



# Public Disaster Education and Preparedness (PDE+P) Committee of the Marin Operational Area Disaster & Citizens Corps Council (DC3) Committee Meeting

## PDE&P Meeting Minutes for January 11, 2021

*Approved at PDEP Meeting 2-1-2021*

### Members Present:

Catherine Way	CoChair, DC3 City of Larkspur Councilmember, MCCMC
Adriana Rabkin	CoChair, DC3 Member, Director Marin VOAD
Jay Hubert	ACS/RACES / OES / Firewise Community / Red Cross
Quinn Gardner	SRFD Emergency Manager
Maggie Lang	Mill Valley Fire, Emergency Prep Coordinator
Tom Cromwell, MD	Marin Medical Reserve Corps
Peter Mendoza	DC3 / AFN representative, Vice Chair Marin VOAD
Vincent Valenzuela	Red Cross Marin / Solano Disaster Program Manager

### Members Excused or Absent:

Anne Carta	Marin Medical Reserve Corps
Amber Davis	HHS Public Health Preparedness Manager
Garry Lion	DC3 member, Marin Economic Forum
James Wickham	PG&E Safety & Preparedness Specialist, MV Mayor

### Members Public Present

Frank Cox	Former PDEP CoChair/DC3 Member, <a href="mailto:frnkcox5@gmail.com">frnkcox5@gmail.com</a>
Marco Berger	Multicultural Center of Marin, <a href="mailto:mberger@multiculturalmarin.org">mberger@multiculturalmarin.org</a>
Tricia Ossa	Mill Valley Council & Emerg Prep Comm <a href="mailto:taaossa@gmail.com">taaossa@gmail.com</a>
Jody Timms	Marin Commission on Aging <a href="mailto:jodytimms@comcast.net">jodytimms@comcast.net</a>
Sarah Lugaric	Pt San Pedro Disaster Coalition <a href="mailto:sarah.lugaric@icloud.com">sarah.lugaric@icloud.com</a>
Stephen Marcotte	West Marin Disaster Coordinator, <a href="mailto:smarcotte@bolinasfire.org">smarcotte@bolinasfire.org</a>
Tom Welch	MVFD Chief, <a href="mailto:twelch@cityofmillvalley.org">twelch@cityofmillvalley.org</a>
Todd Lando	Central Marin FD, <a href="mailto:tlando@centralmarinfire.org">tlando@centralmarinfire.org</a>
Lorenzo Cardovo	Supervisor Rodoni's Aide, <a href="mailto:lcordova@marincounty.org">lcordova@marincounty.org</a>
Lori Schifrin	CERT, MMRC <a href="mailto:lori.sch@att.net">lori.sch@att.net</a>
Sara Robinson	Marin Aging & Adult Services, <a href="mailto:SRobinson@marincounty.org">SRobinson@marincounty.org</a>
Alissa Ralston	Marinwood CERT, <a href="mailto:lissaralston@gmail.com">lissaralston@gmail.com</a>
Florence deLosada	Marin HHS, <a href="mailto:FdeLosada@marincounty.org">FdeLosada@marincounty.org</a>

The following documents were emailed to PDEP in advance:

**PDEP\_Agenda 2020-1-11a.pdf**

**PDEP\_Minutes 2020-11-2a.pdf (Draft to be approved)**

### **I. Welcome, Introductions, Review of Minutes**

- Catherine Way welcomed attendees
- Draft PDEP Minutes 11/2/2020.pdf were reviewed. Maggie Lang made 2 corrections: Our goal for NRGs is for them all to have a steering committee, and in the Living Room Chats Mike St John presented in all but one of them. Peter Mendoza motioned and Tom Cromwell seconded the revised minutes. Minutes approved.

### **II. PDEP Strategic Planning II**

- Catherine Way: We met with Dennis Rodoni last year. We are the only subcommittee of DC3. The content we have covered over many years has been comprehensive. In November when we last met, we had discussed PDEP focusing on DSW, County Coordinator and Get Ready. We realized that a lot of that is now being managed. The County and city managers are taking on DSW responsibilities so we don't have as much need to take this on; we have not heard much about the County Coordinator position; and Get Ready 5<sup>th</sup> grade is now part of the Marin Wildfire Prevention Authority (MWPA).



