

Meeting Minutes  
9/24/2009  
6:45 pm

In attendance: Cathleen Tracy, CERT; Dana Powers, CERT; Glenda Gail Parker, Fairfax Federation of Citizens Information; Tom Lambiase, FCIA; Esther Emard, MRC; Brent Klavon, MRC; Ron Manzo, Neighborhood Watch; Frank Vajda, Neighborhood Watch; Pat Lucas, Northern Virginia Crime Prevention Association; Bonnie O'Leary, Northern Virginia Resource Center for Deaf & HOH; Tracy MacDonald, Northern Virginia Technology Council; Bob Mizer, Braddock District; Jim Diehl, Dranesville District; Al Bornmann, Mount Vernon District; Jean Zettler, Providence District; Jim Kirkpatrick, Springfield District; Lawrence Ewing, United Way; Karen Bonz, VIPS; Donna Spiewak, VIPS; Marcelo Ferreira, Volunteer Fairfax; John Hudson, Fairfax County OEM; Al Bass, Fairfax County OEM.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Marcelo Ferreira at 6:53 pm.

### **Presentations**

Marcelo asked the council if anyone would like to change anything in the minutes from the last meeting. No one raised any concerns, so Marcelo called for a motion to approve. Minutes were approved.

Marcelo stated that the Citizen Corps Council retreat would be on November 7, from 8am-1pm. He called for a raise of hands to see many would attend. Most members raised their hands, so a decent turnout was expected at the retreat. Marcelo asked for people to share ideas on what they would like to address at the retreat. His personal thoughts were to utilize the retreat to evaluate where the council stands and where it's headed. He raised various ideas to be discussed such as joint training, background checks, standard IDs, crossover trainings and Iis.gov. Marcelo called for discussion on what everyone would like to get out of the retreat. Various members shared ideas about what they would like to discuss, such as a central database of volunteers. Marcelo concluded that he would like for the council to try to figure out its purpose at the retreat. Robert added that he would like to discuss at the retreat in detail where the funding comes from and where it goes. John Hudson is lobbying for bagels at the retreat.

### **Committee updates**

#### *By-laws*

Marcelo asked if anyone proposed any changes to the by-laws. Donna asked if her suggestions had been put in. Marcelo stated yes. Donna stated that non-council members should only be able to participate in the open discussion period at the end of the meetings. Another member suggested that that they sit separately so that it is known if whether they can participate is regular discussion or not. John suggested that 5 minutes at the beginning can be dedicated to non-members asking questions. Marcelo asked for motion to add a 5-minute discussion period for non-members in the beginning. Motion was approved. It was suggested that the Fairfax County Attorney review the by-laws, and John stated that this was in the process. Marcelo called for a motion to approve the changes to the by-laws. All voted in favor. Changes to the by-laws were approved.

#### *Outreach*

No outreach committee. Marcelo asked if someone could represent Citizen Corps at an event at Woodlawn on Oct 10. MRC stated they will do so.

#### *Grants*

No grants updates.

### *Membership*

Proposed that Salvation Army be extended an invitation. It was suggested that if they are willing to commit to attend, then they should be extended an invitation. Adeel stated that there was a suggestion from the Hunter Mill District Supervisor's office that Girl Scouts be extended an invitation for representation at the Citizen Corps Council since they now had a badge. Council members approved of the idea. Membership committee will extend invitations to Salvation Army and Girl Scouts, and AI will get them in contact with a representative from Girl Scouts. Pat stated that Amateur radio still wants to participate. Virginia Alliance of Family care is not sure how they will fit in at the council. The Membership Committee will also look into the FCPS High Schools to see if they can find out who is the representative to the Council (Ron Manzo also offered to look into this matter).

### **Core Organization Updates**

Marcelo stated that he wanted to allow affiliate organizations to be able to provide updates at the end of the core organization updates.

### MRC

MRC has been in attendance at various events. Had a good turnout at Reston Town Center. Stated some various other events MRC will be in attendance at.

### CERT

CERT has been busy with national preparedness month. Involved with a number of outreach events. Has 3 CERT classes going on. Has various outreach events coming up planned. Another CERT class will be starting in late October in Reston. There is a proposal to offer CERT training to county employees, a 3 day 8 hours concentrated class during the day, an on the job training. CERT is in the process of trying to form a committee of CERT volunteers to help guide the CERT program. The Citizen Corps rep from CERT will be liaison to this committee, OEM and CERT.

### Fire Corps

Not a whole lot going on with Fire Corps. They are meeting with other jurisdictions to share best practices.

### VIPS

Car seat installation inspection has been going on. A lot has been able to be maintained because of APOs and VIPS, otherwise funding was going to be cut. Involved in upcoming hazmat event. A lot more requests are coming in weekly for VIPS/APOs to be used as funding is being cut. Involved with national night out. Involved in a week long activity for kids at risk of being involved with gangs.

### Neighborhood Watch

Celebrated National Night Out. No county wide celebration because of budget. But still had a lot of support. Pat has worked on mapping system for neighborhood watch throughout county. CPOs started reaching out to active and inactive neighborhood watch programs.

## **Affiliate Organization Updates**

Marcelo invited affiliate organizations to provide updates.

### United Way,

United Way has a new CEO, Bill Hanbury. United Way got a number of volunteers to rebuild a community center. Is affiliated with over a 1000 agencies. National theme is to look for new ways to live united. Has kicked off its annual campaign, program will air in November. Invited council members to visit website <http://unitedwaynca.org> to keep updated.

NVRC does not have much to do with emergency preparedness, but helps people that are deaf or hard of hearing. It was suggested by the council that preparedness CDs be handed out to the deaf and hard of hearing community. Marcelo stated that a blast email will be sent out to council members to forward any relevant outreach material.

NVTC has been busy with fall events and programs.

Faith Community has a couple of events coming up. A Chaplin Corps is being put together and is seeking volunteers.

Jean asked if there was an update on the status of a new OEM person. No one will be in place for the November retreat.

Volunteer Fairfax put together brochure to promote emergency preparedness and volunteer affiliation within the County. Volunteer Fairfax has also participated in outreach events during September Prepares and has placed advertisements on News Channel 8 and the Connection Newspaper.

If anyone has anything to share with Fairfax Citizens Association, they should email Gayle Parker.

## **New Business**

Marcelo wanted to know if the council thought whether it was okay to have around 40 minutes for core organization and affiliate updates. It was suggested that core organizations and affiliates submit an outline of updates in writing a week and a half to two weeks before the meeting so that they can be sent out with the meeting reminder and past meeting minutes and agenda before each meeting. There will still be time set aside for updates during the meeting.

Heather Gordon of Red Cross is working on a shared calendar, which will help increase collaboration. The calendar will be set up using Google.

Marcelo thanked John Hudson and OEM for all their help.

## Adjournment

There being no further business, there was a motion to adjourn that was seconded and approved unanimously at 8:28 pm.

Faithfully submitted,  
Adeel Mufti, Secretary