

Northwest Ohio Damage Prevention Council Meeting Minutes 09/10/09

The meeting was called to order by Rick Bishop.

Everyone present briefly introduced themselves

It was moved and seconded to accept the August 13 meeting minutes.

New Business

Alice Miller announced that OUPS is forming a committee to consider having one logo and one brochure for all Ohio DPCs. OUPS is asking for a volunteer from each DPC to represent the Council at the committee meetings. This would involve attendance at one Columbus area meeting and participation in conference calls, with the first meeting being sometime in October. If anyone is interested, please let Alice Miller know.

Roundtable Topics

Our December meeting will be held Dec. 3 and will be our contractor's breakfast. Alice Miller stated that we are waiting for a response from Senator Buehrer as to whether or not he is available to speak at the contractors breakfast. As a backup, Shawn Corrin from CLS agreed that he could give a presentation at the breakfast about CLS activities and Alice Miller could provide an update on the marking subcommittee. The Council has a \$ 1500 budget for this event. Stone Ridge in Bowling Green is available on Dec. 3 and is \$ 8.95 per person for breakfast. Alice Miller will also check on the Pinnacle as a possible site. Alice Miller will send out the invitations electronically. Rick Bishop agreed to have his secretary take the rsvp's.

Howard Laudermilk suggested to Charles Shelton of OSHA that perhaps he could provide names of contractors who have had issues, so that they can be invited to the breakfast.

Alice Miller passed around a recent CGA newsletter. She also expressed concern about attendance at the Toledo DPC meetings. Perhaps meetings would be more effective if they were less often. Officer elections will be at the November meeting. Rick Bishop proposed a vote to change officer terms back to one year (this would require a by laws change). This will also be voted on at the November meeting.

Rick Bishop commented that to improve contractor participation in the local damage prevention councils that utility companies might want to consider including language in their contracts with their sub-contractors that they participate in DPC meetings.

Rick Bishop noted that the Ohio Revised Code allows fire departments to charge persons or companies for equipment and manpower to stand by at emergencies such as blowing gas caused by third party damage. However, a few of the fire departments he spoke to said they haven't done so but may if a situation arose that required their services for ten or twelve hours. Possibly we could get representative from a local fire department to be a speaker at our October meeting.

Alice Miller reminded everyone that we will have Pizza at our November meeting, complements of OUPS, for participating in the Safe Digging Month contest in April. We will also have office elections, presentations for community beautification projects for the April 2010 safe digging campaign and invitations for the contractor breakfast will be available. Alice Miller also said that David Wynn from Ohio Homeland Security would be a good future speaker for our DPC.

The meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by: Carol Detzel, Secretary
September 10, 2009