



**Public Disaster Education and Preparedness (PDE+P) Committee of  
the Marin Operational Area Disaster & Citizens Corps Council (DC3)  
Committee Meeting – Monday December 7, 2015**

**PDE+P Meeting Minutes for December 7, 2015**  
*Approved at PDEP meeting 1-11-2016*

**Attendance:**

Members Present:

Bill Tyler	CoChair, DC3 Member, Batt. Chief Novato Fire, Fire Marshal
Frank Cox	CoChair, DC3 Member, OES Auxiliary, OES trainer
Barbara Coler	MCCMC rep, City Council Fairfax, CA.
David Peery	MMWD Safety & Risk Manager
Garry Lion	DC3 member, Marin Economic Forum
James Wickham	PG&E Safety + Preparedness Specialist
John Bruckbauer	San Rafael Emergency Management Coordinator
Maggie Lang	CERT Coordinator, Get Ready / Southern Marin
Philippa Lockwood	ARC Disaster Program Specialist / MIDC contact
Terry Scussel,	AFN communities: Marin Ventures, IHSS etc.

Members Excused or absent:

None

Members of Public Present

Catherine Way	Mayor, City of Larkspur <a href="mailto:cway@cityoflarkspur.org">cway@cityoflarkspur.org</a>
John + Lee Howard	Mariner Cove Neighborhood Association <a href="mailto:Leejohn7@gmail.com">Leejohn7@gmail.com</a>
Lori Schifrin	MMRC training officer, CERT, etc. / <a href="mailto:lori.sch@att.net">lori.sch@att.net</a>

Handouts distributed:

- Agenda, PDEP Monday 12-7-2015 version a
- Draft Minutes of PDE+P meeting of Nov 9, 2015 version b
- Larkspur Staff Rpt 9-30-15 re Preparedness Position + Mariner Cove Plan version 7/2014
- DC3 Strategic Proposal Disaster Worker Training Govt. Employees, Yr 2013
- Calif Code Regs Title19 key SEMs sections, esp §2443 SEMS training requirements
- Webpage: <http://www.marincounty.org/depts/ad/divisions/communications/social-media>
- ABAG El Niño Dec 16th Meeting: [http://abag.ca.gov/resilience/el\\_nino\\_2015.html](http://abag.ca.gov/resilience/el_nino_2015.html)
- Red Cross Mobile App page <http://www.redcross.org/prepare/mobile-apps>
- DC3 Agenda December 10, 2015

**I. Welcome, Introductions,**

- Bill Tyler called meeting to order at Central Marin Police Community room est 1305 hr.
- Amendment to the Agenda: Item V will include an update on the M'BER project
- A description of the handouts was summarized by Frank.

**II. Review Minutes**

- M/ Garry & Maggie 2nd: Draft Minutes of Nov 9, 2015 version (b) were approved.

**III Mariner Cove / [www.nrgmarin.org](http://www.nrgmarin.org) Lessons learned, shared ideas**

- John and Lee Howard, Coordinators of the Mariner Cove Neighborhood Response Group (NRG) in Corte Madera, outlined their 7 years' experience in that community.<sup>1</sup>
- They organized Mariner Cove's 450 homes into 23 clusters of about 20 homes each, preferably managed by two block captains per cluster.

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<sup>1</sup> The Mariner Cove Neighborhood Response Group website has detailed descriptions of the program, and links to very helpful YouTube videos, PowerPoint presentations, and other resources. See <http://www.nrgmarin.org/>



