

Town of Seabrook Island
Public Safety Committee
Meeting Minutes
February 8, 2021

The Public Safety Committee (PSC) met Monday, February 8, 2021, and was called to order at 10:00 AM via videoconference, Committee Chair Crane presiding. Committee members attending included Art Jones, Ed Maher, and Elizabeth Murphy; Frank Farfone was excused. Councilman Barry Goldstein and Town Administrator Joe Cronin also attended. The agenda for the meeting is attached.

The Chair confirmed that all requirements of SC FOIA had been complied with.

1. Approval of minutes

The committee approved the minutes for January 11, 2021, by a motion from Ed Maher, seconded by Barry Goldstein.

2. Review DRC exercise from January 27, 2021

The Committee reviewed the DRC Exercise after action report provided by Scott Cave, our consultant for emergency planning. Overall the Committee was pleased with the exercise. There was discussion for a few items that should be noted for future earthquake exercises

- Did we take the pandemic restrictions into sufficient consideration? The exercise was conducted using virtual meeting technology. Even so participants were establishing the MEOC (as an example) in a physical space as opposed to a virtual space. In the end we had to accept that the pandemic would eventually end and normal operations would prevail.
- We missed participation by the Marina (operations and merchant representatives). That situation is in a state of flux and should be resolved in the near future.
- Did we give sufficient attention to food distribution and temporary housing? In an earthquake situation there will likely be off-island people trapped here until the roads are passable (on SI and connections to SI from Greater Charleston locations). This could include (but not be limited to) staff for Town, POA, Club, and CSC in addition to contractor and other day workers. It was noted that the “backpack buddies” organization has a food supply at the Community Center on Oyster Catcher. The Town Administrator confirmed that there are a couple of hundred MREs at Town Hall.

Liz noted that FEMA has a set of generic diagrams they use to follow the flow of activity and responsibilities. We should consider if they might be appropriate for our use.


The report lists 11 specific actions in the Exercise Improvement Plan, and the Committee assigned responsibility for each. The Chair will distribute the Plan to the DRC requesting any necessary clarification on any item and setting a Target Date for items that have been assigned to specific members.

3. Discuss appropriate Leash Law recommendations

The Town received a comment about dogs being walked along the bike path off leash. The comment was posted to the Town website. The situation was discussed at the Town Council meeting on January 26, and the Mayor referred the incident to the Public Safety Committee to investigate and provide any recommendations.

After discussion the Committee members recommended unanimously that the Town adopt a town-wide leash law based on the regulation already in place for SIPOA. The Town Administrator was asked to put together a suggested ordinance to this effect for Council consideration at the February Council meeting.

4. Town Administrator Items

The Town Administrator reviewed the status of the Beach Patrol request for bids that was made public in January. Responses are due by February 12, 2021. 

5. Miscellaneous Business

None.

6. Next Meeting: March 8, 2021

7. Adjourn

There being no further business or discussion the meeting was adjourned by a motion from Art Jones and seconded by Liz Murphy.

MEETING

Public Safety Committee

February 8, 2021

10:00 am (Virtual Meeting)

AGENDA

1. Approve minutes from January 11, 2021 meeting
2. Review DRC exercise from January 27, 2021
3. Review and discuss memo re Leash Law changes (distributed Jan 28)
4. Town Administrator Items
5. Miscellaneous Business

Next Meeting Date: March 8, 2021

Adjourn