

CERT Team Meeting
Thursday September 8, 2011 – 6:30pm
Public Safety Building

- Bob Rhode opened the meeting and thanked everyone for their attendance and participation in the DEW Tour and Hurricane Irene.
- DEW Tour was successful and plans are being made to have this again next year. Interest has also been generated for other large scale activities to be held in OC.
- Recap of Hurricane Irene:
 - It was anticipated that the storm would have a major impact on the Town which led to the mandatory evacuation being imposed.
 - The foreign student relocation was very successful; over 2100 students were relocated to the western shore. This took place over a 24 hour period. Students were transported back to town in approximately 4.5 hours. CERT Team members may be asked to assist with any future events as additional manpower was needed.
 - Several CERT Team members assisted with answering the phones at the PSB prior to the hurricane. Once mandatory evacuation was imposed in town and parts of West OC, CERT Team members were requested to return to their homes.
 - It was noted that, in the event of a major hit, support would be needed post-event as well as pre-event.
- CERT Team Members contact information is considered confidential and not given out. Please contact Carol Boyles to update your information, if necessary. **Individuals will be asked to contact their respective Strike Team Leaders to provide contact information.**
- The text message group has not been set up – it is still being developed. It was noted that the Town’s texting system was not operational during the storm.
- The next regularly scheduled CERT Team meeting is set for Thursday, December 1 at 6:30PM. The 2012 meeting calendar will be set at that time.
- Anyone still needing and ID Badge should go to City Hall during normal business hours to be photographed and issued the ID.
- Fall CERT Class will start Sept. 29. Approximately 12 persons have enrolled; class is open to 25 persons. This is done in house – the only cost is that for printing the manuals.
- Discuss as to how grant funds are designated. In some instances, this is dependent on the number of participants for a program. CPR/AED class fess of \$15 for each CERT Team participant was paid through grant monies. Public education may be the basis for certain funding.

- National Weather Service Storm Spotter Basic Skywarn Class will be scheduled for a Saturday in October.
- Sign up for Sunfest will be handled by Carol Boyles (note: sign up sheet is attached). IRS Resource packets will be handed out and drawings for handouts will be done.
- Kudos and thanks to our Intern, Ashley Samonisky, on a superb job working with us this summer. She has been a great asset for the Emergency Services Department and donated many hours of service. Our new Intern is Katie Shultz, who will be working with us through December.
- Communications Exercise is scheduled Thursday October 27, 2011 from 1300 – 1700 at the WOC Park and Ride Please contact Carol Boyles if you are interested in participating.
- Contact Bob Rhode if you are interested in the Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Services (RACES) Group. This resource was utilized during the Hurricane and will offer training if enough people are interested.
- Open Forum:
 - Discussion of the Student Relocation Program. Sponsors of the workers are Dept of State designated. E-mails are used to keep them advised of the students' location. There is an estimated 4,500 international students in Town over the summer season.
 - It was noted that CERT Members should consider public safety vs private safety during an emergent situation and adhere to “family is first” policy.
 - For persons out of the area during an “event”, information is available on the Town’s website, radio channel, recorded hotline plus twitter and facebook. All information was kept up to date during Hurricane Irene. Info was also available on the Government Access TV channel – through Comcast.
 - An after-action report relating to Hurricane Irene will be available on the Town’s website at a later date. The storm had a low impact on town and there were only sporadic power outages. Concerns that the public will not heed the warnings next time.
 - Discussion as to how often training might be offered (based on personal preferences) and a list of training topics was offered.
- There have been cutbacks in the Red Cross Agency which will have an impact on future events.

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8pm.

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