

Seaside CERT Meeting Minutes from March 16, 2021 via Zoom, 4pm Written by Su Coddington

Attendance: Anne McBride, Brian Dennon, Lora Van Nortwick, Joyce Hunt, Jason Johnson, Steve Wright, Matthew Stolberg, Robin and Vanessa Knoll, and Su Coddington

Su called the meeting to order at 6pm. Welcomed out newest member, Brian. Reflection: Don't Quit Su read one verse of three since Brian is new). Stated that she would like others to contribute occasional reflection, please.

Minutes of last meeting had no objections or corrections; Anne will post to our website.

Badges: Brian has one, wondering if the picture can be moved to a Seaside CERT badge or re-take. Please check with Steve on this. Robin and Vanessa encouraged to get their pictures taken and to Steve so Su can send all pictures to Pooka for the Citizen Corps website together. Anne can post all the pictures to our website also.

Meeting time and date: Evidently there is a conflict on Tuesdays for ham operators, which includes Lora and Robin and Vanessa. We want to increase attendance. Discussion occurred. For next month we will continue at 6pm. We will continue to meet on the third Tuesday of the month for now.

Meeting in person vs. Zoom: No real concerns noted as long as masks are worn and social distancing followed. Joyce voiced concern about the benefit of Zoom related to her need to care for her mother. For April, we will meet at City Hall. Anne will figure out how to set-up Zoom. She will get back to us.

Happenings at Clatsop County: Su gave heads-up that once the county opens up, maybe this summer, educational opportunities will be available. Please keep track personally of the Clatsop County CERT Calendar to be informed. It is not up to date today.

She offered contact about DART in Cannon Beach if you are interested. They did an exercise on 3/13. Su did not attend.

Another community mask hand-out is happening on Thursday, March 18th from 2-4pm at Seaside and Gearhart's local fire stations. Other communities are also handing out. Ask Su if you need locations other than mentioned. Su always gets a couple boxes to hand out to neighbors and those who need them. These newer KN95 mask boxes are not individually wrapped so one box goes to one person or one family. There are 10 in each box. If you need masks Su can get you some.

Wide Area Search (WAS) for April 9-11: Anne stated this is cancelled due to COVID.

Wayfinding or What we choose to call it: Seaside CERT needs to walk the Tsunami routes and be familiar with all 5 of them. Let's talk about starting this in May (or when we are comfortable being together; let's discuss next month). Have you ever questioned what you would do if you were in Astoria or Warrenton during an earthquake?

COVID/Vaccine issues: Su mentioned that the county needs volunteers and are reaching out to ask CERT to help. There are many positions where we can help. Please let Su know and she can get you connected to the right people. There are two clinics left this week on Thursday and Friday in Astoria at the Fairgrounds, but more coming the following week. As of today, we have fully vaccinated 11.5% of the Clatsop County population! We are actually ahead of the state in vaccination rate. As we mark one year today of county declarations, sadly, we have lost 2,322 Oregonians to COVID. Our condolences go out to

families who have lost loved ones. Su mentioned the generosity of Sunset Empire Transit District's free transportation to/from vaccination sites. Make an appointment at least 24 hours ahead. #503-861-7433. Please also note that our library, open until 6pm this week and 7pm next week, has computers where people can sign up for the vaccine survey and get on the list. Note the computers shut off 15 minutes before closing. Please note the COVID safety guidelines. Out in public, continue to wear masks and social distance with no large gatherings. COVID fatigue is real. Hang on a little longer. Follow CDC guidelines. Remember, we are fully vaccinated only after two weeks after our last vaccination. Questions? Email covid19vaccine@clatsopeoc.com

Next County Citizen Corps Meeting: April 1st at 6pm via Zoom. Yes, this is Holy Thursday and the meeting is set. Su is checking on church services. She might have to leave early. The Zoom contact was updated so use that to check in. Thank you to Steve for giving the March Seaside update. Su was at her Mom's 101st birthday function!

Clatsop County Emergency Management Data Sheet: Pooka has requested certain information. Su worked on an introduction and sent it out this afternoon. She included the information section asking what contact info we should use. She included Lora's "commercial" for the about section. We are waiting on the badge pictures of Brian, Robin, and Vanessa. Any others please get a picture to Steve so you can be included.

Education opportunity: Washington state rolled out their ShakeAlert Earthquake Early Warning System. Oregon is pending. This will be an app on your phone system, android and iOS. Anne explained that you will get a 5 second warning that an earthquake is coming so you can get a tiny window of warning to prepare. More information at: <https://www.shakealert.org/>

March is Be Red Cross Ready month for Seaside and Gearhart. Tonight, as we meet, from 6-7pm, they are scheduled to be presenting on Earthquake Safety. There is to be another presentation next Tuesday on flooding safety and another on the 30th, Home Fire Safety. Go to the Red Cross Ready site for detail. Prepare1 is the password. Su was able to find static displays on the website about each presentation so far, but nothing live. Anne mentioned that she was aware of some glitches with the presentations.

Ham updates: Lora mentioned that the Megler repeater is repaired! The Simplex network training involving Seaside and Gearhart is occurring the second Wednesday of the month at 7:30 pm on channel 146.40. There is no repeater involved with Simplex. Eventually, the Simplex exercise will branch out to be a county exercise. Interesting, there is a triage color system for weather warnings/advisories to broadcast to the EOC, as well as color coded evacuation levels. Lora also mentioned that Mike Brumfield, in charge of Auxcomm, is going to offer classes for those who want to get their ham licenses or upgrade their licenses. Go to clatsopauxcomm.org for information.

Don't forget emergency preparedness: 4 parts: Jason (welcome back) said he was back from a 6-week training course about triage, SAR, and fire safety. He has go-kits, but they always need to be packed with individual area needs. He talked about the importance of good quality raingear and said there is a new easy to use water purification system.

March: Escape Planning for Older Adults: note age 65 is considered in this category. Su sent this handout for you to look at. As we age, the risk of dying in a home fire increases. Know your location escape plan

and practice it at least twice a year. Recall, this is part 1, of emergency preparedness at home, except it is encouraged monthly.

Su was approached about starting an MRC in Seaside. I state, one thing at a time. CERT is our priority, but keep it in mind for future. DART, also.

Joyce showed a pamphlet titled, 72-hour Family Emergency Kit. Anne wants to see it. Su, as well. Joyce will get a copy to Anne.

Anne stated the new EOC (Emergency Operations Center) is at the new Highschool, a modular building next to the 2-million-gallon water tank. She is involved in getting a grant to get computers. Radio equipment is up there. We can't visit yet because they are building a restroom for it. The back-up EOC is at the police station. Anne met with SEARC, Sunset Empire Amateur Radio Club, who are interested in helping Seaside. There is no GMRC radio system in Seaside (Su asked).

Anne mentioned that she might be getting a student intern soon. She also brought up CPR training. This had been tabled during COVID. Medix did not return calls to Su and the company told her not to plan anything until it was safer. When brought up last, Fire Chief Joey mentioned that his group could handle this. Anne will follow-up because several of us need our CPR certification.

Su mentioned that she hopes that the future of CERT meetings includes sharing the running of the meetings and monthly teaching activities, such as how to start a fire. Anne mentioned talking to the local bike shop about the best bike to get someplace fast in the threat of a tsunami. Electric bikes were mentioned. Steve said we should consider the old scooters that Portland has been rejecting. Su was concerned that we might not be able to ride any kind of bike due to the undulation of the ground from the earthquake.

Next meeting: Tentative at this time for location: April 20th, 6pm, City Hall and/or Zoom. Su will let you know.

Meeting adjourned at 1755.