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- Maggie Lang: Get Ready is more than just Get Ready 5<sup>th</sup> Grade (GR5). The Get Ready program reaches out to the adult population, businesses, pet owners. I would also want to know with GR5 is this just fire prevention? I haven't been able to reach Rich Shortall about this. There is a bigger part in terms of reaching parents.
- Tom Cromwell: The Get Ready program is very fractured around the county. Some are well developed, others not at all. During Covid all other disasters have been kicked to the curb. In Southern Marin we are trying to get block captains more involved to check in on residents. This too is very fractured.
- Frank Cox: The Get Ready umbrella includes the classic 1-2 hour class to get the public ready, GR5 and more. The public preparedness umbrella includes CERT, NRGs, MMRC, M'BER Business, AFN and older adults, Disaster Councils, FireSafe, Wildfire prevention, and the [ReadyMarin.org](https://www.readymarin.org) website. As for the Coordinator position, will the coordinator be leading CERT and NRG? This position will need to focus on coordinating, resourcing and staffing and is at least 2 positions: Public Preparedness and CERT and NRG groups. Lastly, one cannot prepare for wildfire without preparing for the earthquake that will set it off. And very little attention can be spent on preparedness until Covid and the political crisis recedes. Preparedness needs to be County-wide.
- **PDEP Topic: Get Ready Umbrella**
- Quinn Gardner: We need think about how to help people feel prepared. Look to the mental health aspect as well. Look at the Grand Jury report on evacuations -- there is a lack of a coordinating entity.<sup>1</sup> Somebody needs to take over preparedness in terms of the County.
- Tom Cromwell: For the next 6 months we will still be focused on Covid. FADR is on hold, we trained 1,000 people last year. Business community is focused on just surviving. Keeping community mentally fit should be the focus, but this will be very difficult to do with volunteers.
- Catherine Way: For 2021 PDEP, we want to have several meetings in a row on a specific topic, rather than jumping around on topics. This will help us present a focused plan to DC3.
- Maggie: We have the Get Ready umbrella with the ReadyMarin website. Seniors, business, neighborhoods, pets, kids are all there. What are the preparedness goals for the County? PDEP could look at recommendations for overarching goals that are then measured at the local level.
- Lori Shifrin: This has all been done before and nothing has happened.
- Catherine Way: What role does PDEP have in communications from the county? What ways are helpful? How is information received? How can we help create integration/coordination of messaging? PDEP could take this as a topic and dive into it to propose recommendations to DC3.
- Maggie Lang: There are all different websites available now.<sup>2</sup> I learned from Woody Baker-Cohn that there is a County website: Marin County Emergency Portal <https://emergency.marincounty.org/> and preparedness via ReadyMarin is buried in there.

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<sup>1</sup> Marin Grand Jury report on Evacuations Dec 14, 2020: Roadblocks to Safer Evacuation in Marin  
<https://www.marincounty.org/depts/gj/reports-and-responses/reports-responses/2019-20/roadblocks-to-safer-evacuation-in-marin>

<sup>2</sup> Emergency Preparedness: <https://www.marincounty.org/residents/your-home/emergency-preparedness>  
OES: <https://www.marinsheriff.org/services/emergency-services>  
FireSafe: <https://www.firesafemarin.org/>  
Marin Recovers: <https://marinrecovers.com/>  
ReadyMarin: <https://readymarin.org/>



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Marin Recovers is great for recovery. OES is a good place for response, but not the best place for preparedness. Each city has their own site.