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- A core concept at Mariner Cove is that it is a 'grounds up' organization, self-activating in the event of a disaster, built on neighbors knowing each other, and agreeing to share private family information with block captains, who in turn coordinate with a Control Team that includes a Situational Analysis Leader, Search and Rescue unit, Medical Unit, led by an Incident Commander. A liaison officer would link the organization to first responders (Law, Fire, etc.) as well as nearby neighborhood groups. CERT trained members would be assigned FRS/GMRS radio links to first responders, including RACES Radio links.
- The response plan now envisions co-location of the NRG control team at the same site as a Marin Medical Reserve Corps (MMRC) Spontaneous Treatment Site (STS), supported by CERT qualified persons as radio links within the community, and outside to other agencies and groups. A nearby school has offered a site for the NRG to assemble in the event of a major earthquake.
- Members of the Disaster Response group are encouraged to take Get Ready, MMRC First Aid for Disaster Response (FADR), CERT, and similar external trainings. However, these certifications are not required to participate in the overall plan.
- A helpful description of the Mariner Cove Neighborhood Response Group effort was published in the March 2015 MMRC newsletter.<sup>2</sup> About 40 or 50 Block Captains attended the MMRC sponsored FADR class.
- The Block Captains meet personally with residents in their area, initiating contact by leaving a flyer at the residence, and following up with a face to face 'earthquake talk' describing the need for local preparedness. Residents are then encouraged to sign an 'Information Form' including names and ages of residents (including children), contact info, and basic skill sets. The form is confidential to block captains and the control team.
- The Mariner Cove Disaster response group has about 75 active volunteer members. To date, 8 other neighborhoods have adopted similar plans, and about 10 other groups are considering the plan as a model for their own efforts.
- Continuing challenges include finding the core 1-3 leaders willing to initiate and maintain interest in the program among hundreds of residents. To do this, the NRG publishes a monthly newsletter (Channel Six), conduct two drills per year, and one annual meeting. Six neighborhoods participated in the Fall 2015 drill.
- Resident participants are asked to contribute small funds to purchase the FRS/GMRS radios, block captain vests, copying costs, 'Help / OK' printed signs, and such. Potluck dinners and such are held from time to time.
- Catherine Way, Mayor of Larkspur, added there is interest in managing NRG funds (and similar neighborhood efforts) through the Larkspur Community Foundation (LCF)<sup>3</sup>, a 501(3)(c) nonprofit organization. Additional funds could support acquisition and maintenance of disaster response trailers or similar tools.
- At the urging of the Twin Cities Disaster Preparedness Committee<sup>4</sup>, Larkspur and Corte Madera have contributed \$20K each to fund a part time staff person to support the Neighborhood Response Program in multiple neighborhoods, as the Howards anticipate moving from the area. The job specs for this position are under review now by the City Managers, police chiefs, and others who participate in the Twin Cities Disaster Preparedness Committee.

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<sup>2</sup> Marin Medical Reserve Corps (MMRC) 'To the Corps' 3/2015 newsletter article on Mariner Cove: [https://www.marinhhs.org/sites/default/files/libraries/2015\\_10/mmrc\\_newsletter.2015-03.final\\_.pdf](https://www.marinhhs.org/sites/default/files/libraries/2015_10/mmrc_newsletter.2015-03.final_.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> Larkspur Community Foundation (LCF) <http://www.larkspurcommunityfoundation.org/>

<sup>4</sup> Twin Cities Disaster Preparedness Committee <http://www.ci.corte-madera.ca.us/230/Twin-Cities-Disaster-Preparedness-Commit> and also <http://www.ci.larkspur.ca.us/index.aspx?NID=227>



## Public Disaster Education and Preparedness (PDE+P) Committee of the Marin Operational Area Disaster & Citizens Corps Council (DC3) Committee Meeting – Monday December 7, 2015

- The NRG was designed primarily to meet needs for the first few days following large earthquakes, rather than other risks, as it was anticipated first responder agencies would likely be able to quickly respond for other types of emergencies.
- Barbara Coler noted that neighborhood level volunteers in Fairfax were of great value following the 2005 floods, so that risks other than quakes should be considered.
- The NRG offered free CERT tuition to the 53 block captains. While some have participated in CERT level training, others declined for a variety of personal reasons.
- The NRG effort was initially viewed as an 'extra task' by some city officials. Today, the NRG is largely seen as an 'extra helping hand' supporting city law, fire, and similar services. The cities have offered localized 'Get Ready' classes to support the citizen preparedness efforts, among other coordinating efforts.
- John and Lee passed around a sample neighborhood map of the Blue Rock Neighborhood Response Group in Larkspur that were developed, in part, through City planning offices, showing clusters of houses assigned to block captains.<sup>5</sup> Similar efforts at mapping and planning NRG level responses are underway in the Twin Cities area.

