

RBCERTAA BOARD MEETING AGENDA
February 3, 2009

Attendees at this meeting:

RBCERTAA Board Members	Present	Guests in Attendance:
President- Marcelle McCullough	X	Monty Ruth
Vice President- Mike Grady	X	Noble Smith
Treasurer- Sandy Marchese	X	Jessica Adams
Secretary- [Position Vacant]	-	Chris Meyers
Jennifer Adam	X	
Bob Applegate	X	
Phil Gilbreth	X	
Gary Horn	X	
Bob Heil (Reporting)	X	
Bob Kumler	X	
Doug Rodriguez		
Fire Department Liaison:		
Dan Bliss	A	
A = Absent		

- 1) **CALL TO ORDER** ~Marcelle
 Called to order at 6:31PM by Marcelle

- 2) **INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS** ~Marcelle
 The guests shown above were introduced.

- 3) **PRESENTATION OF AGENDA ORDER and request for additions/deletions** ~Marcelle
 There were no changes to the agenda

- 4) **CALL FOR APPROVAL OF MINUTES** ~ Sandy
 Mike G motion to approve minutes of November 2007 board meeting, Phil G 2nd motion, minutes approved.

- 5) **OLD BUSINESS:**
 - A. **TREASURER'S REPORT** ~ Sandy
 - i. Presentation and call for approval of February 2009 Treasurer's Report
 The Treasurer's report was accepted as presented.

 - ii. Revenues received, reimbursement requests and presentation of current bills for payment.

 - B. **OPEN BOARD POSITION** ~ Marcelle

Marcelle recognized Monty and thanked for his service to the Board. We look forward to his continued participation with CERT. Marcelle asked if there were any interested in the open position but received no response. Marcelle will list the open position and add information about upcoming elections in next RBCERTAA Update.

C. CLASS 40 ~ Marcelle

Cert Academy number 40 begins this week. The Beach Reporter showed the wrong starting date but this has been corrected. As of last Thursday, 15 have enrolled for the class. Chief Madrigal expressed concern about the smaller than normal enrollment. Marcelle voiced her opinion that the economy may have impacted enrollment in the class. Suggestions for how to boost future enrollment were solicited. It was suggested that a street banner might help to generate enrollment for future classes. It was also noted that the chief was not aware of the request by the Galleria for a class hosted on their site. Marcelle requested that Board Members attempt to attend the class this week. Both Marcelle and Monty discussed items, which could be provided to members of the current class (gloves and welcome package). It was reported that Captain Bliss has arranged for food for the first class. It was also noted that the Citizens Police academy would also be conducting a class at that time.

6) NEW BUSINESS:

A. 2009 Goals ~ Marcelle reviewed and discussed the 2009 goals which were adopted at the last meeting.

i. Transition candidates for new Board – We need to encourage new members to participate.

ii. Fill Academy 41 – We need to work harder during these difficult times. Perhaps the Rbfd could drop off enrollment literature while conducting business inspections. The minimum number of students was previously 20 to 25 but since there will be only two classes the minimum size has been waived per Captain Bliss. Marcelle is open to suggestions. One example she gave was speakers for groups, which provides an opportunity to talk up CERT training. This is easy to do. Board members are encouraged to contact Marcelle about this. (PTA meeting, church groups, homeowners associations, etc.) The possibility of reducing the student fee was discussed. Marcelle will discuss this with the FD. Noble will attempt to recruit some members from his gym. There was some discussion regarding the ability of 'walk-ins' to be accepted in the class this week. It was also suggested that a discount for couples might be useful. Phil suggested that we try to connect with the people at the mall. Gary mentioned that perhaps an additional class could be used to get the mall security staff involved (with a plan to later integrate the two classes). He also asked if there was a change recently regarding the responsibility of the Rbfd to recruit for and teach the classes. Marcelle remarked that this is still an Rbfd responsibility but that the CERTAA has been trying to help and now may by default be expected to take on a larger role by the FD. Gary also asked what the Rbfd has done to try to fill this class. Marcelle indicated that she believes that the FD has previously advertised on the cable channel, but she did not know if they did it this time. She will investigate. Monty asked what happened about the suggestion to invite city council members to the class. Marcelle indicated that there had been some effort along this line, but that there was more to be done, perhaps by having a BOD member attend each city council meeting. Monty observed that class size has been declining despite our efforts. There was concern that this could lead to the eventual cancellation of the training program. The Citizens Police Academy had 25 students during their last class. Bob A. observed that CERT should be a PR exercise for the FD. Having supporting members within the community should be attractive to them as it could translate into support for future funding, etc. It was suggested that possibly RBCERTAA could help with the class funding. Most CERT programs in the area are free. But it was noted that other communities are also having trouble filling their classes, despite being free. The Rbfd has a \$25,000 budget for the class. Mike G. questioned whether donations to CERT should be used to underwrite the cost of the class, or if the city council should push to get this done. Noting that our financial status does not allow us to assist in funding the program. It was also noted that the chief has discussed canceling the classes if they aren't full.

