



9-1-1 Public Educators of Texas
3rd Quarterly Meeting
July 21, 2013
Hilton Garden Inn Austin, TX

Call to Order, Welcome & Introductions (Cindy)

The meeting was called to order by Cindy Bridges at 9:10 a.m.

Those in attendance:

Cindy Bridges, Williamson County
Leticia Truex, Potter Randall 9-1-1
Yasmine Ortiz, Palmview PD
Joe Garcia, Lower Rio Grande Valley 9-1-1
Hilaria Perez, NCTCOG
Esparanda Munez, Starr County Sheriff's Office
Nora Kelly, Southwest Regional (SWRCC)
Amber, McQuitty, Frisco PD
Claudia Caballero, Smith County 9-1-1
Kellie Borchers, Lockhart PD
Jennifer Johnson, Lockhart PD
Justin Rowland, Multi Agency Comm. Center
Debra Leall, Galveston TX Poison Control Ctr
Andrea Wilson, Montgomery County 9-1-1
Desiree Gautier, Greater Harris County 9-1-1
Melina Crockom, CSEC
Jeff Presley, Johnsboro Arkansas 9-1-1
Pam Frisk, Panhandle Regional 9-1-1
Lisa Boss, Midland Emergency
Mary Ann Ontiveros, Kleberg County

Charlesetta Malone, Deep East TX. COG
Sandy Issel, Denco Area 9-1-1 District
Rogello Martinez, Lower Rio Grande Valley 9-1-1
April Bryant, McKinney PD
Connie Chavarria, City of Laredo
Janie Grigsby, Starr County Sheriff's Office
Beverly Orange, Roanoke, Virginia
Catherine Hartman, Frisco PD
Kevin Willet, Public Safety Training Consultants
Jane Montana, Lockhart PD
Laura Randles, Sedgwick County Emergency Comm.
Mike Yudzky, North TX Poison Control Center
Jennifer Watson, Central TX Poison Control Ctr.
Sonya Clauson, Greater Harris County 9-1-1
Suzanne Hall, Soldttona Alaska
Robert Gonzalez, CSEC
Patti Hanon, East TX COG
Cindy Uchtam, Webster County
Kay Roberts, Alamo Area COG

Approval of Minutes and Website Report –

Motion from Pam Frisk to accept the minutes, Pattie Hanon seconded. All in favor, motion passed.
Nothing to report on website.

Treasurer's Report (Leticia Truex)

Leticia gave group the current balance of account.

President (Cindy Bridges)

Cindy - For our guests who are joining us today, let me answer the question, "Who is the Public Educators of Texas Group?" We are a group of individuals from different areas of Texas, who originally got together to share ideas about public education in Texas. This group has grown and evolved from its inception. For example, the development of Cell Phone Sally has been a huge accomplishment, spearheaded by this group. Many resources are available thru the PET group and can help a person who is brand new in the 9-1-1 public education field or just needs some new, refreshing ideas for their public education programs.

Committee Breakouts and Reports -

Committees had breakout sessions and these are the reports given:

Pattie Hanon, TC Recognition -

This committee recognizes telecommunicators and her group comes up with ideas of what to give the Telecommunicator for appreciation gifts. Patti Hanon asks Sandy to forward sample letters to people that are interested in requesting donations from vendors for support and/or item donations. Anyone that has great donation letters, send them to Sandy and she will forward to the group.

Connie Chavarria – Mentoring

This group helps new public educators with resources and information on what they might need. Connie's group discussed the specific issue of how to function with little to no budget, as this is a challenge for many. Using the NPEF and the PET dropbox is a great way to use printed materials and many of them are able to be printed off and used immediately.

Sonya Clauson – Public Information -

Sonya will now take over that position from the departed Nancy Dana. This position consists of sending out news, articles and keeping all public educators up to date on current news that impacts each person's education program. Sonya recently met with a new public information officer and they were able to exchange some great information and ideas with each other.

Pam Frisk – Resource Committee

This committee keeps information available to all educators on all resources used. Many of these resources are in the form of specialty items. The original disk that the resource committee has used for years is outdated and a fresh, new approach has been considered. The idea of using DropBox has been mentioned and when possible, Pam will look into this as an option that will be easily accessible from the PET website. However, this must first be organized and put together and that has not been done yet. Pam discussed the importance of getting current information out there, by way of BLOGS and/or Facebook. There are grants available through the government that can be used for resource items. You would need to apply, of course. Also, FEMA has given out specific public education items to groups before. If you have no budget and need some assistance with specific items, perhaps you can get in touch with FEMA? They might be able to assist you. If you have a co-op order, perhaps it can be posted on facebook? The PET facebook page is not blocked, like the website is. If you need to put something on the website, contact Sandy.