### IV DC3 Meeting Dec 10<sup>th</sup>: Updates on DSW / Coordinator Proposals, etc.

- Bill Tyler and Frank Cox met with OES representatives since the last PDEP meeting, and reviewed what response the County has made to the PDEP proposed, and DC3 supported Strategic Proposals for DSW training for all County employees, and a Countywide Disaster Preparedness Coordinator to support (not control) the myriad County, city, nonprofit, and volunteer disaster preparedness efforts.
- A missing element of the discussion at our level has been County Human Resources, who could be asked to manage a personnel process that would include DSW duties and skill sets in the hiring, supervision, promotional, certification, and related qualities of county employment.
- All Government Employees are required, by law, to perform Disaster Service Worker (DSW) duties in the event of declared emergencies or disasters.<sup>6</sup>
- The California Code of Regulations further provides at 19 CCR §2443 that DSW / SEMS training in SEMS must be documented in areas of planning, training, exercises, and performance, or the government agency will simply not be reimbursed for disaster work assignments.<sup>7</sup>

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<sup>5</sup> Blue Rock Neighborhood Response Group in Larkspur: <http://nrgbluerock.weebly.com/>

<sup>6</sup> Government Code §3100: "It is hereby declared that the protection of the health and safety and preservation of the lives and property of the people of the state from the effects of natural, manmade, or war-caused emergencies which result in conditions of disaster or in extreme peril to life, property, and resources is of paramount state importance requiring the responsible efforts of public and private agencies and individual citizens. In furtherance of the exercise of the police power of the state in protection of its citizens and resources, all public employees are hereby declared to be disaster service workers subject to such disaster service activities as may be assigned to them by their superiors or by law."

<sup>7</sup> 19 CCR §2443. General Provisions.

(a) Local government must use SEMS in order to be eligible for state funding of response-related personnel costs occurring in response to an incident as defined in § 2402(i). All state agencies shall use SEMS to coordinate multiple jurisdiction or multiple agency emergency and disaster operations.

(b) Compliance with SEMS shall be documented in the areas of planning, training, exercises, and performance."



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- While substantial progress in the development of an Emergency Operations Center (EOC) primary shift has been made since the opening of the new County Emergency Operations Facility (EOF), including WebEOC training, exercises, and tabletop drills, County OES would have great difficulty staffing the EOC in the event of a large regional earthquake or Oakland Hills type fire event that could require EOC operations for 24 hour shifts, 7 days a week, for multiple weeks or more.
- Further, in the event of a major regional disaster of any type (quake, urban firestorm, pandemic, terrorist event, etc.) general county workers may be assigned a wide range of DSW duties other than EOC duties, including staffing shelters, managing staging areas, logistics storage and transportation, special efforts for persons with Access and Functional Needs (AFN), language translation services, telephone hotline duties, Local Area Assistance Center (LAC) duties, building / damage assessment teams, and literally dozens of other potential assignments.
- Without preparedness and DSW training, these government DSWs would be ill equipped to undertake their mandated duties. Citizen lives and community infrastructure would be put at risk, the County would incur substantial extra losses due to mismanaged response and recovery efforts, and the County would be ineligible for State OES / FEMA salary reimbursement for untrained DSWs.
- The present OES sponsored Emergency/Disaster Awareness, Preparedness & Readiness (EDAPR) training for new employees that Frank gives every two months or so is 'mandated' for new employees. The class includes a survey of DSW duties, building safety and evacuation, personal and family preparedness, and an overview of emergency management (ICS / SEMS / NIMS / EOC operations). However, it is common that about a third or more new employees miss the mandated training, and there is no mandated continuity disaster training for County DSWs other than first responder and EOC level staff. It is possible for some County DSWs to complete long careers in County service with no (or very little) DSW level training.
- Further, some EOC staff are unable to attend continuity of skills training opportunities, such as free California Specialized Training Institute (CSTI) grant supported training, as departmental priorities take precedence over EOC training and exercise opportunities.<sup>8</sup>
- One solution to problems of this sort would be for top County management to direct the HR department, County OES, County Fire, and County H&HS among others, to meet and confer to propose a structured DSW training process that would include initial and continuing core DSW training, with certification and personnel practices to support both EOC level and general employee level response and recovery assignments that might follow a major regional disaster affecting Marin County.

