Capitol Region Emergency Planning Committee Meeting
(DEMHS Region 3) (UASI Region 3)
March 18, 2010  9:30 a.m.
South Congregational Church, Hartford

Call the meeting to order
Chair Dan Vindigni chaired the meeting, called it to order at 9:30 a.m., and led the pledge of allegiance.

Adoption of the Minutes
David Watkins, seconded by Dan Dube, made a motion to accept the minutes of the February 18, 2010 meeting.

There were no Federal and State Liaison reports

Unfinished Business / Updates
CRCOG UPDATE: Cheryl Assis report that the FY 06 grant will be closed out with the next couple of weeks. Almost all of the MOAs have been returned for the FY 2008 grant submission. The Public Safety Council will meet on April 8 and will have presentations on the E-Citation and Everbridge programs.

Training Coordinator Report and UASI Update: Dan Scace reported that the training planning workshop was well-attended. He summarized recent training opportunities that have been provided and those that will be offered in the near future. (For a schedule, or to arrange to schedule a training course, please email daniel.scace@sbcglobal.net.) The Urban Area Working Group (UAWG) met yesterday and endorsed the three Investment Justifications (IJ’s) for submission with the FY 2010 UASI grant application. The IJs seek funding for Regional Planning and Response Management, CBRNE Preparedness and Response, and Community Preparedness and Resiliency.

Regional Planner Report: Carmine Centrella’s written report was distributed and is attached to the minutes.

Chairman Dan Vindigni noted that next January, CREPC will begin its tenth year of existence. As a result of the “CREPC Going Forward” meeting last week and continued discussion at yesterday’s UAWG meeting, he is dedicating the April 15 CREPC meeting to discussion and planning for CREPC’s next 5–10 years. There will also be a meeting of the RESF Chairs at 8:30 that morning, prior to the full meeting at 9:30.

Standing Committee Reports
(RESF’s not listed below either had no report or were not present)

- RESF 2 – (Keith Victor) reported that there were three activations during the last month. There will be a drill on April 6 with the RID team and command posts.
- RESF 8 – (Cresy Goodwin) Seventy-five or the seventy-nine extended care/nursing home facilities participating in the development of the mutual aid plan have started to enter data for the plan. An information session and tabletop exercise is scheduled for May 4. He also briefly reported on the conference on setting standards of care in public health emergencies that replaced ESF 8’s last regular meeting. This is a joint effort of Yale and the CT DPH.
- RESF 11 – (Arnold Goldman) A meeting of the RESF is scheduled for April 22 to plan for the May full scale exercise. He noted that the CT Veterinary Medical Foundation has donated a portable compressor to assist them with their efforts.
- RESF 14 – (Laurie Ann Scotti) Aetna has expressed an interest in participating in CREPC. They have donated a table and 12 chairs for the conference room at the RCC.
RESF 16 – (Dan Dube) There was a good response from CERT teams to the Middletown event. They are working with CADH to try to adapt CADH’s statewide volunteer management plan to their CERT efforts.

RESF 19 – (Stephen Thal) Several training sessions were held recently and several more are scheduled for upcoming months, including two sessions in DEMHS Region 2. He introduced Fanny Chan, the new representative from the Hartford WalMart.

RESF 20 – (Rev. Evelyn McMahon) Reported on her recent attendance at a conference on Chaplains in Disaster Situations.

New Business – none

Presentation on Canine Search and Rescue Team
Peter Vernesoni introduced Mary Beland and her dog Tracer. He described the make-up and capabilities of the Canine Search and Rescue Team and how it is used both to support the efforts of first responding organizations and to work independently. The organization was formed in 1994 and has 18 dogs with (variously) certification in air scent, water, cadaver, and disarticulated remains searching and in trailing. They have formal training for two full days each month. He noted that the 18—member all-volunteer team contributes collectively about 8,000 hours for training and an additional 1,000 – 4,000 hours on actual searches. He showed a video describing the team’s capabilities and a PowerPoint presentation on their deployment to Mississippi after Hurricane Katrina. They are currently working on a new initiative focusing on searches for persons with Alzheimer’s disease, dementia, and autism.

The next meeting is April 15, 2010.

Adjournment
The meeting adjourned at 10:45 a.m.