Rengstorff / Shoreline (REN)
Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)

Meeting Notes
August 10, 2022

(special thanks to Harry Johnson for capturing meeting details)

Attendees:

- Jonathan Davis
  - Took CERT course in 2019.
  - Took over leadership after Rich Bodo left.
- Maja (pronounced Maya)
  - Lives on Palo Alto Ave.
  - CERT training ~15 years ago, has lived in the neighborhood for 25 years.
  - Lost helmet/goggles/etc, thinking about a neighborhood cache.
- Gaurav Aggarwal
  - In mountain view for ~3 years, lives near Escuela and El Camino
  - No prior CERT experience.
  - Has 2 boys
  - Fairly new, looking for a way to give back to the community.
- Rob Yu
  - Mountain View Ave, other side of California.
  - Moved here in ‘95.
  - Took the last CERT class.
  - Ham radio license a few years ago; checking into monday night nets.
  - Got involved because wife asked him to get involved in CERT communications.
- Karen Fox
  - No relation to any media.
  - Bought home in the neighborhood in 1980.
  - Professor at Santa Clara University; Retired 2009.
  - “The sort of person who buys earthquake insurance” and was looking to do something practical, so joined CERT.
  - Took first aid course through university 5-6 years ago.
  - About to be out of commission for some months due to double-knee replacement.
  - Had been fluent in Spanish, knows some Russian.
- Joe Mancini
  - Pettis(sp) avenue, near Mariposa park, lived here for ~3 years.
  - Have not been involved in CERT, here tonight to get involved.
  - Couple of kids
- Laura Mifflin
  - Pretty close to Ell Camino on mountain view ave.

    - Moved here ~5 months before the pandemic (w/ husband Bob, also here).
    - Did training in Foster City, ~15 years ago, and have been pretty active there, then in Palo Alto.
    - Feels extraordinarily rusty.
    - Passed ham radio exam, but haven't touched a radio.
    - Has a hard hat.
- Lei Bi
    - Graduated from the most recent CERT class in May.
    - Feels rusty and feels has already forgotten some things from class, so excited to be back.
- Harry Johnson
    - Took CERT class in 2019
    - Active in ARES/RACES (but not so much this year).
- Bob Stephenson
    - Has a ham radio license.
    - CERT in Foster City, then Palo Alto (see Laura).
    - In the past, had done some joint drills at AMES
    - Palo Alto took backpack and such when he left.
- Lubab Sheet-Davis
    - Have not taken CERT training, but is happy to cook for all the CERT volunteers.
- Alane Kataria-Renie (and son Locklan)
    - Took CERT course in 2019.

Notes

- Background (Jonathan)
    - There's all the training, but the real value is in knowing your neighbors and knowing who would be willing to help.
    - If the city does activate us as a CERT group, we'd try to function in accordance with CERT principles.
    - Pandemic hit pretty hard - we lost ~5 good volunteers.
    - Wants to make the barrier to entry as low as possible.
    - Our boundary extends down to Rengstorff, but not so much engagement from people beyond Escuela. Primarily a Shoreline West group.
- Grant Purchasing
    - Each CERT team can request items to build out the command center and supply cache; generally about $1000 per year.
    - This year, we got a generator, extension cords, safety vests, FRS radios, tables, splints, stop the bleed kits.
    - Made a note to get more vests and helmets for next year.
- When was the last time the city actually activated us?
    - Jonathan is not aware of any for-real activations.
    - We're a reserve unit for massive mass-casualty events.

    - Bob: Palo Alto has done some public-service non-emergency activations, or for watching floods.
- Upcoming City Events
    - As on Agenda.
- Karen: Interesting to visit Santa Clara County OEM / 911 center in San Jose.
    - Willing to initiate the contact.
- How often should we get together?
    - Jonathan is willing to do something at his place ~3 times a year.
        - Plus drills (on weekends).
    - Karen wants to get together more often than that.
- Laura - from previous organizations, what was lacking was a concrete checklist / action plan for what to do after an emergency.
    - Where do I go, what do I bring?
    - For now - show up at Jonathan's.
- How do we coordinate who covers what area in an emergency?
    - For now, everyone shows up at the command post and we assign people out from there.
    - Lots of following discussion with what-ifs.
- What other quasi-disasters might we get deployed for?
    - Fires, heat, etc.

Action items

- ☐ Jonathan: The remaining funded item (per grant) to acquire this year is a website builder and domain so we can create a website, share files, and project a team identity for further member recruitment.
- ☐ Items for future CERT Team acquisition (grant request)
    - ☐ Water Storage / Filters.
- ☐ Generator
    - ☐ Runs on Propane: check that we have the necessary adapters and boot it up.
    - ☐ Check available tank sizes and calculate runtime.
- ☐ Photo!
- ☐ Agenda Proposal for next time: Ham radio for non-hams talk.
- ☐ Karen: reaching out to Santa Clara county OEM.