

WARREN COUNTY LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING

November 6, 1997

Members Present

Marvin Lemery, Administrator
Fire Prevention & Building Code Enforcement

John Ellingsworth
Glens Falls Fire Dept.

James Canavan, Coordinator
Emergency Medical Services

Max Reichen, Occupational Health and Training Manager
Finch Pruyn

Lt. James Piper for Fred Lamy
Warren County Sheriff's Dept.

Capt. Joseph Bethel for Chief Richard Carey
Glens Falls Police Dept.

Robert Baccari, Director
SEMO - Region II

Deborah Rose for William Trombley
Adirondack Chapter, American Red Cross

Joan Dillon
Secretary LEPC

Members Absent

John J. Farrell, Deputy Director
Office of Natural Disaster & Civil Defense

Philip J. Arthur
Environmental Control Manager
Finch Pruyn & Company, Inc.

Charles McCabe
Ames Goldsmith, Inc.

Scott Sopczyk, Director
Greater Glens Falls Transit System

Herbert E. Riedel
Senior Citizens Council

David Capron, Plant Engineer
NAMIC

Sgt. Robert Hebert
New York State Police

Members Absent (continued)

Steve Craig
New York State Police

Andrew J. Roden
Environmental Representative

James G. Marshall, Publisher/Editor
The Post Star

Bob Desiderio, M.D.
Dept. of Emergency Medicine, Glens Falls Hospital

Pat Auer, Director
Health Services

Laura Stebbins
Dept. of Emergency Medicine, Glens Falls Hospital

David Cedarstrom
The Chronicle

The meeting was called to order at 2:02 p.m.

Mr. Lemery chaired the meeting in the absence of the Chairman. Due to the problems encountered the full scale exercise scheduled for this date had been cancelled. Mr. Lemery queried those present whether they still felt it was feasible to use Finch Pruyn or if they wanted to consider another site and a different scenario. He then asked Max Reichen of Finch Pruyn to elaborate on the company's thinking regarding the exercise.

Max explained the company's reluctance to have a full-scale exercise. Some of the executives that attended the last meeting were concerned with what the community impact would be. They did not want to block off Oakland Avenue and there were several other NOTS given to him as guidelines because of the neighborhood, production in the mill, etc. In intermill meetings they watered the exercise down to the point that he felt that they would not be doing anything challenging. Therefore, they decided to scrap the full scale exercise completely and get back with this group to see whether they wanted to do a full table top or what other options would be available. He will bring our recommendations and thoughts back to the company. If we feel we should do something else entirely they will participate the best they can.

Lt. Piper wanted to know if the mill was aware of the fact that any of the major incidents or major fires in Warren County that those which had been pre-planned or mutual aid type of situations have always seemed to go a lot better because everyone had a better idea of some the things you might run into by using the location and running through several scenarios in advance. He doesn't think that you get the same results from a table top.

Mr. Lemery asked the City Fire Chief, the EMS Coordinator and the City Police if they were comfortable with the plan now in place for Finch Pruyn. He said that the LEPC was looking at using Finch Pruyn as a vehicle for fulfilling our requirement to have an exercise. It would have been a great tool to show absent members of the LEPC, the public and our County legislators how we come together and work cooperatively, and demonstrate what their responsibilities would be in certain situations. We understand how the company feels about perhaps drawing attention to something that may never happen and causing

uneasy feelings among the public. He suggested that we consider a full blown table top where we move things around on a board; toy cars, trucks, put a train on its side, etc. Or maybe look at doing something with the hospital or Eden Park or one of those facilities. It was also suggested that we ask Niagara Mohawk to assist us in another table top along the lines of the one done in Saratoga attended by several members of this committee last year.

After further discussion, it was decided that since we had so much time already invested in this that we should go ahead with the table top at Finch Pruyn. Also it was suggested that we contact Niagara Mohawk and try to get on the list for an exercise with them.

It was agreed that our next meeting would be January 20, 1998 at 10:00 a.m. at which time we will give the date of the actual table top with suggested scenarios. It was also suggested by Lt. Piper that perhaps before the exercise Finch Pruyn might take photographs and/or videos of the site and the operation for the benefit of those participants who are not familiar with the workings of the mill.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Dillon
Secretary