

Central Ohio Damage Prevention Council Minutes

January 2024

The January meeting of the Central Ohio Damage Prevention Council took place in person at the Builders Exchange of Central Ohio on January 17th, 2024.

Brad Hedgwood (City of Columbus Traffic) read the Mission Statement.

Introduction of the Attendees

The review of the December meeting minutes took place, with only a minor change to correct the January meeting date. Joel Johnson made a motion for approval of the minutes and a second was made by Lori Wade. Vote was taken, all approved.

Attendance was taken through QR Code and the use of Google Forms.

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| 1. Kevin Baxter | 12. Debbie Harris | 23. Nita Raju |
| 2. Jessica Burlett | 13. Bradley Hegwood | 24. Frank Riegler |
| 3. Clay Calland | 14. Jim Jewell | 25. Kevin Schimming |
| 4. Ashton Chapman | 15. Joel Johnson | 26. T Schleich |
| 5. Collins Cranmer | 16. Jacque Kelley | 27. Michael Simpson |
| 6. Charles Cunningham | 17. Eric Mandery | 28. Sean Stringer |
| 7. Andrea Davis | 18. Kyle Mangione | 29. Joel Tallman |
| 8. Keith Egloff | 19. Ben Muether | 30. Tom Michael |
| 9. Greg First | 20. Steve Mulcahy | 31. Al Tonetti |
| 10. Chris Glass | 21. Cristina Parady | 32. Vanessa Vickroy |
| 11. Lawrence Hampton | 22. Liz Pyles | 33. Lori Wade |

Liz Pyles spoke about the CODPC quarterly newsletter. Liz asked if any new volunteers to help with the newsletter as she is taking on the duties of president and won't have much time to dedicate for the newsletter.

Liz Pyles mentioned forming a by-law subcommittee and asked for volunteers. Liz went into details about what the council officers are looking for in the by-law subcommittee. Liz suggested the subcommittee met online to help with time constraints and attendance.

Lori Wade asked Frank Riegler if it would be beneficial if all DPC's align with by-laws. Frank Riegler will look into it. Jim Jewell explained how the DPC's started and why the by-laws do not align.

April Safe dig Month subcommittee idea was submitted by Liz Pyles. Liz supplied some ideas about what the Miami Valley DPC did for their previous safe dig month events. Sean Stringer liked the idea regarding getting out to jobsites during April.

Frank Riegler asked for more suggestions regarding April Safe Dig Month. Lori Wade talked about what CG does during April safe dig month. Lori Wade suggested yard signs, door hangers, tags on trees, etc. Debbie Harris suggested to hit Home Depots and like stores to hand out pamphlets containing underground safety literature. Kevin Schimming brought up the past hurdles he faced about getting tag/stickers on tree, shovel, etc. Kevin Schimming also mentioned, that sometimes the buyer will not purchase the products due to the OHIO811 literature (48 hour waiting period) and the fear from the store is the buyer will take their business elsewhere. Cristina Parady suggested making yard signs in Spanish to help with the Spanish speaking work force.

Liz Pyles suggested to send out an invite for the subcommittees and if you can attend, please do.

Jessica Burlett spoke about the handout sheet asking membership what they would like to see from their DPC. Jessica Burlett asked that everyone please fill the sheet out and turn them in when complete. Jessica also added that the sheet is totally anonymous and will help move the DPC toward what the membership wants.

Liz Pyles let the council know that Brad Hegwood already volunteered to host a session at the Traffic building.

Jessica Burlett mentioned a possible Monster Jam night out for the council. Liz Pyles brought up in previous years they did excavator dinners. Lori Wade expanded on the dinners she attended and how successful they were. Jacque Kelley mentioned she supports 1-2 evening events.

Frank Riegler talked about needing volunteers for the Home & Garden Show.

February 17th-25th

- **Saturday 11am – 8pm**
- **Sunday 11am – 6pm**
- **Weekdays 11am – 7pm**

Lori Wade detailed what is expected of the volunteers from her previous experience volunteering at the event. Volunteers will reach out directly to Frank. Liz Pyles will email the volunteer list out to the council.

Lori Wade presented her safety talk. PDF will be sent to the group on what Lori presented.

Frank Riegler presented current numbers from the center. Frank also spoke about upcoming paradigm meetings and excavator seminars. Frank Riegler spoke about the happenings within the OUDPC. Next UTC meeting will be March 14th. Liz Pyles notified the council about some national meetings coming in 2024. Dates are below:

- **Common Ground Alliance, April 14-18, 2024 Colorado Springs, CO**
- **Global Excavation Safety Conference, March 19-21, 2024 New Orleans, LA**

Keith Egloff asked if there was a central hub with all of the dates we discussed in the meeting. Multiple people offered up some places to find the information. Joel Johnson suggested keeping an eye on the upcoming newsletter, as Jacque Kelley will be including upcoming industry meeting links in the newsletter.

Jacque Kelley brought up issues with contractors working in the City of Columbus right of way that haven't obtained proper permits. Jacque is worried about the safety issues these contractors present to

the public. Jacquie also mentioned that 311 is a good option to call if anyone notices safety issues regarding unsafe trenches, potholes, etc.

Lori Wade mentioned an issue a leak detection technician came across upon performing their walk. Coating on a gas facility was damaged, and with that, the integrity of the pipe was put into question. Lori mentioned the huge safety hazard this presents and asked to please let Columbia Gas know if you ever come across this type of incident

The next meeting of the Central Ohio Damage Prevention Council will be at the Builder's Exchange of Central Ohio on February 21st, 2024 with a start time of 9:00 am.

Liz Pyles makes motion to end meeting 10:03 am – Joel Johnson seconded the motion.