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# Greater Upper Marlboro CERT

# Meeting Minutes

January 12, 2019

1. Call to order

Wanda Leonard, President, called to order the regular monthly meeting of the Greater Upper Marlboro CERT at 9:05 a.m. on January 12, 2019 at the Upper Marlboro Town Hall.

1. Roll call

Roll call after a moment of silence for all first responders. The following board member were present: Wanda Leonard (president) and Alonzo Joy (secretary).

Members and visitors were acknowledged; there were six visitors. Including the board members, there were 16 members present.

1. Approval of minutes from last meeting

Minutes from the December 8, 2018, monthly meeting was previously sent to all active members via email. Motion made to accept the minutes and seconded. The minutes were approved by a unanimous voice vote.

1. Old Business

* CERT organization license plates – Paula Hughes, South County CERT
* Update on 2019 trainings and activities of interest to team members

1. New Business

* Tiffany Harkless, Volunteer & Donations Management Coordinator, PG OHS/OEM introduced herself and spoke about citizens needing to be prepared with knowledge and items needed for emergencies. She encouraged members to help educate the community and informed members that various training opportunities are forthcoming. Due to pending snow, her office is working today. She is looking forward to returning during another team meeting and working closely with CERT leaders.
* Michael Weekley and Jamie Cook were recognized for becoming certified by FEMA as CERT Instructors. The team now has six certified CERT Instructors.
* Michael Weekley was recognized for completing the September 2018 “Take Our FEMA Challenge.”
* CERT member Major Jamie Cook, Army, spoke about CERT’s role in Community Resiliency and how our military provides vital support during disasters in the community when requested during a Presidential Disaster Declaration. She presented examples of our military responses that included the devastation in Puerto Rico by Hurricanes Irma and Maria. Major Cook serves in an emergency management function in the Army.
* Members were provided CERT Member’s Information Sheet; Identification Card and Accountability (Badge) Agreement; and Permission for Image Distribution Form for completion. An explanation was given for having these forms on file. Alonzo Joy will send forms to the entire team via email.
* During our February 9, 2019 meeting, members will have the opportunity to take a photo for their new identification badge. Alonzo Joy will send out reminder via email.
* Do1Thing - Goal for January: “Understand what puts you at risk from disasters & take steps to lower your risks.”
* Membership brought up concerns about liability coverage for CERT members in case they become injured while participating in CERT activities. Brindisi Chan whom formerly held the Volunteer & Donations Management Coordinator, PG OHS/OEM, stated the County Risk Manager was looking into the cost and its application. She suggested that Tiffany Harkless seek an update.
* Official CERT IDs and members background checks could become required at some future date. There are CERTs outside Prince George’s County that require IDs and background checks. Wanda Leonard will inform members of any future updates.
* Wanda Leonard spoke about her efforts to promote the team and provide members with contemporary tools to maintain our preparedness and relevance.
* Our team submitted a government drone waiver that is pending approval.
* Brindisi Chan displayed and provided preparedness material, and introduced upcoming trainings and events. Alonzo Joy will send out to the team via email.
* Michael Weekley spoke about apps that the team could download, which would tell where registered AEDs are located and locations of medical emergencies in the county should one be nearby to assist. Alonzo Joy will send apps information to the team via email.

1. Training Topics

* FEMA ICS Forms – Review & Practice (Presenter: Wanda Leonard). Want team to start using the ICS forms, so we will be prepared to use them during an event.

1. Upcoming Events (details provided via email)

* CERT Train-the-Trainer, January 14 – 16, 2019 at FEMA/EMI
* CERT Program Manager, January 17 – 18, 2019 at FEMA/EMI
* Opioid Overdose Response Training (several dates available) at Hanover, MD
* How To Survive an Active Shooter Incident, January 26, 2019 at Largo-Kettering Library
* Incident Response to Terrorist Bombing Training, January 30, 2019 at DC HSEMA
* ICS 300, February 12-14, 2019 at DC HSEMA
* ICS 300, February 20-22, 2019 at Linthicum Heights, MD
* 2019 Hazard Mitigation Workshop, April 1 – 5, 2019 at Emmitsburg, MD

**Closing Remarks and Comments from Members & Board**

**Members in Attendance**

Dedra Frazier Michael Weekley

Amelia Harris Wanda Leonard

Patty McLaughlin Jamie Cook

Jamee Alston Charmaine Cook

Carrine Todman-Lewis Jewel Braxton

Vikki Torrence Arlene Ennis

Alonzo Joy Anita Cox

Evelyn Rhodes Regina Sollers

**Visitors in Attendance**

Brindisi Chan Ronnie Mitchell

Tiffany Harkless Sharon Bowden

Karen Foskey Laura Kressler, President, Greenbelt CERT

**Next Meetings**

February 9, 2019 & March 9, 2019

**Schoolhouse Pond Clean-up Date**

April 13, 2019

1. Adjournment

Wanda Leonard, President, adjourned the meeting at 10:40 a.m.

Minutes submitted by: Alonzo Joy, Secretary

Minutes approved by: Wanda Leonard, President