The next city council meeting is Feb 10th at 1800. Marcelle may try to attend, but it is too late to influence membership in the current class. [This meeting time is in conflict with the next USAR meeting, which may prevent her from attending.] The RBCERTAA needs new recruits to fill positions on the board. Sandy suggested that BOD members acting as citizens could talk to their councilmen, and noted that 'the squeaky wheel gets the grease'. It was observed that this is an opportunity available to every citizen, but that any such discussion should not be represented as being on behalf of the BOD.

Chris Meyers asked why RBCERTAA did not participate in the 5K. This would have presented an opportunity to talk to city council members who were there. He spoke with a number of council members encouraging them to attend the CERT training. It was noted by Marcelle that this role can be done by any CERT member and is not the sole responsibility of the

board. Chris also asked about the possibility of members recruiting small businesses in the town to drum up support. He suggested that talking to the city treasurer might be useful.

- iii. a. Rbfd Participation – The Rbfd representative was not present at the BOD meeting.
Finances- this was our third goal for next year. We are still working on a goal of raising \$10,000 for the current year fundraising.
- a. Consider purchase of raffle item- the question posed by Mike G. should we conduct a raffle as a fundraiser? It was suggested that we could buy a prize (TV or Sound System) and sell raffle tickets to try to raise money. Perhaps we could arrange to defer payment until after the tickets had been sold. Mike G. pointed out that another organization he is familiar with has had good luck fundraising with a donated motorcycle or scooter. It was discussed that we could perhaps recruit a local vendor to provide a prize at cost to CERT for the raffle. It was noted that the RBCERTAA would need to earmark sufficient funds to cover the cost of any prize to be purchased. It was also estimated that the cost to print the raffle tickets would be about \$100. Mike G. suggested that a raffle would be much easier than other fundraisers that had previously been discussed. Marcelle discussed having the drawing for such a raffle at our CERT picnic, planned for the June (June 7th) timeframe. Most board members seemed to be in support of this idea.

After the previous discussion, Mike G made the following motion: Moved that the Alumni Association authorized him to make an expenditure of up to \$1500 from current association funds for the purchase of either a big screen TV or a home stereo system (actual price to be determined during the next week), authorize him to arrange with minuteman press to print raffle tickets with a price of \$5, with these tickets then available to the association for sale. The motion was seconded by Gary H. Motion and passed without dissent.

- iv. Second Trailer (when finances reach certain limit)- We will need to raise funds for this. Perhaps the next BOD (2009-2010) will consider purchasing this, using funds raised from the raffle. As an alternative perhaps a trailer could be donated, as was the first one. Having two trailers would help with disaster response.
- v. CERT Shake November 2009- should there be a repeat similar to the event of last year? Marcelle has created a template from the last event, which could be used in such an event. Mike G. pointed out that the 2008 drill was very successful, similar to the BICEPP competition. This also provided a very useful training to the participants. This seems like it would be a very useful goal for the new board. This could become an annual event. Marcelle indicated that neighboring communities would probably be willing to help, and that the Mayor may be addressing this during his upcoming speech.

Gary H. suggested that we organize a 2009 shake out drill as a CERT function. It was suggested that we check with the other participants and sponsoring agencies to see what their schedule is. The board has agreed to pursue this.

Mike G discussed the possibility of having a CERT camp-out as an alternative form of large-scale drill.

Bob observed that past BODs had varied goals and needs, and suggested that we should let future boards set their own priorities.

Mike acknowledged that the current BOD cannot place obligations on future boards and suggested that the current board simply work on current year goals.

Chris mentioned the annual ham radio field day as an opportunity for CERT participation. Marcelle asked that he email her with the information.

