

Aquinnah CERT meeting minutes

9/15/22

Present: Police Chief Randhi Belain; Fire Chief Simon Bollin; Gabbi Camilleri; Carla Cuch; Noah Hall; Morgan Hodgson; Bill Lake; Ranger Chris Manning; Kathie Olsen; Noli Taylor; Barbara Wallen

Migrants

- 2 planes arrived yesterday with 50+ people; mostly young adults, and a few children
- They were brought to Community Services, which was closed, and then to the Regional High School, and then on to the church in Edgartown.
- A phone number was set up yesterday to field calls; media inquiries, people offering help.
- Houses of Grace are coordinating care.
- MA is a sanctuary state, which means no one is being held against their will.
- They are set with food for the next few days. Lots of clothing has been delivered; any additional resources will be used for local homeless, Chicken Alley, and/or future migrants.
- Translation services, immigration attorneys, health care providers are all on site.
- State is trying to negotiate with DHS and ICE to use iPads and use immigration attorneys locally so people don't need to go elsewhere for court dates
- Governor released a statement that said they're trying to use Joint Base Cape Cod as a staging ground; no definitive answer on that yet

If migrants need to be housed at the Tribal shelter soon

- Chris is concerned about feeding people and hygiene kits
 - Toothpaste, toothbrush, soaps, shampoos, women's needs, towels
 - We need to create kits like this for the future too. **Chris** believes that they can be purchased and will find out details.
 - Food: will need to be lined up as well as cooking help in this situation and in the future. Noli pointed out that IGI has a skilled chef available, as well as serving as a conduit for food provisions.
 - We need ServSafe trained people in town that can be called on in case they are needed. **Forrest** and **Morgan** will reach out to Rick Reinhardson from Salvation Army and the Red Cross to see if we could get a ServSafe class here in Aquinnah.
 - If we open the shelter, Chris would need to work with local and state partners to secure Black Brook Rd to all but residents and shelter/aid-related travel
 - We have cots and blankets in the building ready to be deployed if called upon
 - **For volunteers looking to help: 508-684-8015; emd@dcsoma.org**

For future emergencies:

- **Morgan** offered to set up a calendar where we can all enter our team availability dates of when we're here and away

Trainings:

- First Aid; **Kathie** will ask Gary Robinson if he's available to offer this while he's here this month, including abdominal thrust training (aka Heimlich maneuver!)
- CPR two year certification; **Forrest** will try and organize a CPR training
- Volunteer training for the overnight shelter not booked yet; **Chris** will focus energy on coordinating with Red Cross.

Communications and Radio:

- Zello: this used to work even if there was no cell service (2G and 3G), but now those are down which means Zello won't be reliable when cell service is out.
- Everyone should be sure to update their Zello app as the app has made some changes
- 9-1-1 always works, even if cell phones don't usually work
- Radio system has shortcomings; Rhandi will see if we can get one dedicated channel for our CERT group
- **Forrest** will coordinate another radio test with the radio crew: Gabbi; Rudy; Bill; Isaac; Chief; Meghan Gombos. **Noli** will email this crew to help set a date.
- **Noli** will organize a Zello test with set times of the day throughout one day.

Generator is on Tuesday's selectboard agenda; there will be a Fall town meeting and the generator will be on the docket.

Database:

- **Gabbi** will work with Forrest to check out the database, reach out to CERT volunteers. **Kathie** agreed to help if needed.

Next CERT meeting:

- Thursday October 20th 5:30-7pm, Town Hall

CERT members are invited to visit with Gary Robinson: Monday September 26th at 6pm at Kathie and Noli's house. Please let Kathie know if you plan on attending. An informal dinner will be served.

Notes prepared by:

Noli Taylor, CERT volunteer extraordinaire

Kathie Olsen, 2022 Coordinator