



Meeting attendees:

RBCERTAA Board Members	Present	Guests in Attendance
President - Sandy Marchese	X	Brandy Harkins
Vice President - Doug Rodriguez	X	Stacey Morse
Treasurer - Gary Horn	X	Chris Meyers
Secretary - Bob Applegate	X	Rick Shigio
Phil Gilbreth	X	Julia Cichon
Bob Kumler	X	Mike Grady
Marcelle McCullough	X	Bob Heil
Susanne Rengo	X	Phil Perles
Monty Ruth	X	Lauraine Garuana
Courtney Steeneken	X	
Nancy Nickels	X	
Number of Board Members Present	11	
Fire Department Liaison		
Captain Dan Bliss, Div. Chief Paul Lepore	X	
X = Present, A = Absent		

The regular monthly meeting of the Redondo Beach CERT Alumni Association was held on Tuesday, February 2, 2010, at 6:31PM, the President being in the chair and the Secretary being present. The minutes of the last meeting were approved.

- I. **Introduction of Guests:** Sandy
- II. **Presentation of Agenda Order and Request for Additions/Deletions:** Sandy
- III. **Fire Department Corner:** Captain Dan Bliss or Representative
 - A. Captain Bliss introduced new RBCFD Division Chief Paul Lepore. Among his responsibilities is the Redondo CERT program.
 - B. Chief Lepore briefly introduced himself and noted that he had come to RB via the Long Beach FD, where he had been a battalion chief. He said that the promotional opportunity combined with the reputation of the RBCFD had made the decision to move an easy one.
 - C. Chief Lepore mentioned that his most memorable experience in firefighting had been the month he spent working in Louisiana and Mississippi in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. He said that he'd had great experiences working with FEMA, along with some not so great experiences. At Katrina he saw that the local firefighters, while properly trained, were totally overwhelmed by the disaster, and that the CERT volunteers served as an essential force multiplier.
 - D. Captain Bliss asked about our progress with the CERT callout list. Sandy said that we'd broken down the contacts into districts, and that she's selected three Lead contacts for each district.
 - E. Captain Bliss noted the importance of the callout list in activating CERT. He said he'd prefer to get quarterly updates of the callout list. He described the policy manual that he expects to create documenting the formal callout process.
 - F. Chief Lepore stated that he preferred to err on the side of caution in calling out CERT. He felt that callouts contributed to well trained and efficient operations.
 - G. Gary asked if CERT ID's could designate more experienced RBCERT members. Captain Bliss was supportive of the idea.

- H. Chief Lepore asked how does the callout currently work? Sandy/Gary/Marcelle replied that the current system uses a combination of community radio (AM 1630), RBCERTAA web site and phone tree.
- I. Captain Bliss told us that the April 25th CERT refresher course would be on a Sunday. He said he'd prefer a disaster exercise, noting among other things the success of the North Redondo Library drill at the refresher last year. He asked if there were any particular skills anyone thought should be taught in conjunction with the exercise? Requests from the board included training in cribbing (Monty), ropes (Nancy), sandbagging and triage.
- J. Date for the RBCERT fall refresher class was tentatively set for Saturday, November 13th.
- K. Regarding the lackluster marketing effort from the city for CERT class 42, Captain Bliss accepted responsibility on behalf of the city. Due to a series of misunderstandings our class banner never got up. As of a few days ago only four people had signed up for the course. Captain Bliss thanked Sandy and Marcelle for their efforts to generate interest in the class. Efforts by Sandy, Doug, Noble Smith and others have resulted in a dramatic increase in signups. The number of expected students is now 22.
- L. Captain Bliss discussed the Ray of Hope benefit for Raymond Sisante, brother of RB firefighter Jeremy Sisante, who is suffering from leukemia. More information on the event may be found at <http://www.rayofhopebenefit.org/>. Donations are appreciated. The benefit will be held at the Avalon in Hollywood on February 19th.

RAY OF HOPE BENEFIT
Supporting Asians for Miracle Marrow Matches (A3M)

Be The Match
A marrow donor registry.
Don't just pray for a miracle, become one.

