

CERT

COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM

BRECKSVILLE – BROADVIEW HEIGHTS

General Meeting Minutes

Date: 9/15/2010

Time: 7:00pm-8:00pm

Location: Brecksville Community Center

The meeting was a presentation by Brandy Karny from Cuyahoga County Emergency Management and Phil Trimolt from the Red Cross followed by general announcements by Carolyn Jatsek and backpack inventory by Tom Kalvas.

A. General Announcements

1. New President and Open Board/Coordinator Positions

Leslie Lesinski is the new president with Jill Gerber becoming Past President. There are open Board and Coordinator positions, anyone that may be interested in volunteering for a position should attend the Oct. 6th Board/Coordinator meeting to be held at the Coffee Club in Broadview Hts. at 6:30pm.

2. Upcoming Events

- Saturday September 25th, Lorain Community College will be holding a volunteer training event with the Medical Reserve Corp and CERT working together.
- The October 21st meeting will be an outdoor scavenger hunt. Meet in the Human Services Meeting room, dress for the weather and bring your backpack.
- Sunday October 24th the Halloween Party will need volunteers
- Volunteers are needed for the Oct. 25th flu immunization clinic to be held in Broadview Heights. Contact Pat Koss if you can help.
- Brecksville Bicentennial Celebration events will be held throughout next year with a Civil War reenactment occurring on August 19, 20 and 21st. Help will be needed with parking and distributing handouts.

- FEMA Training will now be consolidated throughout the county into regional training events. Upcoming sessions will be held at the Independence Library on Wednesday nights.
- The new web site redesign is now live and contains a google calendar

3. Backpack Inventory—Tom Kalvas

The following items were available for replacement:

- Dust mask
- Batteries, do not keep batteries in your flashlight when not in use, this will drain the batteries. Store batteries in the refrigerator to slow deterioration.
- Gloves

Everyone was reminded that light sticks have expiration dates and duct tape deteriorates over time.

2. Next Meeting

- Board/Coordinator meeting, Wednesday October 6th at the Broadview Heights Coffee Club at 6:30pm
- General Meeting and Scavenger Hunt, October 21st at 7pm in the Brecksville Community Center Human Services Meeting Room

B. Emergency Management—Brandy Karny

The purpose of the Cuyahoga County Emergency Management team is to foster a state of preparedness throughout the county. Representatives from various groups within the County participate in the Public Safety Urban Area Working Group (PSUAWG). This group was established in 2/2009. Citizens Corp has representation on this group. The biggest efforts of this group are in exercises and training. Emergency Management plans are also established which identify what needs to be done for each type of emergency event. The level of County preparedness is evaluated for training, planning, exercises held, equipment and the establishment of a PSUAWG. Preparedness partners include FEMA, Ohio Emergency Management, Local Fire Departments and CERTs.

Flooding is the #1 threat in Cuyahoga County. Ten disasters have been declared in Cuyahoga county since 3/24/1964. A presidential declaration of a disaster is needed to get financial assistance from the government. The following disasters have been declared:

- Flood, 2006
- Power outage, 2003
- Flood, 2003
- Blizzard, 1978

C. Red Cross—Phil Trimolt

A Family Preparedness booklet was distributed. The goal is to prepare now for a future incident. The booklet gave details about the three steps to preparedness. The best way to prepare is to create a preparedness kit, make a plan and be informed.

1. Prepare a kit—The main items to consider for a kit are with regard to safety, comfort and survival.
2. Make a plan—Take responsibility for yourself and your family. Make copies of important documents. Coordinate an out-of-town contact and know the number to call. Write down the plan and share it with the members of your family. Everyone in the family should have a job to do.
3. Be informed—Utilize available web sites to learn what to do in the event of an emergency (i.e. ready.gov). Have an emergency radio available.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sue Schindler

Cc: E.Egut, J. Hajek, C. Jatsek, P. Koss