poisoning by Prescription Drug Overdose

Kim from AVP Counseling was in attendance to give Arnie Pilmonas' report. Kim advised that she and Arnie have been distributing Unwanted Medication Disposal Program flyers at pharmacies and throughout the community. Kim advised that she and Arnie are planning to go to churches and will also be handing them out at community events where AVP Counseling has a table. Rachel Ridge also spoke about the September 24th symposium that will address the epidemic of prescription drug overdose. Rachel advised that so far, she will be a speaker and a doctor that she works with has also agreed to speak. Rachel advised that Arnie has lined up an individual (female) that has struggled with prescription drugs and is currently in recovery. Rachel advised that Rosecrance marketing staff will create a flyer for the event which will be distributed to all New Lenox Safe Communities Coalition members.

Motor Vehicle / Traffic Safety

No report.

Older Adults Falls Prevention

Noe Santiago advised that this Task Group met at the New Lenox Police Department at 2:30pm on July 23, 2014. During the meeting, the group discussed an event to promote National Falls Prevention Awareness Day on September 23, 2014. Liz Schwenke offered to host the event at the Presence Healing Arts Pavilion on Route 30. The event might include the following:

- Blood pressure screenings
- Balance screenings
- Tables geared toward seniors from various organizations, including Matter of Balance
- Presentations by geriatric doctors

Noe advised that the event will need a good marketing campaign which will include a press release, marquee signage, social media, NLCTV Channel 6 and possibly a spot on WJOL during “Senior Scoop.”

With regard to the Matter of Balance program, information for the Matter of Balance Coaches was passed along and included the following:

- For Session 3, coaches will introduce their own exercise rather than Noe. This could possibly change based on the composition and needs of the class.
- For Session 6, a licensed pharmacist will continue to supplement the material that’s presented during the session.

In addition, consensus was reached that there will be one Senior “Expo” annually, and it will be held in conjunction with National Falls Prevention Day.

Noe also advised that MOB Classes 8, 9, 10, and 11 will be held as follows:

- Starting August 19th (Tuesdays) thru October 7th, 1:00pm – 3:00pm at The Cottages of New Lenox, 1023 S. Cedar Road, New Lenox, IL 60451.
- Starting September 8th (Mondays) thru October 27th, 9:30am – 11:30am at New Lenox VFW Post 9545, 323 Old Hickory Road, New Lenox, IL 60451.
- Starting September 24th (Wednesdays) thru November 12th, 9:30am to 11:30am at the United Methodist Church, 339 New Lenox Road (Haven Avenue), New Lenox, IL 60451.
- Starting October 9th (Thursdays) thru December 4th, 1:00pm – 3:00pm at the New Lenox Public Library, 120 Veterans Parkway, New Lenox, IL 60451.

Emergency Preparedness

Dan Martin provided those in attendance with an update on the New Lenox Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), New Lenox Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) and the New Lenox Search and Rescue (SAR) Team. The update included training and community events that the teams have recently completed. These activities included, but were not limited to the following:

- 6--28-14 Trinity Triumph 5K
- 7-8-14 NLSAR Water Rescue Training
- 7-11-14 Pat Benatar Concert
- 7-17-14 CERT / MRC Semi-Annual Meeting
- 7-19-14 NLSAR Navigation Training
- 7-25-14 Special Needs Day

- 7-26-14 Controlled Burn Beef Cook-Off
- 7-26-14 Village of New Lenox French Market

Dan also advised that CERT / MRC volunteers will also be participating in several upcoming events which include:

- 8-2-14 Peter Frampton Concert
- 8-14-14 NLSAR Monthly Training
- 8-23-14 CERT / MRC Monthly Training
- 8-23-14 Running With Faith 5K

Announcements / Organization Updates

Those in attendance shared current news and events relevant to their organizations. Dan advised that he would be willing to forward electronic copies of materials that would be beneficial to the group.

Next Meeting Date

The next meeting will be on **Wednesday August 27, 2014 / 2:30pm**. The meeting will be held in the Community Room at the New Lenox Village Hall.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:50pm.