

President Barringer called the meeting to order at 7:32 pm

Attendees were:

Melissa Barringer
Karen Scheurerer
Rachel Bush
Jimmie Tarlau
Dr. Linda Green
Mark Grisar
Paul Ruffins

Guest Attendees were:

Chris Blegen, Cheverly CERT
Melvin Mason, Upper Marlboro CERT
Tom Mason, Upper Marlboro CERT

Melissa reported that she met last week with the Mt. Rainier Emergency Planning group and that they were receptive to writing in the role of M.R. CERT.

Rachel is following up on obtaining Certificates for attendees of the Active Shooter training.

Rachel led the review and discussion of our goals and priorities for 2023 (attached).

Elaborations of this list include:

- Develop a clear and readable map to aid in evacuations.
- Install an easy to use system of communications among the CERT team and Police and Fire Department.
- Produce a How-To handout for evacuations and tent set up.

2.

- New member Paul Ruffins, a certified CERT trainee, represents the first of the five responders we plan to add to M.R. CERT.

The Guest Attendees offered numerous tips and advice as to aids in accomplishing M.R. CERT's 2023 goals, such as checking out the Los Angeles CERT web site, using Zello for emergency communications, FEMA resources, the Anne Arundel CERT for traffic control training.

Melissa will be representing M.R. CERT this coming Thursday at an OEM meeting to provide feedback as to their effectiveness.

On Feb. 7, Karen and Melissa will make a presentation to the M.R. City Council at 7 pm, a zoom meeting that all CERT members are urged to attend. Rachel will email the invitation to members.

Melissa led the group in a review of the STROKE SMART training we received in December.

Melissa also gave the group an "Elevator Speech Challenge" in which we all wrote down our own succinct answers to the questions: What is CERT? What do we do? Why do we exist? When are we necessary?

A sample response was: We are a team of locals who've been trained to back up the Police and Fire Department, because the professionals can't be everywhere or do everything. We are available any time we are called on to help handle an emergency or when we come upon an emergency.

The meeting adjourned shortly after 8:30 pm.