

## Waterbury Natural Disaster Preparedness Committee

### Meeting Minutes

03/23/2026

**Opening:** The meeting was held in the Steele Community Room, Waterbury Municipal Center. The meeting was called to order at 5:05 p.m.

**Present:** John Malter, Matt Dugan, Bette Lewicke, Stacey Schwarz, Mike Dacey from CReW

**Absent:** Emily Gilde

**Approval of Minutes:** Matt moved the committee approve the minutes. John seconded. Minutes were approved at 5:05 p.m.

**Approval of Agenda:**

**Business from Previous Meeting:**

**New Business:** The first part of the meeting was devoted to discussion regarding the committee's booth for the upcoming Volunteer Fair. John brought a new committee banner and committed to bringing posters and the signup sheet. **He requested photos for a photo display.** Also discussed: food and items for dressing up the booth. It was decided that John would provide the short floor speech on behalf of the committee.

There was discussion around what to say to interested booth visitors, i.e., the elevator pitch, which is about the Corps being about training and fun. We're just asking for a couple of hours per year for training with no obligation. Mike suggested, "May we email you?" as the main commitment. It was suggested to use the snacks (brownies, lemonade) as a conversation starter.

John told Mike that our committee wanted to ensure that we were working fluidly with CReW in this and all other events. There was discussion about sharing volunteer lists. There was agreement about having a shared list of "folks who were interested in volunteering." As the NDPC information is in Google docs, sharing is easy from the committee's end. Mike reported that CReW works with Squarespace.

With hundreds of names on the CReW mailing list, the committee agreed there is great potential for future communications from both CReW and the NDPC.

Mike said that CReW's intention was for him or other members of CReW to attend as many NDPC meetings as possible.

The conversation turned to the final (and third) training and staffing it. This will be on trucking, running, and communication. **Matt asked Mike for any names he could lead a training in one or more of these areas.**

Regarding the April training, there was no final word as yet from Dani Kehlman regarding her appearance as a trainer

Mike asked about the nature of the training and Matt answered that, based on the mucking training, a general, friendly orientation was better than going into too much detail.

The committee discussed the importance of standards for the trainings, e.g., content and slides to ensure interesting presentations. Matt's concern was that it would be difficult to impose standards on trainers who were working for free.

Mike pointed out the difference between overview training and training for specific tasks such as assessment. The committee agreed that there was a difference. Matt offered that the assessment form was part of the disaster response manual and so could be included verbatim in a training.

The committee decided to take on the training if Dani could not, and the same goes for future trainings.

John suggested moving the NDPC meetings to the third Monday of each month to provide the option for more time on the back end of the usual meeting time. The committee agreed. The next meeting will therefore be April 20.

**Vote to Adjourn:** Matt moved to adjourn at 5:59 p.m. Stacey seconded. The committee voted to adjourn at 6:00 p.m.

**Minutes Submitted By:** Matt Dugan