

## Safety Committee Meeting - February 16, 2016

The meeting started with introductions shared around the room.

The team members watched and discussed a production of the FBI titled, "The Coming Storm". This production focuses on response to active shooter situations. The group was joined by Robert Evans who is the Margolis Healy Vermont liaison for K-12 schools and works in partnership with the Vermont Agency of Education and Department of Public Safety. He is responsible for coordinating school crisis preparedness and planning statewide.

After watching the film, the group discussed the following as are outlined in the next few paragraphs:

How to eliminate the threat. Warm zone rescue. Witness Interviewing. Victim Assistance. The Media.

Where are we going with these types of situations? How do we drill, plan, and practice for these types of events. We are in a mindset that it could happen. People are now being empowered to make life-threatening decisions. We need to stop the threat ASAP. The training has changed to this direction.

The community wants to be threat prepared. How does the community respond to such situations? Are emergency responders ready? And how do people move on from these tragedies. The first few minutes of a tragedy will typically determine how the situation will further develop.

The key is the threat assessment. It can become a 911 overload. Then, social media will be utilized by many. The unified command process was highlighted well in the film. The press statements are critical and should be updated every 30 minutes. There needs to be a single point of media contact. One voice, one direction, one output. Notifications for parents need to be tight and informative. Counselling is another planning element. The video was realistic.

Law enforcement, Rescue, and Fire are going to go right to the scene in the first 10 minutes. The aftermath is a very lengthy matter. How do we sustain response efforts?

The consensus is that the community is much more prepared than we were just a few years ago. Today we have a much greater understanding of the threats and challenges. Future discussion and review are beneficial.