

Wake County CERT General Meeting Minutes

Minutes of the meeting held January 16, 2007
held at Keeter Training Center, 105 Keeter Dr., Raleigh, NC
Submitted by Timothy Kemp, Secretary

The meeting was called to order by *Henry Heller* at 6:33 PM.

In attendance were:

Henry Heller
David G. Dicken
Tim Kemp
Keith Kestner
Larry Stanford
Jerry Palumbo

Corbet Strickland
Larry Holt
Charles Rodman
Richard Stearns
AlexAndrea Alexander
George Chubb

There were no minutes of the previous meeting. No one had been there to take them due to illness of the Secretary. Henry Heller gave a brief summary of the previous meeting.

The new “trainees” present were welcomed and introduced themselves.

OLD BUSINESS

Treasurer's Report

Jack Albright, Sr., Wake County CERT Treasurer, was out of town. There was no Treasurer's report.

Website

It was discussed again that *John Fiorentino*, Wake County CERT Webmaster, is presently too busy in his profession to keep the website up to date. *Tim Kemp* offered to take it over if it could be moved to a server where he would have full access to it. *Tim* was asked by *Henry Heller* to be looking for a server.

Meeting Programs

There was more discussion on having programs at our monthly General Membership Meetings.

Topics for meetings discussed tonight were:

First Aid training refreshers

Light Search and Rescue refreshers

Light Firefighting refreshers

Severe Weather Spotting training by the National Weather Service

Home Disaster planning and preparations

Basic Chain Saw Safety

Emergency Communications Techniques

Having someone from ARES speak on Amateur “ham” Radio and it's benefits in disasters

Disaster Psychology

John Van Pelt

Training

There was some discussion on how the present training session was going, feedback was heard from some of the trainees, and the large size of the class was discussed.

There was more discussion on the possibilities of future CPR/AED Training and Chainsaw Training which is required by any CERT member before they can be issued a chainsaw,

The subject on training non-English speaking people was again brought up. The feeling is still that Wake County CERT will provide training literature in other languages WHEN AVAILABLE, but that we cannot try to hold classes with a translator. We did feel that if Bilingual people get CERT training, and then take "Train the Trainer" classes they they could teach foreign language CERT courses in their other language. These trainers would still need to be people with some previous knowledge in the portion of the CERT training which they are training. We proposed talking to bilingual CERT trainees and to previously trained bilingual persons about finding bilinguals in their communities who have experience in emergency response and would be interested in helping to train area communities speaking other languages.

NEW BUSINESS

Fund Raising

Henry Heller said that the application for a grant from Walmart had been returned with suggestions for rewording to make it more acceptable. *Henry* stated that this has been done and it has been again sent to Walmart.

Publicity

Henry Heller asked *Jerry Palumbo* to try to get our 2007 training schedule and basic CERT information into *Jerry's* HOA's newsletter.

Meeting Times

Due to the multiple members and officers who are having conflicts on the present meeting nights *Henry Heller* suggested we find a new night for meetings. The general concensus was that Thursday evenings were better for most. It was decided that *Henry Heller* should poll the members by email to see if a switch to Thursday would be okay and if so, which Thursday was best for the different members. Those of us in attendance felt that the 3rd or 4th Thursday of each month would be best.

David Dicken suggested that until the membership has been polled, the February meeting still be held on a Tuesday, but on the 3rd Tuesday, February 20th. Everyone there agreed.

Officers

Henry Heller requested we be thinking about backups for our officers due to the many conflicts several of us have been having on meeting nights recently.

RARS Hamfest

Henry Heller stated that Dick Bitner, Raleigh Amateur Radio Society President, has told him we will be welcome to return with a booth again this year at the RARS hamfest at the State Fairgrounds on April, 1st. *Henry* described to the group what a hamfest is and told them a little about what we had done there last year.

CLOSING

Henry Heller made the motion that we adjourn. *David Dicken* 2nd the motion. All were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 7:37 PM.