### V Update on M/Ber (in preparation for DC3 Meeting Dec 10<sup>th</sup>)

- Garry reported to us that on 9/10/15, DC3 voted to support the Marin Business Emergency Readiness (M'BER) business resilience and preparedness program. The

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<https://govt.westlaw.com/calregs/Document/I9562ECB0653311DFBF10DEC8926281CC?viewType=FullText&originationContext=documenttoc&transitionType=CategoryPageItem&contextData=%28sc.Default%29>

<sup>8</sup> The California Specialized Training Institute provides training grants for all disciplines and levels within the California emergency responder community. Courses that are funded by the Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG), provides tuition-free training for CA State/Local First Responders and CA Emergency Management Agencies. Most non-profit agencies that are affiliated with the California Mutual-Aid Response System are also eligible. <http://www.caloes.ca.gov/cal-oes-divisions/california-specialized-training-institute/general-information/training-grants>



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initial effort was built, in part, on the American Red Cross (ARC) the Ready Rating program,<sup>9</sup> has been modified as the ARC online program has itself been changed.

- The current M'BER effort now includes a draft downloadable MS WORD template business might use to develop their own plan, and an MS EXCEL spreadsheet that businesses could use to score their progress in meeting preparedness goals.
- These downloadable documents, supported by help screens and information posted on the ReadyMarin.org website, could be sent to sponsoring city or business community groups for approval, coordination, and certification that might help the business attract customers (Suggested: bronze, silver, gold, platinum certifications).
- Garry and Maggie are hopeful that the Marin Economic Forum will approve an initial \$10K seed money grant to get the M'BER effort into the community. Funding would support postings on ReadyMarin, meetings and materials for a central and localized M'BER contacts, and similar expenses. A launch date in January 2016 is being planned.
- Catherine advised she will place the M'BER topic on a MCCMC agenda in early 2016. Garry is stepping down as a Mill Valley Council person, but Jim Wickham has just been sworn in as a Mill Valley Councilman. Garry will update DC3 on the M'BER project at the December 10<sup>th</sup> meeting on behalf of the Marin Economic Forum.

### VI. Updates from PDEP members

#### - MCCMC Marin County Council Mayors + City Councilmembers

- PDEP is pleased to accept Catherine Way, now Mayor of Larkspur, as an alternate PDEP member with Barbara Coler, who is the outgoing Mayor of Fairfax and continuing member of the Fairfax City Council.
- Catherine Way has been appointed to DC3 as the MCCMC member. She is also the chair of the Twin Cities Disaster Preparedness Committee. Welcome, Catherine!

