

Rockbridge Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Minutes

Date: November 9, 2021

Volunteers Present: Alan Porter, Bill Russell, Brandy Flint, Brenda Jackson, Byron Porter, Debbie Funkhouser, Greg Dreelein, Jutta Hopkins, Margaret Ann Paxton, Marianna Higgins, Mike Lewis.
Guest: Steve Funkhouser.

1. **Brandy Flint, Team Leader, called the meeting to order at 5:32 pm.** Introductions were made, and Debbie and Steve were welcomed to the meeting.
2. **No items were added to the agenda.**
3. **The October 2021 minutes were approved with no changes.** A motion was made, seconded and all present voted in favor to accept the minutes.
4. **Old Business:**
 - a. Brandy reminded WebEOC volunteers to log into the website to maintain readiness in the event they are asked to assist in the EOC.
 - b. White polo shirts have been ordered. They will be given to active volunteers as a recognition of their service and provide a uniform, professional look at community events.
5. **New Business:**
 - a. Brandy reported that we have been approved for a grant from the Community Foundation. Awards will be made on November 12. The amount is not known at this time.
6. **Upcoming events:**
 - a. November 11 - Preparedness presentations for Boomerang Gang for up to 50 homeschool students. (Marianna, Mike, Brenda, Kirk).
 - b. November 13 – Victim role-playing for high school EMT class (Brenda). Brandy will send invitation to participate to volunteers.
 - c. November 18 – Preparedness presentation for high school EMT students (Jutta, Bill, Mike).
7. **Training:**
 - a. Jutta updated the group on FEMA’s changes to the CERT Basic Training curriculum. FEMA expects this content as a minimum, but units may add additional training such as ‘Stop the Bleed’ or CPR. A copy of the new FEMA CERT Basic Training Participant Manual was given to each volunteer present at the meeting. Instructor Guides are available for instructors. If anyone is interested in obtaining a copy, please let Jutta know. Major changes from the previous course are moving Disaster Medical Operations earlier in the class and de-emphasizing the CERT role in triage. Stopping bleeding, maintaining body temperature, opening the airway, and providing comfort are highlighted. Course topics for the course are:
 - i. Disaster Preparedness
 - ii. CERT Organization (including ICS, mobilization, documentation)
 - iii. Disaster Medical Operations (Part 1: Treating life-threatening conditions, basic first aid care)
 - iv. Disaster Medical Operations (Part 2: Mass casualty incidents, establishing medical treatment areas, conducting head-to-toe assessments and public health considerations)
 - v. Disaster Psychology
 - vi. Fire Safety and Utility Controls
 - vii. Light Search and Rescue Operations
 - viii. CERT and terrorism (terrorist goals and tactics, preparing your community, active shooter situations, Until Help Arrives, Hazmat and CBRNE)

- ix.** Summary, final exam and disaster simulation
- b.** Brandy will let us know when the VDEM WebEOC training is scheduled. (Update: scheduled for December 14, 2021 meeting).
- c.** Stop the Bleed training planned for December. (Update: postponed to Jan 2022 meeting).

8. The meeting was adjourned at 6:52 pm.

Administrative and Finance Chief: Jutta Hopkins

Next Meeting: December 14, 2021 at 17:30 @ Fire and Rescue Administration Building – 100 Baner Lane, Buena Vista, VA 24416.