

**Minutes for Emergency Preparedness (EP) Committee Meeting
Lake Balboa Neighborhood Council (LBNC)
Saturday, April 14, 2012**

The Flyaway Bus Terminal, Community Meeting Roomnd floor, 7610 Woodley Avenue, Van Nuys, CA 91406

1. The meeting was called to order at 9:07 a.m. by Linda Pruett, Committee Chair. There were 23 people in attendance. Attendees were welcomed. Following introductions, the minutes of the 03/10/2012 meeting were reviewed. A motion was brought by Dan Tomlinson to accept the minutes as presented, seconded by Bill North. Motion unanimously approved.

2. **Reports – LAPD** followed presentation by guest speaker, David Bear.

Communications – Dan Tomlinson is working on MESH network. It has the ability to connect a laptop PC with a Ham device. In an emergency, this may be of use if there is an internet connection (using wifi with a node to connect to other wifi routers in a loop is not dependant on P.C's). When set up Hams can communicate over the network. Dan is testing this now. The cost is \$100/node. New Chinese Ham radio prices are now down and priced at \$55-\$150.

Linda Pruett reminds of meeting wall posting which show quakes this past week, U.S. quake "hot" zones and upcoming classes. The Ham radio net is Sundays at 9 AM. Ham communication may be the only form of communication in a disaster. Antennas for the El Bins at Woodley Lakes and Stag St. School are planned.

3. **Guest speaker David Bear** - His background includes service in the U.S. Navy, on nuclear submarines, and as a Senior Health Physics Technician at some nine Nuclear Power plants throughout the country. He was called to Three Mile Island's nuclear melt-down. Mr. Bear was introduced, and told that there was discovery of skull duggery during that time, but nothing was reported in the media. Only after the Fukushima Nuclear Plant melt-down in Japan following the 2011 earthquake was something acknowledged. The top 44% of the fuel vaporized at Three Mile Island. Following are tips provided the event of a nuclear event.

Water – A Brita water filtering pitcher is good for home use. Reverse osmosis works best, but a Brita is a simple and easy charcoal filter for drinking, cooking, and bathing a baby. There is useable water in hot water heater and toilet tanks through a Brita filter.

Air Filter – Use a mask (N95 or better preferred), but a bandana or Egyptian cloth will provide some protection.

A.C. Filters – Change filters every day if any reported issue.

Keep the home clean – Radiation is undetectable without a radiation detector. Kitchen contamination is a real issue. Use Simple Green, Ajax or similar cleaning solution and make a pass in a single direction using filtered water on all surfaces. A test would be one cup of flour strewn in the kitchen. When cleaned up and gone, that is the same effect as contamination cleaning in the kitchen. If there is an "event" that may involve particulates, do this cleaning every day.

Sealing Windows – Use blue painter's tape, masking tape, or duct tape to keep contaminants out.

Regarding radiation – REMS are now Severts (100 REM). Without technical training, terms can be intimidating. Just do the basic precautionary actions. Mr. Bear's book *Home Health Physics* can be purchased or text can be downloaded at www.cfiii.info. Fukushima brought much information and communication to the public. There are plans on testing air readings in the future. See SAFecast.ORG

LAPD – Report Sr. Lead Officer (SLO) David Ham -- There was a CERT class held today at the West Valley LAPD station. LAPD is working on better preparedness. Attendees were reminded to "Lock it-Hide it-Keep it" when it comes to items in your vehicle. Officer Ham advises knock-knock burglars are still an issue. Be aware! Keep gates locked, and secure your home. Try to get neighbors to put out trash in early morning or pick up day. This can help avoid scavenging and property loss.

A question and answer session followed. Mr. Bear advised he will be glad to respond to additional questions at david.bear42@yahoo.com

4. **Upcoming classes & Training** – See the 05/12/2012 agenda and postings in the meeting room. Where being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:25 a.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Linda Schwering for approval.

Corrected, Final

The next meeting will be Saturday, June 9 , 2012 , 9AM at the above location