#### - West Marin

- Frank summarized the West Marin Disaster Council minutes of November 19, 2015 that will be emailed to PDEP members. Key points detailed in those minutes included:
  - Richard Dillman (KWMR) reported significant progress on improvement of radio communications
  - Jeff Young reported on RACES equipment staffing improvements.
  - Maggie Lang (County CERT) reported the Nov. 7 CERT Advanced Training
  - County OES reps Ursula Hanks and Tom Jordan reported on El Niño planning.
  - Kevin Cochary reported on GGNRA Disaster Preparedness, and local community representatives spoke of their storm related planning.
  - Anne Sands (for Lynn Axelrod and Philippa Lockwood) spoke of ARC training.

#### - Emergency Managers Group, other Public Preparedness

- John Bruckbauer advised that SRFD is going to submit an application for the Assistance to Firefighter Grant
- SR OES will offer a Get Ready class for the Marin Lagoon area next week, and has scheduled 6 City departments of disaster response training.
- The Emergency Managers Group meets quarterly, and will be apprised of PDEP concerns.

#### - MIDC and Red Cross Events:

- Philippa advised that MIDC will meet next on January 19<sup>th</sup>.
- ARC is hoping to develop additional volunteers for the full range of Red Cross services.
- ARC will schedule a shelter training program in Mill Valley area soon.
- ARC is also meeting with Sonoma County officials, who do not have an employee DSW training program, but hope to develop one.

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<sup>9</sup> American Red Cross Ready Rating program, <http://www.readyrating.org/>



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### - Southern Marin / Business Community

- Garry attend a meeting in Marin City covering Southern Marin flood zones, the Richardson Bay shoreline study, and CALTRANS planning for flooding at Manzanita Parking area and adjacent areas of Highway 101.
- Some are concerned that CALTRANS anticipates closing Highway 101 sections affected by flooding, storm surge, king tides, and similar events – with few other alternative planned responses.

### - CERT and GReady 5th

- PDEP will put CERT + GR5 on the January PDEP agenda for a more complete report. However, Maggie outlined some recent highlights:
  - 240 CERTs completed CERT training in 2015.
  - The first Tam High Teen CERT training was conducted, requiring a lot of work. Novato High and Drake High are also interested in this CERT training. Rotary has helped sponsor the Tam High class.
  - Autodesk employees completed CERT training in November, and Dominican University will host a class in January.
  - Year 2016 training dates out soon. See: <http://readymarin.org/calendar/>
  - GR and CERT Promotional Flyers, brochures, 4x4 banners & IJ ads will be seen in late 2015 / early 2016.
  - A CERT Train the Trainer will be held 2/18/2016 in San Rafael.
  - MMRC will be asked to do a FADR section of upcoming CERT classes at certain upcoming CERT classes with fire personnel covering critical modules, such as fire suppression and search & rescue..
  - Advanced CERT training will be held at Humane Society on 1/30/2016.
  - Get Ready classes will be posted on the calendar of Readymarin.org if we are notified of the dates
  - GR5th grade will continue in Mill Valley. Other jurisdictions are invited to inquire about the classes. Becky Reed teaches a GR5 class at the Hall Middle School in Larkspur. We 'need to have some testimonials' from some GR5th participants.
  - Maggie also attended an excellent all day County H&HS Disaster Mental Health class November 9<sup>th</sup>.

### - Access + Functional Needs communities (AFN):

- Terry advised that multiple AFN communities continue to have unmet transportation service needs following the Fall 2015 closure of taxicab services for persons with AFN issues. Consolidation of transportation services is difficult, as persons with different types of disabilities can present behavioral and other issues that make blending populations into centralized transportation services difficult.
- Right now, many AFN groups depend on interim Day Program efforts to get clients to their services. Some of these programs are not funded or staffed for these sorts of services.
- Terry has stepped aside from his professional association with Whistlestop, but continues as President of Marin Ventures<sup>10</sup>, Vice Chair of In-Home Supportive Services Public Authority of Marin (IHSS PA)<sup>11</sup>, and the Golden Gate Regional Center Advisory Committee.<sup>12</sup>

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<sup>10</sup> Marin Ventures, <http://www.marinventures.org/board-of-directors/>

