

CERT Meeting Notes 9-25-23

The meeting was called to order at 7:32 pm

Attendees: Melissa Barringer, Danielle Carter, Karen Scheuerer, Tim Jenkins, Rachel Bush (by phone), Linda Green, Officer Cruz, Mark Grisar and Explorers Jose Reyes, Albert Jabanni, Luis Reyes, Jose Maatens and Elisa Santos.

Melissa gave a brief recap of the County's CERT Field Day, held a couple of weeks ago, in which participants practiced simulated disaster situations, such as putting out a fire, searching out victims in a residential setting and how to evaluate and treat injuries.

The final component of our disaster communications system – an antenna – has been ordered and will be tested along with the walkie-talkies and repeater as soon as it arrives.

A lengthy discussion regarding CERT's relations with the Mayor and Council and the new requirement that CERT members must submit for approval an application, essay, resume and background check ensued. It was agreed that current members would speak informally with the Mayor (Linda Green) and Councilwoman Woodall (Mark Grisar) to better understand the issues.

Rachel has made contact with Firefighter Hines and she and Melissa will be meeting with him to flesh out the ways CERT can be of assistance.

Councilwoman Carter led a training in CPR and use of the Automatic Electronic Defibrillator machine. Everyone present participated.

Upcoming events:

- Sept. 29 Latino Heritage Night (we will be manning a table)

- Oct. 15 Traffic Control Training at Anne Arundel County Community College. (enrollment is limited; Melissa has sent out a sign-up email)

- Oct. 20-22 CERT CON (multiple workshops and trainings, held at UDC)

- Oct. 23 Monthly CERT meeting (at which we will be hearing from the Explorers, among other items)

- Oct. 28 Trunk or Treat (sponsored by the Police Dept, giveaways for the kids)

- Nov. 4&5 OEM Basic CERT Training (two days of safety instruction, required for CERT members to be eligible for deployment)

- Nov. 21 Thanksgiving Food Distribution

The meeting ended at 8:48 pm