CSEC Report – Robert Gonzalez & Melinda Crockom

Robert introduces Melinda. She is the new public education coordinator, as Robert has been promoted to 9-1-1 program director. Melinda will take over a lot of Robert's original public education role and she also handles the blog for Cell Phone Sally. This is the only blog that is public education related.

Melinda - The CSEC public education store is closing completely very soon. There are other avenues CSEC will pursue to help support the public educators. CSEC offers activity sheets and other printable items for free, on their website. www.csec.tx.gov. Andrea Wilson downloaded all the pages available on the activity books and a local printer did it inexpensively and they came out great.

Social Media - CSEC is on facebook, twitter, and there are weekly Cell Phone Sally blogs. Student television network provided CSEC with a 30 second public service announcement. They will be rolling out more soon. Those are there for you to have access to and share.

How did you get the student videos? - Robert contacted student television network which is an association committed to education for middle and high school students who are interested in this field. Some have cameras, while other schools have full studios. The goal for the kids is to pursue this as a career. At their big conference each year, they have a contest. CSEC is a sponsor of the contest and as a sponsor, CSEC can obtain the PSAs they come up with, tailor-made with the topic CSEC gives them. \$3000-\$5000 is the cost to sponsor. It is obvious that the good video PSAs are worth more than \$5000.00 and they are more web-oriented, rather than TV appropriate. A lot of local cable channels in certain cities will post PSAs for you for FREE. They will provide links to the Cell Phone Sally video from their website.

Andrea Wilson - The "Talk, Text, Crash simulator" is available free of charge for anyone in the state of Texas. Texas A&M sponsors this thru a grant program. Andrea Wilson will bring more detailed information about this simulator to the October PET meeting.

Items from the floor –

Connie Chavarria has a new person in her mentoring committee that is in need of free items. Activity sheets and printable items are available for free off the CSEC website, <http://www.csec.texas.gov/> On their website, go to the "Education" tab. Spanish and English versions of the Cell Phone Sally DVD are free off of the website (can be downloaded). CSEC does not distribute these, you have to download it.

Caryn DeMarco has a video that she created called "The 9-1-1 Drive" This video is used for new and established drivers and is very effective when used in conjunction with the Driver's Education programs. Many educators have seen this video educate new drivers successfully as Caryn shares the video. If you would like to request a copy of the video and have inquiries about "The 9-1-1 Drive" education program, please contact Caryn at cdemarco@willcounty9-1-1.com.

TAG Team - Pam Frisk works with Leticia Truex and they cover 26 counties. They have many events and it is impossible to do it all. Pam would like to set up a TAG team and wants to recruit people from each of their agencies to help be part of the TAG team. TAG team stands for, "Together Accomplishing Goals." There are other names, such as "Peppers and Steppers." If you are interested in starting a group, make sure you send that request out, and we will send you as much information on it, as possible.

Connie Chavarria - the 9-1-1 boot camp taught her a lot about TAG Team, however, the 9-1-1 boot camp has not done their training sessions in a while. One reason for that is the cost of transportation.

Co-op Orders - We save good money, when we group together and place orders as a Co-op. Anytime you are ordering something and want to put out an email, to see if there are other people interested in the same item, you can save big money, and Sandy is happy to forward that information out to the PET group. Simply send Sandy the information and she will forward. Many times, the vendor will take over the burden of organizing the different shipping locations, billing, etc.

Pub Ed materials - A friendly reminder, If you want to use the round Logo that is actually owned by Greater Harris County, be sure to ask permission from them.

Sony Clauson - There are a few recent items discussed in the NENA public education committee. Our group, with the addition of NPEF has the greatest resources. The NG 9-1-1 group has a Deaf and Hard of Hearing committee and information on that will be coming soon. There is a Decision Maker power point that also will be made available soon. You may use this for information that will be helpful to you as well as your administrators. It will be available on the NENA website. Christy Williams and Sonya did a presentation at NENA on texting to 9-1-1. Successful work has been done with the wireless carriers, and a bounce back message has been established. More participation is needed so if you are interested, please contact Sonya. The group would like to find out what other ways they can be of service, to help the public educators. What else can they help with?

Susan Rodriguez has an idea to create a pink shirt design for breast cancer awareness in October. She would like to incorporate 9-1-1 awareness in the design. Cindy suggests having a contest for the shirt artwork!

Reminder about DropBox. There are some really great ideas and resources listed on DropBox and you can access it thru the PET website. Go to www.911pets.org and check it out!

Charlesetta – We are all very sad to hear that Carla Anderson, the deputy director of the NG911 Institute is in the hospital. Please put her in your prayers.

Items from the floor - the PET group will be looking for the TNT results of the survey to determine if TNT will be changing any of their meeting dates.

Next meeting is October 15th at Frontiers of Flight.
Pam Frisk and Leticia Truex are the hosts.

Charlesetta Malone motions to adjourn, Leticia seconded, all in favor and motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 10:50am