- Catherine Way: The Covid daily updates from the County are a good template. The <https://coronavirus.marinhhs.org/> website is also available in different languages.
- Jay Hubert: I agree we need a central place for the public to reach. Preparedness in general is the responsibility of DC3. No one knows their DC3 representatives. Developing a template for preparedness based on Covid is a good idea.
- Chief Welch provided an update on the County Coordinator position: There is good movement but no significant update. The position probably won't be in the same configuration as it currently is.
- Maggie Lang: There was a call with the fire chiefs. The focus is on NRGs which have become an important part of the County. They might include some aspect of the Get Ready program. FireSafe Marin is working on a version of Get Ready 5<sup>th</sup> Grade. Marin Wildfire Protection Agency per Catherine is going the same way. We want to make sure it is not just about fire and that it covers everything.
- Tom Cromwell: The Board of Supervisors has changed. Kate Sears and Judy Arnold – disaster preparation was not very high on their lists. Kate Sears has stepped down and Stephanie Moulton-Peters is her replacement. Stephanie is very interested in disaster preparation. And Dennis Rodoni has replaced Judy Arnold as the head of the DC3.
- Maggie Lang; We should maintain involvement with the County Cert Coordinator position. This can be part of a Ready Marin bucket.
- Frank Cox: Can you define PDEP's three goals?
- Catherine Way:
  1. Preparedness communications: needs and opportunities
  2. Components Ready Marin topics: emphasis on NRG CERT Coordinator & Get Ready
  3. Tangible recommendations to DC3 preparedness goals
- Frank Cox: Nice titles to the 3 goals, but preparedness has long been a temporary / volunteer effort that breaks apart when volunteers move on or can't continue the effort. We need preparedness:
  - Continuity
  - Staffing & resourcing
  - The coordinator positions
- Adriana Rabkin: This is why we want to do back to back meetings on one topic so that we can think about it and come back with suggestions / recommendations. Catherine: We want to present these at DC3 quarterly meetings.
- Quinn Gardner: I am hearing a desire to have tangible outcomes like staff and program outputs.
- Frank Cox: We need to systemize preparedness, it should not just be with volunteers. We need staff and resources.
- Jody Timms: The Coordinator position is central to everything Frank is saying. We need a staff person to keep it all together, like Adriana has pulled together different groups into the VOAD for the past 2 years. All groups need to advocate for this position.
- Maggie Lang: VOAD has great communications: we get notices about meetings, notes from meetings and nothing is lost from month to month. This is a great model. This is missing in preparedness. Communication is the foundation for the whole thing.
- Tom Cromwell: Understand that Covid is on top of everyone's mind for the next 6 months and any new topics won't be considered now.



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- Adriana Rabkin: Nevertheless we need to continue the discussion. Covid will lap into fire season and our suggestions need to be tangible. They will be of interest to people then when the timing is right. That is why we are discussing them now.
- Sara Robinson: In reviewing the November minutes, do you need to strengthen the relationship with DC3 in order to get recommendations to them? How do we coordinate with DC3? Catherine: Dennis Rodoni wants to meet regularly and get updates from us. We will need to schedule regular meetings with him.
- Maggie Lang: What were Rodoni's priorities? Catherine: He is learning and getting up to speed. The next DC3 meeting is March 11. Where do you see us going with communication?
- Catherine Way: We have to press for the Countywide coordinator. We have two PDEP meetings before the next DC3 meeting. Adriana: Realistically we will only have one PDEP meeting before we have to notify DC3 if they are going to plan for a particular presenter based on our recommendation. For the next PDEP meeting in February we could invite Laine Hendricks, PIO to understand how information is disseminated and to discuss the various websites. Frank: The PIO and HHS messaging is important, but PIOs mostly do post-disaster response. Response based messaging is not enough. We are now talking about pre-disaster messaging and preparedness, which is not well resourced or coordinated.
- Quinn Gardner: We need to treat preparedness the same way we treat response. They are both part of the Disaster Cycle: Mitigation, Preparedness, Response, and Recovery.<sup>3</sup> Maggie: The disaster cycle all runs together. Preparedness talks about response.
- Catherine Way: Our mission is public disaster education and preparedness. It is not our role re: response.
- Jay Hubert: A lot of the messaging about Covid and fire safety are coming from a couple of organizations. These are models for what the County could pursue.
- Catherine Way: We want to start with the preparedness communication and how do we receive preparedness information?
- Sarah Lugaric: I spent last year researching family emergency preparedness. It is challenging for a busy family. How do you prepare for a new baby? Surveys could be helpful to get at what shifts behavior.

### Proposals for PDEP Focus

1. Preparedness Communications: how residents and businesses receive information and what are recommendations we can make about communications needs, expectations, and opportunities
2. Components of Ready Marin categories with emphasis on NRG/CERT/Coord. Role
3. Preparedness goals: tangible checklist: 5 days of supply. Evac routes, etc. All managed at the local level.

### III. Updates from PDEP members

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

- Catherine Way: no update; We haven't met since October. Our next meeting is Jan. 27.

