

MINUTES AS TAKEN BY NORMA CASON AT THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE NEW  
LENOX SAFE COMMUNITIES AMERICA COALITION

MEETING 16-02  
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 30, 2016

**Call to Order**

Dan Martin called the meeting of the New Lenox Safe Communities America Coalition to order at 10:30 am.

**In Attendance**

Dan Martin / NLPD, Katie Roley / Will County Health Department, Alice Fitzgerald / Will County Health Department, Mary Kate Burns / Trinity Services, Inc., Gary Cheney / ShareFest, Liz Wetmore / New Lenox Public Library, Michele Deering / JointPro Physical Therapy, Lisa Arp / NAMI of Will-Grundy County, Joe Enzenberger / Dryer Vent Wizard of Will County, Kathie Johnson / New Lenox Township, Stephen Kehoe / Silver Cross Hospital, and Bob Nelson / New Lenox School District #122.

Also in attendance:

Norma Cason / Older Adults Falls Prevention Task Group and NLSCAC Secretary  
Laura Regis / Older Adults Falls Prevention Task Group (Chair)  
Patricia Steinkamp / Suicide Prevention and Awareness Task Group  
Ann Powers / Suicide Prevention and Awareness Task Group

**Approval of the January 27, 2016 Minutes**

The minutes of the January 27, 2016 meeting were sent to the members via email prior to the meeting. Katie Roley made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Laura Regis. After no further discussion, the motion carried and the minutes were approved.

A combined motion was made to approve the minutes of the January 27, 2016 Citizen Corps Council meeting and after no further discussion, the motion carried and the minutes were approved.

**New Business**

**A. Research Paper Highlighting New Lenox Safe Communities Coalition**

Dan Martin briefly discussed the research paper entitled “**Injuries and Safe Communities Accreditation: Is there a link?**” which was written by Sergey Sinelnikov, Lee Friedman and Emily Chavez. It was noted that the *New Lenox Safe Communities America Coalition* was referenced in this report which was emailed to all coalition members via email on March 18, 2016. This paper provides an excellent overview of the Safe Communities America movement, including the process toward accreditation. In addition, the paper highlights New Lenox with 7.1 million dollars annual savings (health-related expenditures) during our first two years of existence as a Safe Communities America Coalition.

**B. February 2016 SCA Quarterly Call**

Updates from the February 2016 SCA quarterly conference call were given which provides insight into what other accredited Safe Communities are doing to continue safety-based programs and to develop new ideas that can be shared among SCA partners. Dan Martin noted that he participates in these calls and that any interested New Lenox Safe Communities America Coalition member is welcome to participate in these quarterly conference calls also.

It has been announced that Wednesday, October 5, 2016 will be designated as Safe Communities America Day with the goal being to build awareness for the national program with local impact, to engage new members, celebrate partnerships, bring local awareness to the available community resources, and to promote community safety. Additional information will be available in late spring/early summer 2016 and Dan Martin will disseminate that information when it is available.

The Annual Community Coalition Report for New Lenox was submitted prior to the March 11, 2016 deadline. This report is used by SCA when meeting with partners, legislators, and in their Annual Report. It was noted that in the last two years they have highlighted seven communities and the projects they are working on based on the information included in these annual community reports.

Dan Martin announced that the 2016 SCA Annual Meeting Conference has been scheduled for August 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> at the Wyndham Grand Chicago Riverfront Hotel in the penthouse. Our Mayor has been invited to attend this event and all New Lenox SCA coalition members are invited and encouraged to attend also. Additional information will be forthcoming as it becomes available.

### **C. PowerPoint Template**

A PowerPoint template featuring the New Lenox, IL Safe Communities America logo is now available for use in presentations by coalition members. Dan Martin previewed the templates.

### **D. Reaccreditation Celebration**

Now that the New Lenox Safe Community re-accreditation application has officially been approved, a celebratory luncheon is tentatively being planned for June 1, 2016. If her schedule permits, Deborah Hersman, National Safety Council President and CEO, has been invited to also attend the celebration. Additional information will be forthcoming and ALL coalition members and their respective CEOs are encouraged to participate and enjoy the festivities.

In addition to the celebratory luncheon, National Safety Council staff members will be in New Lenox for a presentation involving the New Lenox Board members which is tentatively planned for the Monday, June 13, 2016 Village Board Meeting. All coalition members are encouraged to attend and participate in this ceremony. Finalized details will be provided to all members when they are available.

