

Aquinnah CERT meeting
July 30, 2020

Present: Gary Robinson; Chief Rhandi Belain; Fire Chief Simon Bolin; Chris Manning; Gabbi Camilleri; Beckie Scottin-Finn; Carla Cuch; Kathie Olsen; Noli Taylor; Morgan Hodgson; Bill Lake

Next meeting: Thursday September 3rd at 5:30pm at Town Hall

COVID update: Around 70 confirmed cases on island so far. Lots of PPE is on its way to the town, thanks to the efforts of Gary and Simon. Surplus of hand sanitizer! COVID has given everyone a taste of sheltering in place. It's also shown the importance of everyone taking care of themselves, as government support is stretched too thin to get to everyone. They say 40 million Americans have likely had COVID already, but the vast majority have been asymptomatic.

Hurricane preparedness: Big concern that we could have a hurricane this season and will need sheltering during the pandemic. There are no definitive solutions for sheltering together during COVID; in addition to illness exposure there's also even more limited capacity in the shelters given required distancing. Sheltering in place will be really important whenever possible. We will have a pretty good idea 5 days out with current modeling. NOAA predicts a busy hurricane season. Sheltering in place and another First Aid class would be a good idea.

Emergency Preparedness Handout: Kate Warner in West Tisbury has prepared a two-sided sheet with information about how to shelter in place on one side, and a map on the other side with sheltering information and back route to the hospital. Email **Morgan** at aquinnahcert@gmail.com with feedback on the handout that Morgan has tweaked for our town.

Geared towards permanent residents, seasonal residents, and those renting for short periods. Once the handout is complete we'll have to think about how to distribute it to these different groups:

- 1) Send to town email list
- 2) Have hard copies available at town hall
- 3) Give to everyone who comes to get a beach sticker
- 4) Give to road association reps
- 5) Give to rental agents
- 6) Town website
- 7) The Dump
- 8) Social media

Morgan will get 500 copies made at Tisbury Printer to make copies for distribution. Gary will see how much money we have left in the Emergency Management line item in the budget to pay for printing.

Kathie is working on a cover letter tailoring preparedness tips to the pandemic situation. **Gary** will try and get us some thermometers if we do need to operate the shelter during a storm situation during COVID.

Noli will ask Jim Glavin: Can we have a place where people can have CODE Red info and emergency preparedness handouts at the dump?

Communications and Radio Checks: Radio team have been trying to do weekly radio checks; now we'll drop down to once a month. First Wednesday of the month at 5pm.

Sheltering: Carla spoke with Bret. The Tribe has purchased a trailer to move sheltering supplies into for storage. It hasn't arrived yet but it has been purchased. It won't arrive for another six weeks. Bret is looking into the logistics of managing a shelter during COVID, but feels like they will be able to step up and do what they need to do in an emergency. They do have lots of supplies, getting procedures in place has just been put to the back burner because of COVID.

We haven't yet purchased any supplies for the warming shelter at Town Hall because we don't have a place to store materials until we clean out the room behind the stage at Town Hall. Jeffrey offered to purchase us a locking cabinet to put in this space, but there's no room there yet. We need to move out a big collection of blankets for the overnight shelter at the Tribe.

Kathie will send the list of materials we have in storage to Chris Manning; if the Tribe can take any of the materials, they can have it. Otherwise, Kathie will coordinate donation through the Chilmark Fire Department with Gary.

Town contact list: Gabbi is compiling a complete list of all town residents and homeowners. She is tracking down everyone's information from a few different sources.

Questionnaire: Scrap question 8. Replace with: If there is a manmade or natural disaster, do you feel you need a medical professional to check in on you?

Rephrase question 7: Do any of your household members require electrified medical equipment?

Then **Noli** will send finalized version of the questionnaire to Chris Seidel to input in a digital format, and to Gabbi to get ready for physical copies.

Food forest: Conway School has finalized a plan for the land behind town hall that would include a food forest, playground, and affordable housing. **Noli** will send a digital version of the plan out to the full group.

Rick Reinhardson from Salvation Army has put together an all-island feeding plan with Chuck Cotnoir; **Noli** will reach out to him about community food forest.