#### Marin VOAD

- Adriana Rabkin: At the last two VOAD meetings in 2020 we heard from Legal Aid of Marin on housing rights for tenants, and Redwood Community Health Coalition on healthcare for the uninsured, seniors and undocumented. We often present information to the Community Based Organizations that they can then take back to their staff and

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<sup>3</sup> <https://disasterphilanthropy.org/issue-insight/the-disaster-life-cycle/>



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community members. The hope is that we spread the word about important resources to those who need them.

- We were instrumental in getting Marin County to participate in the Listos Social Bridging program: these are wellness calls to older adults and disaster prep calls to all residents.<sup>4</sup> Volunteers such as CERT and other volunteer groups from all over the state make calls through a voter registration automated telephone system to call residents in all participating counties. The program is housed with Office of Emergency Services and I am working with Sara Robinson (Age Friendly Coordinator for Marin County Aging and Adult Services) and Ann Bauer (City of San Rafael Volunteer Program Services).
- The VOAD meets again on Wednesday and we will be laying out the schedule for the year. We have broken up our year by quarter, focusing first on planning, then response. We will spend the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter doing tabletop exercises to put in practice what we have discussed in the first half of the year and we hope to have another annual conference in September. The 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2021 will be spent on recovery.

### West Marin

- Stephen Marcotte: West Marin Disaster Council has been in hiatus because of Covid. I have been talking with Michael Bergman (from San Geronimo Valley Emergency Readiness Group, VERG<sup>5</sup>) to focus on CERT re-certification process. We conducted 100-150 Covid tests every Monday with the help of the MCFD.

### Red Cross

- Vincent Valenzuela: Virtual Red Cross Be Ready classes: Jan 13, Feb 10, Mar 10, 5-6:30pm. Anyone can join. You don't have to be a red cross member. Sound the Alarm smoke alarm program may start again with outdoor education. If they can partner with a local FD who can enter the apt. they can install the alarms, but ARC members will not be entering homes. Experimenting with virtual classes around the Bay Area with pillowcase projects for 3-5<sup>th</sup> grades. It depends on capacity of each school. Boy scout troops are interested. Blood drives are ongoing.

### Southern Marin / Business Community

- Garry Lion: was not present. Update was submitted by email. Garry shared an email from the CEO of the Marin Economic Forum (MEF) referencing a Marin Economic Briefing presented on Thursday, 1/28: [MEF Econ Briefing Jan 28 2021](#). It summarizes expected changes at the national level with the Biden Administration and discusses recent trends through December at the state and county levels. To learn more about the current financial relief programs for businesses, please visit [this page](#) on the Marin Recovers website, which links direct to each program.
- Garry also mentioned that MEF will be presenting a more detailed update during their annual Forecasting the Future conference on March 3.

### Mill Valley Preparedness, community efforts

- Maggie Lang: Our real focus is NRGs. NRGs will start again next month with block captains. Advanced training using radios and working with CERTs. Will plan for March time change drill. Combining CERT and NRGs in the command post. Girl Scouts are interested in helping with the CERT supply shed.

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<sup>4</sup> Listos Social Bridging Project is California's pioneering public health and safety outreach campaign: <https://www.listoscalifornia.org/community-projects/social-bridging-project/>

<sup>5</sup> VERG: <https://sgverg.org/>





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- CERT is still calling to check on seniors. Had 4 or 5 advanced trainings. Next one is with Marin Humane on animal management in a disaster. Did a 1 hour first aid review class with 3 MMRC folks. We will do the same thing with search and rescue. We can bring this to any CERT groups. Good time to re-certify people. We do this every 4 years.
- Living room chats have reached about 250 folks in the summer and fall. Will start again in February with winter storms. Looking ahead to next fire season. Focusing on vegetation management and home hardening.
- Southern Marin Disaster Council will meet to discuss vaccine distribution.
- Quinn Gardner: Can the animal management class be opened to all CERT? Maggie will check with SM steering committee.

### Public Health Preparedness and related programs

- Amber Davis was not present. No update.

### Access & Functional Needs (AFN) communities:

- Peter Mendoza: We are working with ADA coordinators to make the vaccine distribution process accessible to people with disabilities.
- MarinCIL and the County will be doing a virtual town hall to reach out to people with disabilities. Also working with State Council on this. Drs. Matt Wills, Lisa Santora and Tyler Evans will participate.