<sup>11</sup> In-Home Supportive Services Public Authority of Marin (IHSS PA) <http://www.pamarin.org/governing-board/>

<sup>12</sup> Golden Gate Regional Center: <http://www.ggrc.org/about-us/management-a-governance#MAC>



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### - Utilities + MMWD

- Dave advised the earthquake exercise previously scheduled at Bon Tempe treatment plant has been moved to Jan 27<sup>th</sup>.
- With thanks to Jim Wickham who helped sponsor an excellent PG&E demonstration at OES on 9/22/2015, MMWD is now coordinating with F.B.I. and D.H.S. planners for improved resilience in Marin County dam and water supply facilities.
- Jim Wickham, Maggie Lang, and John Bruckbauer mentioned continuing 'active shooter' training classes soon to be scheduled. In addition, key agencies support the public preparedness message: RUN, HIDE, or FIGHT in case of an active shooter / terrorist event. Several videos now on YouTube support this.<sup>13</sup>
- Maggie asked whether the 'active shooter' material is appropriate for posting on the ReadyMarin.org site. Barbara noted the site's focus on natural disasters might be diluted by messaging that is best promoted by law enforcement / safety sites.

### - Fire Services + County at Large Issues:

- Bill reported the Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP)<sup>14</sup> public meetings have been held at multiple sites in Marin County that will in January 2016 result in a Countywide fire mitigation, preparedness, and response plan that will include sophisticated GIS based fire models, public priorities, and more.
- A CWPP plan is part of the State Fire Plan, and is required before Marin County might become eligible for a \$120K Grant drawn from State Responsibility Area (SRA) fees under the the Healthy Forests Restoration Act (HFRA).
- Fire Departments will be issuing limited burn permits during the winter months, now that the fire season has ended.

### - OES, Training and other Events:

- Frank's last EDAPR class was completed December 3<sup>rd</sup>, and the next will be scheduled in February 2016.
- Cities and others may wish to register for the ABAG El Niño Dec 16th Meeting: [http://abag.ca.gov/resilience/el\\_nino\\_2015.html](http://abag.ca.gov/resilience/el_nino_2015.html)
- Frank met with the Mont Marin / San Rafael Park (MMSRP) Board Nov. 10<sup>th</sup> and the Marinwood CERT group Nov. 11<sup>th</sup> in an effort to promote CERT in North San Rafael. MMSRP does not now have a CERT or Neighborhood Response team developed, and it is hoped that one can be developed, and coordinated with nearby neighborhood groups.

## VII. Open Time / Public Comment

- Maggie advised Mill Valley hosted a community flood preparedness meeting for residents in the flood zone, wherein a NOAA representative outlined what can be expected in this El Niño year. The City public works representative did a great job in explaining what the city has done, and will do, to mitigate storm damage.

### **3:00 PM end of meeting**

- Bill Tyler closed the meeting.

### **Next Meetings:**

**PDEP Meetings: 1-3pm Year 2016: (subject to change):**

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<sup>13</sup> Run, Hide, Fight Video example by Ready Houston: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5VcSwejU2D0>  
and Dept of Homeland Security video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o15EoWBRYmo>

<sup>14</sup> Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) [www.forestsandrangelands.gov/communities/cwpp.shtml](http://www.forestsandrangelands.gov/communities/cwpp.shtml)



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**01/11/2016 (avoid NY weekend), 2/1, 3/7, 4/4, 5/2, 6/6, 7/11, 8/8, 9/12,  
10/3, 11/7, 12/5/2016. Dates to be confirmed**

**Site: PDEP unless otherwise posted: Central Marin Police Community Rm.**

**DC3 Meetings: 3-5pm: 12/10/2015, 3/10/16, 6/9/16, 9/8/16, 12/8/16 – at new EOF.**

***PDEP\_Minutes 2015-12-07b.doc***

***Approved at PDEP meeting 1-11-2016 . fcox***