FOR MORE INFO:
jeremysisante 310-955-7907
michaeltabuso 310-801-0107

AVALON HOLLYWOOD
1735 VINE STREET | HOLLYWOOD, CA 90028

FRIDAY
2/19/2010 @ 7:00PM

Pre-Sale Tickets **\$20.00** Door Tickets **\$25.00**

DANCE SHOWCASE
As a tribute to Ray's love and dedication to music and dance, 6 talented dance teams will perform a special performance to show him their support!

FIREFIGHTER'S AUCTION
Put your bid on Southern California's bravest Firefighters. Each Firefighter will have a starting bid of \$100. Lucky winners will go on a date with their Firefighter, have dinner, then meet all the other winning bidders for drinks at a lounge/bar.

IV. **Brandy Harkins – Beach Cities Health District:**

- A. Brandy reported on relief effort Soles 4 Souls Shoe Drive, which will be collecting new or gently used shoes for donation to Haitian earthquake victims. More information may be found at <http://www.bchd.org/programs/documents/SolesForSouls.pdf>. BCHD is also looking for volunteers to assist in tying the shoes together in preparation for shipment. 8AM-5PM shifts are available on February 2, 10 and 12. Contact Megan Burke at 310-374-3426 x137 or megan.burke@bchd.org if you're interested in volunteering.

HAITI RELIEF
SOLES 4 SOULS
SHOE DRIVE

V. **Old Business:**

- A. Treasurer's Report: Gary
 1. Presentation and call for approval of Treasurer's Report.
 - a) Previous balance: \$3537.04
 - b) Revenues received: \$472.29
 - c) Payments made: \$745.30
 - d) Ending balance: \$3264.03
 2. Reimbursement requests and presentation of current bills for payment.
 - a) Reimbursement requests were made by Sandy, Monty, Marcelle and Chris Meyers:

Source	Item(s)	Amount
Sandy Marchese	Specialty paper	\$19.50
Sandy Marchese	Locks for the trailer hitch	\$47.00
 - b) Sandy requested payment of a \$337.36 insurance bill to cover six months of van insurance. Marcelle made a motion to approve, Gary seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

3. Marcelle reported a \$100 donation from Pandora Victor.
 4. Sandy reported a \$200 donation from Northrop Grumman.
 5. Gary noted that our bank had closed and reopened over the weekend, without disruption. Gary stated that he plans to move our account to a larger bank.
 6. The Treasurer's Report was approved.
- B. Other items
1. Vehicle
 - a) Gary reported that he's currently investigating signage options for the van. Gary mentioned that Bright Light Creative (<http://www.brightlightcreative.net/>) produces "wraps" for vehicles. He hopes to complete rough drawings of the vehicles's artwork by the next board meeting. He stated that Chief Madrigal has offered to pay for gold lettering on the van.
 - b) Gary noted that the marina has donated a permanent parking spot for the van.
 - c) Gary suggested that to protect the van from the elements we need to get it waxed.
 - d) He also mentioned that we may be able to get some used equipment for the van from Gerber Ambulance.
 - e) Monty thanked Gary and Phil for all of their hard work on the van.
 2. Area G Meeting (Susanne/Monty/Sandy)
 - a) Sandy said she learned about giving PowerPoint presentations at the Area G meeting. She particularly noted that she'd learned that studies have shown that images of victims in distress significantly reduced the interest of potential CERT volunteers.
 3. CPK ASAP – First Wednesday of each month fund raiser
 - a) Sandy reminded the board that the monthly fundraiser at CPK ASAP was tomorrow. All CERT members were encouraged to attend. CPK will donate 20% of our check proceeds to RBCERTAA.
 4. Academy #42 – February 4th through April 8th (excluding Feb 18th & Mar 18th)
 - a) Sandy encouraged board members to attend the Thursday session in support of the class and noted that this topic had been covered earlier in the meeting.

