

## Notes from Aquinnah CERT meeting October 1, 2020

*Present: Rhandi Belain; Simon Bolin; Chris Manning; Carla Cuch; Paul Manning; Bill Lake; Gary Robinson; Kathie Olsen; Noli Taylor.*

### 1) Communications

Chris Seidel's digital version of our survey for town residents is finished! She also created a QR code people can take a picture of on their cell phones to link right to the survey.

The next step will be to send it out via email to the new comprehensive town residents' list that Gabbi and Kathie have compiled. **Noli** will work on an email blurb to accompany the survey, and will circulate it to this group first to edit. We will aim to send the digital survey out by October 23rd.

**Kathie** will highlight which residents do not have emails listed in the database, and we will send a snail mail letter to those residents urging them to fill out the survey, with a link. We'll aim to send out the snail mail letters before mid-November. We will use the QR code in those letters.

**Noli** will draft a flyer with the QR code to post at Town Hall before election day, and at the library if they have a place to post it. Maybe also at the dump?

**Forrest** has offered to create a CERT website for us—thank you Forrest! We're hoping this could be linked from the town website, and that the survey could be embedded in the website, like this example page Chris shared with us: <https://scba-feasibility-study-srpedd.hub.arcgis.com/>

### 2) Sheltering

**Kathie** will follow up with Rachel and Jim from MEMA to see if we can organize an on-line training for shelter volunteers in town. We're aiming to have at least 15 town residents trained to serve as shelter volunteers.

**Kathie and Carla** will go buy up to \$500 of sheltering supplies from Cash and Carry and charge them to the Aquinnah Fire Station/Police Department's tab. Yay! We'll find a temporary place to store this equipment until the lock-able shelves are completed in the storage room at Town Hall.

There are lots of masks available in storage at the Fire Station. If we do need to use the Town Hall for sheltering, the Fire Station crew will bring us a box of masks; and if we get the shelving finished before then we'll bring a box of masks over to be at the ready.

**Gabbi:** Can you check with Gordon on the timeframe for the shelves in Town Hall, and let him know the sooner he can get to this the better, so we have a safe space to store our sheltering supplies?

**Kathie** will check the FEMA website to see if we can get some vests for CERT members, and **Gary** will check with his contacts to see if we can get these too, for shelter volunteers and neighborhood captains. In the meantime, the Fire Station has extra vests that the CERT group can use if needed.

Bill updated us on energy resiliency work for the Town Hall that will aid its sheltering ability. We are aiming for the island to be 100% renewable energy-powered by 2040. As part of that effort, our town is using money from the Green Communities program to install LED lights and mini splits in the Town Hall, among other energy efficiency projects for municipal buildings. With the help of the Cape and Vineyard Electric Cooperative, we will also be getting solar panels installed on the roof of Town Hall, and on top of a solar canopy in the parking area in front of the Fire Station. (Bill and Jeffrey will be meeting with Simon and his team to review the plans for this space soon.) Another piece of this effort is a battery back-up system that will be charged by the solar panels. Bill will keep us posted as these projects progress. Hopefully this means that we won't need any fossil fuel powered generators in future years, and will still have energy resiliency for our daytime warming center!

### **3) Trainings and education:**

Once we have our CERT website set up, we can highlight training videos (on fire safety, first aid, etc) on the site.

Next spring we're aiming to do fire safety, CPR, and first aid trainings, with Simon and Gary's help.