



Upper Marlboro

Meeting Notes / Minutes

Saturday, January 11th, 2025 @ 9:00 a.m.

Meeting location – Upper Marlboro Town Hall

Called to Order at 9:13am

Moment of Silence – For all First Responders and Kenneth Howard

Roll Call (board members): Mike, Joe & Melvin present. No Tim

Acknowledgment of Members/Visitors: (none present)

We might have some folks next month from a state project to train 18-21 year olds in disaster preparedness

Approved minutes from December 14th, 2024: Tom moved, Melvin seconded, passed unanimously

Old Business:

- Movie Night
 - Town President had said they might stop. (competition as lots of other groups doing them now)
- Health Fair
 - Largo. Mike participated to get the word out & meet other groups
- Presentation on Flooding by Tim Smith

New Business: 2025 planning to be discussed during presentation.

Training: Presentation of 2024 review and making plans for next year.

Upcoming Events:

January 17th: Blood Drive in town at the agricultural building

January 24th: Per370 was cancelled (radiological events?)

February 12th-13th: Hospital Response to Bombing Incidents FP MGT348-811

February 24th: Presentation in Laurel (Mike; on preparing for winter)

Closing Remarks and Comments from Members & Board: (none)

Our next Scheduled General Meeting: February 8th, 2025

Presentation: Discussion of the past year & planing for 2025:

Packs to carry the stop the bleed kits were too small.

Will use them for other first aid packs
We have lots of gloves & masks
AED was too expensive
try to get a refurb? And make sure town staff is trained (and in Stop the Bleed)
(Tom mentioned Denise .. Donella?)
(Do the town police have an AED?)
We do not have SAR gear or cribbing
Might be able to get scraps from construction sites for cribbing
Tree clearing equipment : did not get; we would have to get training.
Generator w/ solar panels

Traffic vests & EMT pants : not done
Replacement CERT canopy : also expensive
OEM offered all teams 2 white tends each, have only borrowed them
Maybe a commercial one and a banner (instead of printed on canopy)
Lockable containers & security cameras
Probably won't do cameras
Patches & CERT decals : have come in, still need to be applied

Wide Area Search : if we teach, we don't get credit.
Will try to team up with other municipalities & get the commissioners involved

Outreach to High Schools, Colleges, HOAs, Churches, etc.
Have done some (hospital, national night out, planned for Laurel)
Civil Air Patrol / MD Medical Corps for cross training
Have helped as victims for MDMC training
Try to get a list of the classes that Largo Hospital provides?

Tom & Melvin have a dummy arm for pack the wound practice (tattooing arm)

Training ideas:
Recon Operations w/ OEM
Western Shelters w/ OEM
Red Cross Shelters (did a class w/ Tim; helping town write a plan)
Search and Rescue in the park
Summer & Winter
..
Points of Distribution / Dispensing
Darryl Small was going to do it, but management issues?
Warehouse Operations w/ OEM (had been done during covid)
Tree Clearing Operations (Town not likely, maybe OEM)
Triage exercises (shooting, car accidents, bombings, plane crashed etc.)
We are often victims, would like to be trained as rescuers

HAM radio drills (DC CERT practice to connect local counties and NJ & SC; practiced for Carter funeral; trying to get CERT/ARES/OEMs connected; on call for inauguration)

Monthly meetings : members attending declined (from ~11 to ~6).
Many members now work on weekends
Should we move meeting times or try hybrid?

Events in 2024:
17 + 5 CERT Basic classes + movie nights
PG will be trying to do CERT Basic every other month

about 4-6 CERT members at most events

Outreach & Education :

7 events

Talk to other CERT teams about participation / recruitment?

Wear CERT branded stuff when out & about?

Tom has had people ask what it is (but often in Calvert, not local)

State meeting :

Asher Bilsky - Disaster Resources & Networking coordinator

Gordon Harless : Dept of Services & Civic Associations

18-21 year olds who do a year of volunteer work through emergency services & CERT

Currently 550-600 volunteers through the state

Mike explained how CERT operates through the state, and regional & national conventions

How we might be able to help & going to OEM for training exercises

(today's discussion)

How do we become a validating entity for this? (through OEM?)

Might need to start training earlier (CERT basic at high school?)

Community colleges offering it would get more eyes (as it would be in their schedule of classes) ... and they might get

We do a lot of work for PG CERT ... are we raising the profile of Upper Marlboro CERT?

Alonzo brought in a lot of people. (personality? How can we replicate?)

Do we need a meeting with the Chief to see how he thinks of us?

CERT team was set up under a past Chief, and we had a Town Commissioner as our champion

Planning for 2025 :

Need more outreach

Helping to teach CERT Basic is our main stuff

Make sure to wear Upper Marlboro stuff?

Trying to get more people to take CERT class vs. recruitment for our group specifically

Teach CERT Basic at hospital or PGCC?

Equipment:

Traffic vests

Canopy

"Ask me about CERT" buttons?

Need a recruitment packet to give people

Need a real email address (that we control)

Maybe through OEM?

Have sent e-mail to town address, no response

What training do we want to do?

For Us:

Train the Trainer (so we can certify people)

Does anyone have training on how to recruit people?

Outreach:

Stop the Bleed

Try to do training with other CERT teams / through OEM

Search & Rescue

Move our emails to a mailing list?

Melvin has experience with Google groups
Who are the people we mail? (members, town, PG, other?)
(do we need more than one list?)
(Do we know what groups the people on our list fall into?)

Motion to adjourn:
Melvin moved, Tom seconded

Meeting closed at 11:17am