

Aquinnah CERT Core Group Meeting

9/10/19

Present: Forrest; Carla; Bill; Morgan; Noli; Gabbi; Kathie

CERT update from Gary:

At recent regional Emergency Management meetings, a desire has been expressed to help spread CERT island-wide, so more local people are empowered to help one another in emergency situations. So far, Aquinnah is the only town with an active CERT team, but other towns would like to join us and spread this work across the island. There's a great need for this—right now we only have about 200 people trained in emergency response so far, which translates in the summer to roughly 1 in 700 people. The ratio you want in an emergency is one trained person for every 7-10 non-trained people.

Gary will spread the word about our trainings and meetings to others who are interested.

If there is an emergency or severe weather predicted, call Gary and he'll let us know how we can be of most help! 716-553-6246

Communication update:

- Survey:
 - o 45 responses so far, representing 101 residents (survey results below)
 - o **Gabbi** will share spreadsheet of responses with **Gary**; he can share the households that have electrified medical equipment with Eversource to prioritize getting their homes back on line after power outages
 - o **Gabbi** will send the spreadsheet to Noli; **Noli** will upload it to our AquinnahCERT Gmail Google Drive document sharing account
 - o **Gabbi** will share spreadsheet with Chris Seidel and Dan Doyle at MV Commission; they can map the places where people have asked to be checked in on in an emergency so our CERT group can divvy up who will be responsible for contacting who
 - o **Gabbi and Noli** will work on putting our survey in a digital format and sending by email to town residents to grow the number of responses we have
- Radios:
 - o **Forrest** will reach out to Gabbi, Isaac, and Bill about establishing a regular training routine to talk with other CERT volunteers on our radios
 - o **Gary** will look into get NOAA weather radios for our CERT team and others in town
- Website:
 - o **Gabbi** will invite Liz Witham, who manages the town website, to our next CERT meeting to see if we could set up a new page on the website for CERT information

Shelter update:

- Carla tracked down Bret Stearns from the Tribe's Natural Resources Department

- Bret would like to propose a mock sheltering event at the Tribal Community Center; **Carla** will keep working to set a date with Bret and will keep our Core Group posted about when that comes together
 - o The Tribal shelter just got Red Cross certified!
- Our town shelter is not aiming to be Red Cross certified; we are aiming to have a shelter that could accommodate 90 people for up to three days, with some food, beds, coffee, etc.
- Developed a simple menu for each day. Rick Reinhardt from Salvation Army has a whole island-wide feeding plan; we've come up with a simplified version of what we think we need to have here in town.
- Kathie priced out our needs, through Cash and Carry and on line. It would take about \$2,000 to get all the food and supplies we need.
- We need more people to sign up to be shelter volunteers
 - o Training on working in the shelter
 - o Could use a ServSafe training too
 - o Jerry Green said he would come to Town Hall and help with triage; there will also be a medic and 2 EMTs on hand in an emergency; 3 police officers; and Gary
- **Forrest, Kathie and Carla** will work on a letter to town residents about developing our shelter, funding needs, volunteer needs and our sheltering vision. They'll run this letter by our group and we can then email to town residents.
- **Noli** will reach out to potential funders who might be willing to support our shelter supply needs.

Training update:

- First Aid training September 28th 9-1
 - o Airway, Breathing and Circulation
 - o Stopping bleeding
 - o Broken bones
 - o CodeRed
 - o Very hands-on!
- **Everyone:** please spread the word about the trainings and let Noli know if you can make it!
- Second First Aid training October 26th
 - o Heat stroke
 - o Frost bite
 - o Hypothermia
 - o Geriatric care
 - o Infant care
 - o Head injuries
 - o ODs/Narcan
 - o Epilepsy
 - o Winter storm preparation
- Fire training:

- **Gary** will talk with Simon (or Chilmark Fire Department) about holding a training in first three weeks of November, probably at Philbin beach parking lot
- Shelter training with Rachel
 - **Gary** will reach out to see if we can schedule this with her in the spring
- Search and rescue—no date yet
- **Morgan and Gary** will look for some good first aid videos we could link to our website and send out in emails; Iona Metell at the Red Cross is a helpful resource and may have some guidance

The town needs a new Board of Health agent; 19 hours/week, \$25.01/hr. If interested, contact Jim Glavin, head of the Board of Health.

Other information shared:

- If power goes out in town, there are generators on the DAS lines so cell phones should work for about 5 hours.
- Emergency Management Directors, police officers get notified first about impending storms; Gary will alert our CERT team to reach out to our contact list should an emergency come to pass

Survey results:

- Youngest to complete the survey is 26, oldest 95
- Past power outages: 11 had working phones; 24 said no
- Cell phone worked: 21 yes; 15 no; sometimes/other 7
- Want to be contacted in emergency situations: 27 yes; 17 no
- Electrified equipment: 2 yes; 43 no
- Specialized medical skills: 9 yes; 36 no
- Generator: 10 yes; 35 no
- Want to join CERT: 42 yes; 3 no