VI. New Business:

- A. Date for first refresher training in 2010
 1. Scheduled for Sunday, April 25th.
- B. District Leads
 1. Discussed earlier.
- C. Plaques
 1. Sandy reported on the plaques that we've purchased to use in thanking our sponsors for their support.
- D. CERT ALERT January 20th & 21st
 1. Sandy noted that RBCERT was alerted to a potential callout during the recent storms.
- E. Committee Updates:
 1. Community Relations ~ Gary -
 - a) Super Bowl 10K Run - 6AM to 11AM
 - (1) Sandy reported that the booth has become too expensive for us to participate. She thanked Nancy and Sally Plante for offering to work the booth. Chris Meyers suggested contacting Ernie O'Dell in an effort to get the cost reduced. Sandy felt that it would be too late for us to act on this.
 - b) RBCERT Picnic
 - (1) The picnic is tentatively scheduled for May 22nd.
 - c) Armed Forces Day
 - (1) Chris Meyers suggested that we coordinate with Torrance CERT to include our new van with their booth at the event.
 2. Funding/PR ~ Marcelle
 - a) Marcelle reminded the board of ongoing fundraising opportunities:
 - (1) [Good Search](#) returns \$.01 to RBCERTAA for every time the search engine is used
 - (2) The first Wednesday of each month eat or take out at [CPK ASAP](#) on South PCH in Redondo Beach. Mention RBCERTAA and 20% of the sale will be donated to RBCERTAA.

- b) Marcelle is investigating the following fundraising opportunities:
 - (1) The donation of unused gift cards
 - (2) Fountain coin donations.
 - (3) Foundation enrichment grants
 - (4) Benefit at the Redondo Beach Performing Arts Center
- c) Marcelle appealed for CERT training success stories for use in promoting CERT training.
- 3. Apparel ~ Chris Meyers
 - a) Chris reported that he's looking to improve the quality of our embroidery.
 - b) Sandy displayed a very nice t-shirt with custom name and class number.
 - c) Chris would like to create a PowerPoint slideshow to use in promoting apparel sales at CERT classes.
- 4. Communications ~ Bob Applegate & Bob Kumler
 - a) Web Site Move & possibly new web master
 - (1) Bob Kumler submitted his resignation to the board. He will be greatly missed.
 - (2) Sandy presented Bob with a certificate of appreciation.
 - (3) Doug reported that the transfer to a new host provider is in process.
- 5. Equipment ~ Phil
 - a) Phil requested assistance in cleaning up our storage area. He suggested that local schools/scouts looking for service hours might find this a worthwhile effort.
- 6. Shakeout - Monty
 - a) Monty reported that three people have asked to be on the shakeout committee. The committee will hold a meeting at 11:00AM on Sunday, February 21st at the [Catalina Coffee Company](#).
 - b) Monty noted that he had been in talks with the [Redondo Beach Performing Arts Center](#) regarding the use of the facility for the shakeout drill. He reported that the facility was enthusiastic about the idea.

VII. Announcements

- A. Wednesday, February 3rd – CPK ASAP Fund Raiser (Mention CERT throughout the day)
- B. Saturday, February 6th – Radio Classes
- C. Thursday, February 4th – CERT Academy #42 Starts
- D. Tuesday, February 9th – 4th Annual Battle of the Badges Blood Drive www.givelife.org enter sponsor code BADGE
- E. Friday, February 19th – Ray of Hope Benefit – Ray Sisante Fund Raiser (contact Jeremy Sisante at (310) 955-7907)
- F. Tuesday, March 2nd – RBCERTAA Board Meeting at Billy's
- G. Soles 4 Souls Shoe Drive – Now thru February 12th
- H. State of the City – Sandy will look into getting a booth.
- I. Manhattan Beach CERT – George Butts is looking for victims for a training exercise.
- J. Moulage class – February 6th – contact Sandy for details

VIII. Open Forum

- A. Rick Shigio is recruiting members for a new local Toastmasters International group. The goal of the group is to help individuals improve their presentations skills.
- B. Monty heard that the greatest need among responders in Haiti was leather work gloves and dust masks.

IX. Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 8:54PM.

Bob Applegate, Secretary