

The meet was called to order at 7:33

Attendees:

Melissa,

Mark

Rachel (by phone)

Shivali Shah

Tim

Melissa identified three potential staging areas when coping with a City disaster: The parking lot beside the Melinda Miles Building, the Thomas Stone Elementary parking lot and the lot across from Dollar General, near Queens Chapel Rd.

Our 'progress' with radio communications was presented by Melissa and Mark. Even with the recently purchased repeater and antenna we found that the signal was blocked when talking from outside the Police Station to any location east of Rte. 1. We are going to try to find a roof top location near City Hall that will carry a signal throughout the town. Failing that, we may buy a second repeater and antenna to ensure communication across the whole City.

The meaning of 'Quorum' was brought up by Shivali. It was agreed that we need to research this further, including a consult with City Manager Kamali.

Shivali also cautioned us to be mindful of the Open Meetings Act, which includes a number of protocols we must follow. At least two CERT members must take the online training for it. We are open to volunteers for this.

The Meeting Notes for October 23, 2023 were approved.

Melissa discussed the meeting she and Mark had with City Manager Kamali and City Clerk Sam. The notes for that meeting are included at the end of these Meeting Notes.

The current balance in our Treasury is \$2,759.55. Our fiscal year ends June 30,2024.

Please return to the City any old walkie talkies you have (the ones we used before getting the Retivis model).

Submit your applications for Mount Rainier CERT membership right away, in order to be considered for membership by the City. The City is concluding this process on December 5.

The city manager would also like copies of any trainings that members have completed. Rachel did not agree with this and stated that The Basic CERT training should be enough. This issue will be revisited at another time.

All members are urged to take the FEMA online course: IS 909, which is a 2 hr class containing activities to engage the public on being prepared for emergency situations.

A new CERT email has been created. We are in transition to using this email for all official CERT business. Each member would need access to Outlook or Microsoft Office 365 in order to use the city email address. The new email is

cert@mountrainiermd.org

Everyone will have the same password which Melissa will text to members individually. Everyone who has the password will be able to receive every message sent to this email. During this time of transition Melissa will send emails from the new

and old email address with the goal of being completely switched over in January 2024.

Upcoming trainings:

Saturday, Dec. 16, 9:30 - 4 pm Disaster Simulation (flooding), facilitated by The Red Cross of Southern Maryland. This event will be held at the Sports and Learning Complex. You must register by Dec 8 at <https://form.jotform.com/233194859143160>

CPR and 1st Aid January 20 or 27 at the Bunkerhill Firehouse. This will be a no cost public training for residents of Mt. Rainier hosted by CERT and PG OEM.

Stop the Bleed in February. More details to follow.

Rachel is researching possible CERT members volunteering as school crossing guards.

Our next meeting is at the Police Station, December 18, 7:30 pm.

The meeting adjourned at about 9 pm.