



Nashua VOAD Meeting
Tuesday April 1, 2014
Oracle

NAME	ORGANIZATION
Shaun Nelson	Nashua PAL
Peter Desautels	AARP Nashua Chapter 622
Katherine Richo	St Philip Greek Orthodox Church
Eric Carlson	Oracle
Jenn Schirmer	DHHS ESU Behavioral Health
Ed Lecius	Nashua Police
Bob Scheifele	Nashua Emergency Management
Gene Kuczewski	Souhegan CERT
Johanney De Leon	Church of God
Melissa Whalen	Nashua Public Health
Ian Dyar	NH Red Cross
Alison Botsch	AHEPA 35 Manor
Al Burton	SNHS
Patty Stolarz	AMR Ambulance
Angela Delaney	Nashua Emergency Management & CERT
Maida Sengupta	EngagingNH & AARP
Karen Dudley	NH Red Cross
Doug Hewitt	NH Red Cross
David Moore	The Salvation Army

Carl Behrmann	Seventh-day Adventist Church
Ramon Andrade	NH Catholic Charities
Chuck Moore	Walgreens/NEDRIX
Danielle Morse	NH HSEM
Mike Amidon	Nashua Emergency Management
Justin Kates	Nashua Emergency Management

Meeting started at 9 AM

Old Business:

Justin discussed briefly the purpose of VOAD which is to provide and coordinate the use of services, goods, and financial support before, during, and after a disaster. VOAD meetings are for coordinating financial support, goods (donations), volunteers, as well as promote preparedness amongst organizations and the community. Collaboration amongst regional VOAD participants will be utilized to provide trainings, educate in preparedness, dispense information, seek out volunteers, facilities and financial support in disasters.

Ready Rating Assessments are still available for organizations looking at assessing their level of preparedness. If you are in Nashua please get in touch with Justin at katesj@nashuanh.gov to schedule an assessment with OEM and the Red Cross/FEMA Corps team.

New Business:

FREE CERT Class on April 25, 26, and 27 at Dartmouth Hitchcock still available for sign ups. Visit www.nashuanh.gov/cert to reserve a spot. *Its FREE!* Also contact Justin if you would like to set up a CERT class for your organizational members, flexible scheduling available.

We have created VOAD database so that members can register and list their organization's resources and capabilities available in the event of a disaster. You may register your organization here:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1KENSOPK1JPdoMnfhKQpgHlrxlrsrKMcNLGW93LGqdfA/viewform>

Each person in the room discussed their role in a disaster and potential future roles during a disaster.

Work Session:

Group was broken up into three groups. Group one was tasked with identifying organizations that should be members of the local VOAD that were not at this meeting. Group two was tasked with determining the primary missions of the local VOAD, and the governmental structure of the organization. Group three was tasked with identifying training & skills that should be provided to all VOAD members to ensure they are capable of handling their responsibilities during a crisis.

Some of the findings:

Group 1 - Some organizations identified that should be a part of the local VOAD are:

Medical Reserve Corps, Childcare Groups, PTOs, Nashua School District, Lions, Kiwanis, Rotary, Breakfast Exchange, SAGE for Senior Citizens, Chamber of Commerce, VFW, American Legion, Nashua Housing Authority, Servicelink, FirstStudent, Nashua Transit, Amateur Radio, Humane Society, Local Media Organizations

Group 2 - A draft mission statement was developed:

"Engage VOAD members and individual citizens in disaster response by way of identifying gaps and assigning primary and support missions to VOAD member organizations"

Ideas for this mission statement are welcome. It was recommended that a gap analysis is completed for necessary functions in the region that are not currently tasked to organizations (feeding, volunteer reception, etc). Then a determination can be made on which functions are of highest priority based on the capabilities of our local organizations. VOAD member organizations can then be tasked with primary and support roles for the various functions. It is possible that some members may not be able to take lead roles, but can provide human resources or financial resources for the primary members. The recommended structure is to have a leadership team to help steer the organization so that all of the work isn't thrown on the Office of Emergency Management.

Group 3 - A list of training opportunities was provided:

Intro to VOAD and primary agency roles, mass notification systems, Incident Command System, WebEOC, Legal Issues, Basic Preparedness Training, Psychological First Aid/Self Help, Functional & Access Needs Planning/Awareness

It was also recommended that the next VOAD meeting include a tabletop exercise to give organizations an idea of what they might be able to provide during a disaster.

Justin provided an overview of the VOAD database and asked organizations to fill out their information as soon as possible.

Meeting adjourned at 11:15 AM

Next VOAD meeting will be in July 2014. Times and dates are open for suggestions.