

Minutes of the CERT Meeting held at 7pm on Feb 22, 2005 at Nations Real Estate, 11727 College Blvd

CERT meeting was held at Nations Real Estate, 11727 College Blvd at 7 pm with 11 members attending

After introductions, Jay O'neil volunteered to be the Training coordinator and Sarah Hansel agreed to be the Secretary. Krishna Dronamraju volunteered to take meeting notes. The following issues were discussed.

- Meeting frequency: Agreed to meet on the last Tuesday of the month in March, April, May, July, September & November for 2005
- Meeting Place: Rich Triola volunteered his office premises for CERT meetings
- Sarah Hansel invited the CERT team for a BBQ at her place in place of July meeting (time & Date TBD)
- Tom Taylor proposed a resource inventory across the CERT team. This inventory includes necessary items in emergency, example: a crow bar, a pipe spanner, a stretcher or wheelbarrow to carry wounded, walkie-talkies for communications etc. Team suggested that probably this should extend to other resourceful neighbors who may not be non-CERT team. Tom plans to circulate the details on email
- Discussion on Staging Area:
 - o In case of a disaster over the whole community, Jay suggested that CERT may want to use the Tennis courts area as the staging area (close to main street and got enough open area to set up a Triage and emergency shelter
 - o A few years back there was chlorine/gas leak from the neighboring sewage plant which completely closed the neighborhood of Tennis courts, so Linda suggested that as an alternative, we should use the Shannon Valley shopping center.
 - o In case of widespread disaster which makes a central staging area inaccessible, then follow CERT rules by first checking your own home & family, shut off gas & electricity if needed then start helping the neighbors and set up a local staging area for your neighborhood.
- Suggestion about a disaster drill covering a few neighborhood areas at a time was made. This needs advance preparation of drill check list, going from door to

door to familiarize each family about the procedures etc. Some families may have special needs. The following points were discussed:

- Put the CERT emergency info on the Shannon valley web site
- CERT info in the Shannon valley news letter
- Boy scout / Girl Scout volunteers or high school students in the SV area to take up service projects in surveying SV homes to collect information on special needs like Oxygen, wheel chairs etc needed in emergencies.
- Suggestion came about collecting SV resident's special skill sets. Example, medical skills, plumbers, electricians, mechanics etc.
- Jay pointed out about the availability of CERT information at <http://training.FEMA.gov/emiweb/cert> which is maintained by the Home Land Security Department.
- Jay offered to explore CPR, Heimlich etc training slots at his Church for any one interested.

Action Items:

1. Krishna to send these minutes to the CERT members
2. Linda to work on skills questionnaire / survey and circulate to the team
3. Jay /Michelle to expedite the long awaited CERT Certificates

Next Meeting will be held on March 29 (last Tuesday of March) at 7pm at Nations Real Estate, 11727 College Blvd

NOTE (Krishna): I tried to capture as much as I could. I apologize for not taking a sign up sheet and so could not list every one's name here. Jay, Rich: Please add / modify the above information if I omitted or misrepresented any item.

Thanks for the opportunity

Krishna