

MRC Meeting minutes, Feb. 4, 2015

Present: Bill Murphy, Phyllis Schilp, Carol Bradford, Ipp Mayjucha, Susan Sama

Meeting began with introductions of new BOH Director for Sudbury, Bill Murphy, and new BOH Public Health Nurse Phyllis Schilp.

Phyllis also informed the members of a new Region 4A director, Cathy Corkery, and mentioned that new standard operating procedure manual draft for MRC's will be available soon.

Ipp feels our mission statement should be aligned with a national model for MRC. It has been hard to generate the same level of commitment to volunteerism that was seen post 9-11. We need to look at using "just in time training" when utilizing volunteers for any event as we have been unable to attract them to attend any kind of training held over the past couple of years.

CERT is also lacking a base of volunteers, and currently do not even have the resources to open a shelter in the event of a storm emergency. We should consider aligning with CERT as one local emergency unit, and consider holding quarterly public health education campaigns. Phyllis is planning a meeting with CERT chair Marie Royea to discuss working together. Many towns no longer have separate groups due to lack of volunteers. Weston recently changed their terminology from "Medical" to "Emergency Response Team"

Current appointment terms are listed as "ongoing", which is different from previous appointment terms of 3 years. Phyllis will look into this with the Selectman's office. Ipp is no longer able to continue in his role as Chair of MRC. Susan Sama was nominated as the new chair, with the motion seconded and approved. Phyllis will be the liaison with the BOH and will keep the BOH Director informed of activities.

The key issue is how to attract interest by residents to become involved. Suggestions include: using media such as Town Crier, Patch; school newsletters; Senior Center contact list and town data base to find residents with medical backgrounds.

It will be important for us to set goals and utilize Region 4A for assistance. Aim for trainings 4 times/year and offer CEU's. May attract people if seems more formal. Ipp would like to see us host an annual event, such as a blood drive/blood pressure clinic - Something that would attract the public to attend and offer members an opportunity for community visibility.

Susan concerned with plan for alternate shelter sites and staffing of them. Phyllis states if there is a need to open a shelter, the Red Cross would become involved and would open and run the shelter and our role would be to support them. The current shelter supplies are being inventoried and many items are out of date.

Phyllis is working on updating the town website for MRC information. She will also generate an email script to be sent to members on the most recent MRC list to see about their continued interest. She will follow up with postal mailing to those whose email addresses are no longer current. An Introductory Meeting will be scheduled that will include an orientation to MRC with badging of new members. Ipp developed a Conflict Resolution Part I Presentation (presented in Sudbury in 2013). He has now developed Part II. Region 4A is interested in these. Part II involves role-playing.

Phyllis reports some funds from Region 4A available and must be spent this month. She has ordered a white tablecloth with the Sudbury Health Department MRC Logo. Purchase approved by those in attendance.

Next meeting date: March 11, 2015
Carol Bradford