Rotary District 6510 Disaster Response Committee

Minutes November 13, 2018

Members present on the call:

Chair PDG Joe Miller iPDG Jill Pietrusinski Ed Hoke Janice Alka September McAdoo

PDG Wayne Gerlock Aur Beck Holly Midgett

PDG Joe summarized the Rotary District 6510 Conference attendance with the distribution of our VRC “Go Kits” in the following areas: Metropolis - Joe Miller

Rt 13 Corridor – Wayne Gerlock

Mt. Vernon – Kevin Settle

O’Fallon – Jill Pietrusinski

Mt. Carmel – Bill Hackler

At the Conference there was a Disaster breakout presentation by Zone 31 Foundation Chair Rich Churchman from District 6200 in Louisiana. He discussed the opportunity for us to partner with Disaster Aid USA – A Rotary based organization, to provide a Disaster Response Trailer for ½ price. It would cost approximately $5000 to purchase and outfit with the recommended list of items. We would need to do a fundraising campaign to raise the revenue. The trailer would be available for Disaster Aid USA to call upon if needed in another area. Our team would be responsible to transport, and if possible man, that trailer. Jill asked if the trailer goes outside of our District, who is responsible for the cost of restocking. The insurance, title and license is provided by Disaster Aid USA out of MD. Ed wondered what happens to that trailer and equipment if Disaster Aid USA ever disbands. He suggests reviewing their governing documents to include their financials as well as articles of dissolution. We would probably be able to store other items, such as the VRC Go Kit, in the trailer. The Disaster Aid USA Logo would be on the trailer in addition to Rotary District 6510. We can have the signage done locally. We need to fully understand what the expectations would be as well as to ensure any fundraising is clearly going to “District 6510 Charities” not to Disaster Aid USA. It appears their Chairman of the Board is an active member of VOAD, but the organization itself, nor Rotary, is listed as a VOAD member. Ed shared this is very important. DG Janice suggested working with AGs in each area to raise a few hundred dollars to support the purchase of the trailer. She also encouraged newsletter articles to promote this effort and keep it present within our clubs. Wayne will follow up with Disaster Aid USA for the answer to these questions. We also had some interest from members of the Waterloo club in this response. More information can be found at [www.disasteraidusa.org](file:///C:\Users\jspietrusi\Downloads\www.disasteraidusa.org)

It is important that we all communicate our VRC response capabilities at the local community level. They need to know we are “trained and equipped” to assist with Recovery efforts. Our VRC would need to be fully functional within 48 hours of a disaster. The core of 5-7 fully trained individuals would then do just in time training to any additional volunteers. It will take approximately 35 volunteers to man the VRC. Ed suggested that following our training we would report to the Incident commander to let them know we are present and equipped to assist with Recovery. We will be directed to the Volunteer Liaison to the community. It is important to have those local relationships formed now so we are a welcomed addition. Ed suggested a formation of a “COAD” Communities Active in Disasters. We need to develop talking points to share not only at the community level, but within our Rotary clubs to continue to build the team.

Other suggestions were to partner with “SPARC” Shawnee Preparedness and Response Coalition. Ed suggested in the future we could possibly host a forum on disaster recovery with partner organizations. September mentioned in March 2019 there will be a Disaster Preparedness Summit in StL sponsored by NACCHO – National Assoc of County & City Health Officials. Registration and information can be found <https://nacchopreparedness.org/tag/preparedness-summit/>

There will be no call in December. Next call Jan 8 at 7:30pm. This will be a conference call 618-230-4116. The conference code is 6510#.

Respectfully Submitted,

iPDG Jill Pietrusinski