### **Old Business**

Dan Martin reported that he has continued to work with the UIC School of Public Health to collaborate on a joint effort to address occupational health and ultimately injury prevention at the community level. A meeting was held at UIC on March 9, 2016 and an extensive outline of support possibilities was developed which included increased safety communications for the community, data collection and reporting, strategic planning/coalition building/succession planning, and evaluation planning methods. The next meeting with the UIC staff, which would hopefully also include National Safety Council representatives, is scheduled for May 12, 2016 at UIC.

### **Task Group Reports**

#### **Older Adults Fall Prevention**

Laura Regis reported that four Matter of Balance Classes have been scheduled for the spring of 2016 and press releases and flyers have been prepared. Matter of Balance Classes will recess for the summer and will be considered for continuation in the fall. The third Fit & Strong Class has been scheduled to begin June 13, 2016 at the Spencer Trails School gymnasium and will end with graduation

of the class on Friday, August 5, 2016. Tentative scheduling for Fit & Strong #4 is in the planning stages to begin September 12, 2016.

The New Lenox National Falls Prevention Day has been scheduled for Thursday, September 22, 2016 at the new Lenox VFW Post 9545 facility. Laura Regis discussed the outline that she prepared with her co-chair, Liz Schwenke, which detailed various methods of promoting the event, booth availability, possible demonstrations and/or health screenings, raffle prizes, etc. The theme of this year's event will be ***Ready, Steady, Balance: Prevent Falls in 2016***. The purpose of the event is to engage the residents of New Lenox who are in the 55+ age group as well as the business community to ensure that the 2016 New Lenox National Falls Prevention Day is an unparalleled success. Additional information regarding this event will be forthcoming at future Safe Community Meetings.

#### Suicide Prevention and Awareness

Patricia Steinkamp advised that September 5-11, 2016 has been designated as National Suicide Prevention Week with 2016 World Suicide Prevention Day scheduled for September 10, 2016. Additional information regarding planned activities will be forthcoming.

It was noted that Gia Washington of the Sertoma Centre was the guest speaker at the Healing Hearts March 2016 Meeting and that the ***S.A.D. Presentation*** was offered. The next scheduled meeting of the Healing Hearts – Survivors of Suicide Support Group is April 18, 2016.

Gia Washington and her Sertoma Centre associates will provide a Q.P.R. Gate Keeper Training Class On Thursday, April 14, 2016 at 7:00 pm at the New Lenox Village Hall. This class is offered free of charge to increase public awareness of suicide and to improve one's ability to identify and refer those who are at risk for suicide. Dan Martin will ensure that this program is publicized to the community.

#### Poisoning by Prescription Drug Overdose

Dan Martin advised that there would not be a formal report for this task group.

#### Emergency Preparedness

Dan Martin advised that New Lenox Community Emergency Response Training (CERT) Class #11 graduated in March 2016 in which thirty-four (34) members completing the 20-Hour Basic CERT Class. In addition, sixty (60) CERT members participated in a monthly training exercise in March which included interior building search and exterior evidence search exercises. CERT training will be ongoing throughout 2016.

Severe weather preparedness will again be a part of the Health & Safety Expo which is scheduled for Wednesday, April 20, 2016 at Lincoln Way West High School. In addition, approximately 50 organizations will be on hand to provide information related to health, safety, fitness, preparedness and emergency response.

#### Motor Vehicle / Traffic Safety

A formal report from this task group was not given at this meeting.

#### Announcements / Organization Updates

Some attendees shared current news and events relevant to their organizations:

Michele Deering, PT, OCS advised that she is the Orthopedic Clinic Manager at JointPro Physical Therapy, a new business opening in New Lenox in mid-April. Michele noted that she is interested in

learning about the work of the Safe Communities Coalition and the possibilities for her involvement.

Liz Wetmore of the New Lenox Public Library noted that their annual Spring Gala fundraiser will be held on Saturday, April 23, 2016 from 7:00 pm until 11:00 pm. Additional information is available at the Library or at their website [www.newlenoxlibrary.org](http://www.newlenoxlibrary.org).

Gary Cheney of ShareFest and Kathie Johnson of the New Lenox Township Food Pantry both spoke about the raffle that is underway to raise approximately \$20,000 needed to purchase a walk-in refrigerated unit for the New Lenox Food Pantry. Having this large unit would allow the pantry to accept larger quantities of perishable food that they currently cannot accommodate. Additional information about the raffle can be obtained by calling the Food Pantry.

### **Next Meeting Date**

The next bi-monthly meeting of the New Lenox Safe Communities America Coalition will be on **Wednesday, May 25, 2016 at 10:30 am**. The meeting will be held in the Community Room at the New Lenox Village Hall.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at approximately 11:50 am.