



LowCountry CERT

Community Emergency Response Team

Minutes

Lowcountry CERT Board of Directors Meeting

August 13, 2008

6:00 pm

Fire Station 2, Mount Pleasant

Attendees: Jim Tarter, Tom Crosby, Art George, Michele Guilford, Sandy Godbey, Holly Olsen, Danica Sancic, Sally Burnett

1. Following a tour of the fire station and dinner, the meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by Tom Crosby.
2. The agenda was distributed to all in attendance.
3. Minutes for June meeting were approved.
4. Treasurer Report

Contributions	\$184.00
Balance	\$637.60

 - a. Treasurer Michele Guilford will be reimbursed for \$92.00 for the yearly PO Box fee.
 - b. In order to change our internet domain from LCERT to LowCountry CERT, Michele will need \$50.00. The motion was made, seconded, and passed to reimburse her for this expense.
5. Jim stated that it is important that members and the public understand that CERT is controlled by the members and is an independent organization.
6. Committee Reports
 - a. Public Relations/Communication (Michele) - Michele explained that we had a choice of letting our LowCountry CERT web site lapse or pay the fee to make that our official site instead of LCERT. The motion was made, seconded and approved that we make LowCountry CERT our official web site.
 - b. Special Events/Fund Raising (Tom)
 - A 2009 Annual CERT Meeting with a possible Emergency Awareness Symposium was discussed. In an effort to reach more people, the suggestion was made to have the symposium elsewhere, possibly Tanger Mall. It was also suggested that we change the title to Emergency Services Awareness Symposium. Tom will look into possible locations and report later.
 - Charleston's "First Day" event will take place on Sunday, August 17. There will be CERT volunteers helping with the festival.

- Charleston's Hurricane Expo will be held on Saturday, August 23 from 10:00 am - 5:00 pm.
 - Jim & Tom attended a Coast Guard meeting. CERT will have the opportunity to take part in special training so that we can help wildlife in the event of a local oil spill.
 - c. Membership Liaison/New Member Recruiting (Art) - This report was discussed during Old Business.
 - d. Inventory (Sandy) - It was reported that about half of the teams have turned in their Inventory/Wish List surveys. Jim will send reminders to these team leaders. A master list will be compiled in order to help us know what the teams have, what they need, and to help with our grant applications.
7. Old Business
- a. The new class will begin on September 4, 2008.
 - b. There was a good turnout for the instructors meeting.
 - c. Web Update - In addition to the change mentioned previously, the Board voted to use Yahoo Groups as a CERT member information and communication site. Michele will be the site moderator and send the board members the site information to begin with. Michele will also take over as CERT webmaster.
 - d. Fund Raising - Jim proposed that we use the sale of the book It's a Disaster as a fund raiser. Michele volunteered to check into our purchasing the books, and then the decision will be made as to just how to sell them. Jim has a list of agencies who offer grants that we might apply for. Holly Olsen will check into grant-writing instruction resources and volunteers to write grants.
8. New Business
- a. BERT - Danica explained her new business venture (Business Emergency Response Team). The Board voted to provide her with CERT instruction material after seeing her business outline, and in turn, BERT will be a supporting agent of CERT.
 - b. TEEN CERT - Danica reported that CERT will begin working with some Charleston 8th grade students in a pilot program that will involve teaching the CERT program in selected schools.
 - c. VOAD - Sally Burnett distributed a copy of the CERT survey and discussed the goals of the survey. One of the main goals of the survey is to get members more involved in CERT. A few changes were made to the wording of the survey. The survey will be first presented to members on the internet. For members not responding, phone calls will be made, and then surveys will be sent by mail. Members still not responding will be dropped from CERT membership.
9. The next board meeting will be held on November 12 at 6:00 pm - location TBA.
10. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Sandy Godbey, secretary