

**Town of Fairfax
Citizens Disaster Council**

**Friday, October 31, 2008
10:00 a.m.
Youth Center
16 Park Road**

Minutes

In attendance: David Weinssoff, Vice-Mayor; Susan Brandborg, Council Member; Michael Rock, Town Manager; Maria Baird, Community Resources Coordinator; Stuart Baker, Cynthia Powell, Police Department; Craig Carroll, Ross Valley Fire Department; Bob Wheeler, Red Cross; Bruce Stahley, OES, Cindy Swift, Jon Marchant

Vice Mayor Weinssoff convened the meeting at 10:00 a.m. The July 11th minutes were approved.

1. **Board Member Reports**-Craig Carroll reported CERT is becoming active in the schools. The Tamalpais School District (Drake High School), and Wade Thomas Elementary School have made great strides in disaster preparedness recently. They are covering Incident Management (NIMS/SIMS), Search & Rescue, Drills, Supplies, and Early Release Protocol.

Bruce Stahley reported that the Silver Sentinel exercise was held last Thursday from 10 a.m.-2:00 p.m. by the Emergency Operations Team. The scenario was an earthquake on the Hayward fault. Fairfax participated in a tabletop exercise. (Tabletop means discussion, while functional implies you have messages go out to EOC staff). The main operations room was unavailable, so activities took place at the Alternate EOC-the County Jail conference room. Overall, the exercise was very successful.

Bob Wheeler of the Red Cross responded his agency also participated in the exercise. There were 200 people involved. The scenario was there was no phone coverage available, so emergency responders had to rely on RACES, own radios. One lesson that was learned during this simulation is that satellite (SAT) phones must have protocols to go along with them.

2. **CERT Update and Get Ready Program**-Craig reported that a CERT class was held last night, drawing 10 attendees. The next focus of the classes will be to have more hands-on scenarios. "Get Ready

Marin” is quieting down, and the trend is more in-home trainings being offered, to neighborhood associations, etc. There are three instructors that provide training in San Anselmo, Fairfax, and Sleepy Hollow. Approximately 500 people are now trained. CERT requires a two year re-certification training.

3. EOC Staff Training- Michael announced a training had been held for Town employees in September. It will be held once a year for Town staff. Bruce Stahley led part of the training, as did Stuart Baker.

4. Creek clean-up- Maria stated a joint creek clean-up was held this year in conjunction with the Town of San Anselmo in July. Participation was good, with 30 attendees. Susan Brandborg added that discoveries were made during the clean-up that some residents were siphoning water for irrigation purposes. Activities were reported to the Department of Fish & Game who followed up with enforcement.

5. County of Marin Disaster Council activities- Bruce stated the Council meeting was chaired by Supervisor Judy Arnold on September 11th. The meetings are held quarterly at the Civic Center on the second Thursday of the month. The next meeting will take place from 3-5 p.m. on Dec. 11th at the Civic Center, Room 266. Bruce distributed the Marin Operation Area Emergency Operations Plan. Bruce announced “Communication Protocol for Marin County neighborhoods- a Brown Act training video is available on the G channel. Dominican College professor Matt Davis has published a study on the analysis of Get Ready Marin: Public Disaster Education, which is available for viewing on the Marin County website: www.co.marin.ca.us.

Craig added a new program is being started by the Marin County Fire chief for health compromised individuals entitled “Vials of Life”. Craig will forward Maria information to pass on to the Council and will discuss at the next meeting. It is basically a program that identifies ill individuals that may be taking meds to assist EMT personnel responding to a 911 call to the residence.

6. Discussion of installation of siren(s) in the Cascades- Michael reported that he has asked Police Chief Ken Hughes to set up a community meeting. Currently, the downtown siren is not audible in the Cascades, so the area is isolated from notification in the event of an emergency. Previously, there was community opposition to installing a siren in this neighborhood. Stuart Baker mentioned a weatherband radio

can be purchased for \$29 that alerts residents when a disaster has been deemed by the National Weather Service. They are available at Radio Shack and on-line.

7.Update on distribution of Fire Safe Marin DVD-Maria announced approximately 500 DVDs have been distributed to date by volunteers. An additional 3,000 remain to be passed out.

Next meeting: Set for Friday, January 9th at 10:00 a.m., Youth Center.