

ORANGE CERT MEETING MINUTES

APRIL 17, 2019

ORANGE, CONN
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE
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Patrick B. O'Sullivan
TOWN CLERK

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Kenneth Lyke,
Team Leader

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited

Members in Attendance: Ken Lyke, Marisa Russo, Susan Smith, Al Mushin, Lisa Sen, Lynn Knight, Lisa Hartshorn, Larry Hartshorn, Mike Pritz, Jim Brandt, Tino Russo, Maria Russo, Bruce Backer, Laurie Swatt, Judith Toohey, Susan Shaw (guest speaker)

TEAM LEADER, Kenneth Lyke announced that it is *National Volunteer* month. He thanked everyone for their continuous support of CERT.

Ken spoke about:

- The CT Emergency Management Symposium which will take place on Thursday, April 25.

Each spring, CCM along with the Connecticut Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DEMHS), the Connecticut Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection (DESPP), and the Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH) attract hundreds of local public safety officials and others responsible for responding to mass emergencies. This is the only statewide municipal government event that offers a full day of informative workshops, interactive discussions, networking opportunities, and vendors showcasing relevant products and services.

Al Mushin, Tino Russo, Fred Palmer and Ken Lyke will attend.

- **Relay for Life: May 18-19. Marisa Russo will be the chairman.**

Lisa Hartshorn spoke on the procedures for CERT at this event. Rain or Shine, the event will take place.

- **Memorial Day Parade will take place on Sunday, May 26 (rain date) Monday, May 27
A trailer is being sought.**
- **Land Trust Hike will be on Saturday June 15, at 9:30 a.m. at the Racebrook Track off Racebrook Road in Orange, just north of Derby Avenue. The trails meander through fairly level land, making it a pleasant walk.**
- **Ken will be in touch with Charlie Sherwood, Fire Department Deputy Chief over *SEARCH and RESCUE*.**

Bruce Backer spoke about Sky Warn Training.

Forecasters from the National Weather Service in New York City conduct storm spotter training sessions each year to help prepare spotters for the upcoming severe weather season. The training sessions are typically about three hours long and cover fundamental information that every spotter needs to know, with a focus on safety, identification of key weather features and proper reporting procedures. Most sessions are open to anyone who is interested in learning more about being a spotter.

Wednesday, May 8th

New Haven County

Wallingford Office of Emergency Management

143 Hope Hill Road

Wallingford, CT 06492

7:00 PM

Bruce also spoke about some new material being offered at a Stop the Bleed course.

A continued discussion came up in regards to:

- **CPR certification refresher course**
- **Radios**
- **Automatic activation devices**

Bruce Backer brought up SLACK which is a new kind of messaging for teams, bringing all your communication together in one simple place and integrating with the tools you already use.

Jim Brandt brought up the fact that certain topics have been brought up so often, and the team does not need to hear them each month. These topics should be brought up and discussed among leadership and when resolved be brought back to the team.

GUEST SPEAKER

Susan Shaw, Senior Director Emergency Services AMERICAN RED CROSS

Susan spoke about her many adventures and experiences after being deployed to North Carolina (Hurricane Florence).

She spoke about being prepared yet flexible in the many obstacles that face both victims and volunteers.

There are many different and difficult scenarios that face volunteers and first responders. ie:

- **Evacuation**
- **Elderly**
- **Hospice care**
- **Children**
- **Families that are separated**
- **Language barriers**
- **Airborne illnesses**
- **People refusing to leave**
- **Animals**
- **Mental health impact on disasters**

AREAS DISCUSSED:

Registration (Red Cross forms)

Colored bracelets to show that a person has registered.

Training for food services

Food Preparation certification needed from the State and Local Health Department.

Food from local schools

Local church groups will provide food

NO children allowed roaming hall alone

Weapons (Orange Police Department consultation)

Service animals

Pets

Unsolicited Volunteers

Laurie Swatt was sworn in under the Emergency Management Oath.

Jude Toohey, photographer took some photos. These will be submitted for publication.

The meeting adjourned on 8:50.

Submitted by: Susan Smith, Secretary