### Public Safety / Emergency Management

- Quinn Gardner: Our big focus is on vaccine rollout. There was some over sharing with a sign up link and those appointments might be cancelled.
- Mark Brown is the Executive Director on MWPA. There is a lot of good agency work happening on mitigation front.

### Utilities including PG&E

- Jim Wickham was not present. No update.

### Marin Medical Reserve Corps (MMRC)

- Tom Cromwell: MMRC is now at 500 volunteers. Many are younger and still practicing medicine. 20 volunteers have been involved with contact tracing. 40 have volunteered to help with vaccine distribution.
- Southern Marin DC summit next meeting is Jan. 21<sup>st</sup> with Dr. Tyler Evans
- Belv-Tib DC meeting next week with Dr. Lisa Santora.
- Belvedere: All radios have been replaced. New repeater on top of Belvedere island. Steering committee has reduced meetings to every 2 months. Not enough in my opinion.

### Public Preparedness Coordinator / Get Ready Marin

- There is currently no coordinator. No update.

### OES RACES Chief Radio officer, San Rafael CERT steering and Firewise

- Jay Hubert: RACES / ACS<sup>6</sup>: Planning an exercise for Feb. 6, coordinated with CalOES, on public safety power shutoffs. Learning better winlink communication – a tool to exchange digital lists and images via radio. Red Cross is picking up on this as well.

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<sup>6</sup> Marin County Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES) and Auxiliary Communications Services (ACS) are volunteers working under the authority of the Marin County Sheriff's Office of Emergency Services (OES). <https://www.marinraces.org/wp/>



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County is working on evacuation routes and maps. Progress in this area. FireSafe Marin is improving their communication and is defining boundaries of Firewise communities. Real challenge is providing accessible information that motivates people to act. Coordinated with MWPA. Evacuation routes are coordinated through fire departments.

- Todd Lando: MWPA and a grant from CalFire have funded evacuation maps for all cities in the County except for Belv/Tib. Maps take about a month to create. Used FEMA clear and tsunami clear maps.<sup>7</sup> Starting Tiburon maps tomorrow. These are exclusive wildfire evacuation maps. They are not tsunami maps. They are the inverse of tsunami maps.
- Lori Shifrin: Why have all of the neighborhoods been renamed? Todd: They are based on mutual aid type amps. The overview map makes it easy to find your neighborhoods. The maps will be distributed and people will need to learn their neighborhood.

### Public Comment/Questions:

- Jody Timms: NRGs of Marin is an informal group that meets once a month and discusses what the groups are all doing.<sup>8</sup>

#### IV. Closing Items

- Catherine Way: We will send out questions to think about before our next meeting. Think about how people receive information from the perspective of your neighbor, not you.
- Next PDEP meeting: 2/1/2021
- Next DC3 meeting: 3/11/2021

**Closure: 2:45 pm end of meeting**

**Next Meetings: 1-3pm:**

**Dates may be flexible as circumstances require**

**PDEP Meetings Year 2021: 2/1, 3/1, 4/5, 5/3, 6/7, 7/12, 8/2, 9/13, 10/4, 11/1, 12/6/2021**

Site: PDEP conducts meetings online using ZOOM.COM during the Pandemic. We hope to return to meetings at the Central Marin Police Community Room soon.

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**DC3 Meetings: 3-5pm:**

**DC3 Year 2021: 3/11/2021, 6/10/2021, 9/9/2021, 12/9/2021**

DC3 Meetings are currently remote and are broadcast on Zoom and Facebook Live. They hope to return to Board Chambers, Civic Center, soon. Dates may be flexible.

**Online:** <https://www.marinsheriff.org/about-us/field-service-bureau/office-of-emergency-services>

**Email:** [pdepcommittee@gmail.com](mailto:pdepcommittee@gmail.com)

*PDEP\_Minutes 2020-1-11c\_AR.docx Revised 2/17/21*

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<sup>7</sup> FireSafe Marin Fire Clear Evacuation Maps: <https://www.firesafemarin.org/evacuation/maps>

<sup>8</sup> Neighborhood Response Groups of Marin: <https://www.nrgmarin.org/>

City of San Rafael Neighborhood Response Groups: <https://www.cityofsanrafael.org/nrg>

Mill Valley Neighborhood Response Groups: <https://nrgmillvalley.org/>