

Aquinnah Community Emergency Response Team (Aquinnah CERT)

Minutes of meeting

July 7, 2022

Meeting convened at 5:05 PM

Present: Curt Cetrullo, Gabi Camilleri, Carla Cuch, Beckie Finn, Chris Manning, Kathie Olsen, Noli Taylor

- **Shelters**

- Warming Shelter at Town Hall:

- **Carla** will check expiration dates of all supplies and see what else is needed to provide for summer sheltering. She will also check to see if there is any way to make a copy of the key to the CERT closet.
- We also need to see about securing a tent for purposes of screening for Covid. (Randhi had mentioned that he thought the Police Department might have one. **Kathie** will ask him.)
- There is real concern about the lack of a back-up generator for the Town Hall mini-splits. It was agreed by all that **Kathie** would draft a letter to the Aquinnah Select Board expressing the urgency of the need for a new generator in order to make the shelter a true place for cooling people in the summer or heating in the winter, and requesting that dollars be designated for its purchase. She is to get the letter to the Town Hall tomorrow. She will send a draft to the CERT team tomorrow -- Friday, July 8 for editorial comments. **Carla** will try to attend the meeting of the Select Board on Tuesday, July 12 to represent the CERT team.

- Overnight Shelter at Wampanoag Community Center:

- **Chris** says that all is well, although additional volunteers will be needed.

- Volunteers for both shelters: It was agreed that we needed to do a **volunteer training in mid-August**, and it should not be put off any longer. The training will focus on the overnight shelter, but will include a brief overview of warming shelter needs.

- **Chris** will check with the Red Cross to see what information they might have available for training of volunteers.
- **Gabi** will reach out to those who are already on the volunteer list to ascertain their availability, and to ask them to bring friends to the next training.
- **Beckie** will check out the availability of the Community Center for the training program in mid-August.
- **Beckie** and **Chris** will coordinate hand-outs for volunteers re job descriptions, shifts, etcetera for the overnight shelter. **Carla** and **Kathie** will prepare copies of the same materials they used at the last training for the Town Hall volunteers.

- **Public Safety Fliers**

- **Gabi** prints them as needed at the parking permit table. She will prepare enough for dissemination at the Public Safety Day (see below). She will also email the flier to the CERT team for their dissemination to others, as follows:

- **Noli** will get them to Meg Bodnar for dissemination to her rental clients.
- **Carla** will get them to Elaine, Elise, and Heidi for dissemination to their rental clients.
- **Kathie** will get them to the library and to Orange Peel and to the Gay Head Store.

- **Public Safety Day**

- The CERT Team will have a table at Public Safety Day on July 16th. Hours are noon to four. It was agreed that the CERT team would coordinate with the Tribe by setting up next to their trailer/table.

Volunteers are asked to wear their CERT vest and stay for at least one hour. On the CERT table will be the disaster preparation fliers, information about volunteering, information about the CERT team, and sign-up sheets for volunteering.

- **Gabi** will make signs and bring the fliers and help to set up.
- **Kathie** will help to set up and will also send out a note to all on the CERT team to find volunteers to staff the CERT table. She will also draft the flier on the history of the CERT team (using the Town Report as her guide).

- **Chappy CERT Team**

- Noli reported that they are up and running and were grateful for the work we have already done. Noli gave them copies of the materials Carla and Kathie prepared for volunteers at the warming shelter. They are interested in maybe participating in trainings with us, and want to be “kept in the loop.” **Kathie** will add Pete to the Aquinnah CERT mailing list in order to make that happen.

- **MVC-GIS database:**

- **Gabi** and Forrest had planned to meet about accessing this database (for purposes of connecting with all residents who may be in need of assistance before, during and after a major event). They have not had time to meet, but **Gabi** will try to make it happen.

- **Budget**

- It was agreed that the CERT team should have a formal budget for submission to the Town Select Board.
- **Beckie** agreed to help write a grant application, particularly if we can coordinate with the Aquinnah Board of Health.
- **Kathie** agreed to gather information for preparation of a budget. It was suggested that the budget include costs of postage (snail mail is important as a way to reach those who do not use their computers often), food and supplies for the shelters, and repair costs for equipment.

- THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE ON SEPTEMBER 15, 2022 at 5:30 PM. It will be an in-person meeting at the Aquinnah Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathie Olsen, Coordinator
Aquinnah CERT