- vi. USAR – Do we continue- Mike spoke with Chief Madrigal and indicated a need for a commitment from the Rbfd. The Chief stated, that he would send Captain Dan Bliss to the USAR meeting next week with his decision. Gary asked about the possibility of an Area G USAR team. Mike replied that this would

require quite a bit of funding and would require buy-in from each participating city. The next USAR meeting is 2/10 in the Hermosa room at BCHD.

vii. CERT Picnic - We need to select a Sunday date in June. A poll of the members present resulted in selection of June 7th for our annual picnic.

B. Fire Department Corner ~ Captain Dan Bliss- Absent.

- i. Dates for Mandatory Trainings - April 26 was selected for the first of the two 2009 training sessions. The second session will probably be in November in conjunction with the 2009 CERT shake drill (see above). *Since this meeting the date of November 7th was confirmed with Rbfd.*
- ii. CPR/First Aid/AED Training Schedule 2009 - We do not yet know the date for this training during academy 40. Watch the newsletter for guidance.
- iii. Future vehicle needs - Mike mentioned that he has asked Marcelle to talk to the city about our needs. He is looking for something like Manhattan Beach has.
- iv. Good Samaritan Issue - We do not have time to discuss tonight. Mike spoke with Chief Madrigal about this. He learned that the court has ruled that the Good Samaritan law only covers medical treatment, and nothing else. This is potentially a big issue. More developments are expected. It was suggested that EMTs consider the need for personal liability insurance. Marcelle mentioned that we are listed as disaster service workers and this is a different thing.
- v. USAR Continuum for Dispatch List - This is not yet resolved.

C. Nominations for 2009 RBCERTAA Board May 2009 – Marcelle - no discussion

- i. June is the end of terms.
- ii. Board members need to have attended 2 board meetings within 6 months and have valid First Aid/CPR card. Requirements for board are shown on our web site. Class 40 is a good opportunity to renew CPR and First Aid cards.

D. Fire Department Corner ~ Captain Dan Bliss / Chief Madrigal

- i. CERT Mutual Aid Program January 15th Meeting - Marcelle indicated that this was the first official meeting. There was Discussion of having a joint event with LA County Fire but no details to report.

E. Committee Updates

- i. Community Involvement ~ Sandy
 - a. Need new Committee Chair Gary will be the new chair of this committee. He is seeking help from the membership.
 - b. St Patrick's Day Parade Saturday, March 14 - The entry fee has been waived for CERT. Phil and Bob K may be able to participate. Marcelle will fill out the paperwork for this Hermosa Beach parade.
 - c. Relay For Life July 2009 – This will be July 18th and 19th in Manhattan Beach. This is a move from Redondo Beach. Mike G suggested that we support Manhattan Beach CERT in this event.
- ii. Equipment ~ Mike -
 - a. Need new Committee Chair – Mike will still be able to tow the trailer but can no longer chair this committee. Phil expressed interest in this position. He needs members on this committee. Noble, Monty, Mike, Gary, and Bob H. volunteered as committee members. There is a need to clean up and repack the equipment used in the last drill. Phil will select a date and advise the committee members.
- iii. Funding ~ Marcelle We have already talked about funding goal and raffle. We will consider the previous suggestion by Chris regarding approaching community businesses for support of CERT.

- iv. Communications ~ Bob A - Nothing new to report. Chris suggested that we encourage Ham Radio training. He is having computer problems, but will continue to work on this. He is looking for inputs from the CERT Shake drill. Also looking for a volunteer to maintain the email list for CERTAA. Monty expressed an interest in this. Mike will help him transfer the account.
- v. PR ~Marcelle will be addressing Tuvia School at Temple Menorah on Feb 24th. She is speaking to Staff and parents about CERT.

7) ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. Monty mentioned that Eric Hartman donated fire extinguishers. Someone is needed to bring CERT apparel to the CERT Academy classes on Thursday evenings.
- B. The recognition plaques for the storage center have been printed.
- C. Bob H donated an antique fire extinguisher as was previously sought by the BOD.

8) OPEN FORUM

Monty mentioned that LA County DCS has made some recent changes, which have not been well received by some members. There was discussion of having these members get more involved in CERT as an alternative.

Chris is selling bricks for the Veterans Memorial. He will provide more information at a future meeting.

9) ADJOURNMENT ~ Mike G made a Motion to adjourn at 8:52. Meeting closed.

Please don't forget to pay for your food.