# Cary CERT Association

Board of Directors Agenda

Wednesday, April 5, 2023, at 6:30 p.m.

Cary Fire Department Administration Building

100 North Academy Street, Cary, NC 27511 and via ZOOM

**Officers**:

President: Julie Carlino - Present At-Large: Steve Botha - Present

Vice President: George Dolicker - Present At-Large: Tom Hegele - Present

Secretary: Robin Lane - Excused At-Large: David Taylor – Present

Treasurer: Stan Levine - Absent Other: Sonia Estroff - Present

Liaisons: Blake Boyd - Absent

Matt Jacoby -Present

**Start Time**:  **6:34 pm (Did not connect with Zoom – all recorded present were in person)**

Minutes recorded by Sonia Estroff

March 1, 2023, **BOD meeting minutes**. Robin Lane

George D 1st moved to accept with single edit, David Taylor 2nd

**Treasurer's Report** Stan Levine

* Account balance beginning of March 2023 was $9,110.34.
* Account balance at end of March 2023 was $9,051.34.
* NOTE: Julie said mail received indicating storage unit fee increases to $68 next month

**Committee Updates**:

**Communication**: Randy Stark

* CERN NET: Paul Armstrong ran the net on March 16 at 7:30 p.m. There were 8 check-ins including one listening on Broadcastify. Discussion was about the new GRMS repeater in Raleigh.
* 14 radios in the trailer need to be replaced. Both Randy and Ken have sent emails with their thoughts. See attached. **Discussed.**
  + Decided to use radios that are still working at this time (how many??) and determine if there is really a need to buy more. Mostly used at Basic training since ARO is being used more at Spring Daze and activations (like severe weather call-ins).
  + David Taylor shared that searches hand out VIPER radios
  + Tom Hegele shared recent experience with Shearon Harris drill where Pittsboro CERT AROs was there for backup communications, and provided more timely feedback that the other participates using VIPER. More eager…?
* George D requested communications document with strategy and planning document. Julie indicated both exist on BOX.   
  ACTION: Verify that existing documents are communicated and available to all. Julie send to Board.   
  ACTION: Request Communication Team to share strategy and update current equipment and plan going forward. Ex. ZELLO is mentioned in it, but few have and use it.

**CPR Committee** George Dolicker/Tom Hegele/David Taylor

* CERT members can take CPR for free at Wake Tech. George has scheduled for May 20, 2023, 9am– 3 p.m. We need a minimum of 8 and a maximum of 21. With a rough count by May 5.
  + Class will include adult and child CPR, and AED
  + ACTION: George and Julie will create a signup. Member by May 1, then will open to others as available (will require listing CERT team person is active on since FREE only to responders)

**Carolina Preserve CERT** Julie Carlino/Steve Botha

* They are working on getting all their members to sign the Town of Cary Liability form.
* Next meeting in July (cancelling May and June). Open to all CP residents, not just CERT members. They get subsidized by HOA with $800/annually.
* Steve requested Sonia’s “Are You Prepared?” presentation, 7/8,9/9 or 11/11. 9-11am
* Steve requested use of our FIA display boards to setup at one of their meetings. Julie said yes.

**Fundraising**: - no update Cathy Hooper Newlin

* The committee met on March 9 at 5 p.m. at the Senior Center.
* Next committee meeting is April 13 at 5 p.m. at Fire Station 7.

**CERT Basic Class Committee** Julie Carlino/George Dolicker

* Next Class Committee meeting will be May 10, 2023, at 7 p.m. at Station 9.
* George D asked if possible to have skills/experience profile for each member that can be referenced as needed to assist with class/drills/etc.

**Training/Exercise Updates**:

* **March Monthly Training** on March 9, 2023, at Senior Center Julie Carlino  
  SkyWarn was very well attended with 26 attending. Classroom was at Max Occupancy.
* **CERTEX** on April 1, 2023, entire day Randy Stark/George Dolicker
  + Cancelled due to weather.
  + Rescheduled for Saturday, September 30.
* **April Monthly Training** on April 13, 2023, at 7 p.m. at Station 7 Sonia Estroff  
  Sonia will present “How to communicate at events.”
* **CERT Basic Class**, September 8 – 10 George Dolicker/Dawn Truskowski
  + **Signup will be via NCTERMS for our first time.** Contact Samantha with issues.
* **Cary CERT Exercise** on November 4, 2023, morning George Dolicker
  + George D mentioned Blake setup access for Cary CERT to use preptoolkit.com for planning
  + Ensure we have the Training Center for Nov 4.
  + **ACTION:** Julie – Confirm availability from 8am – 2pm

**Events**: Sonia Estroff

* **Lowes Hardware Store Preparedness Event**, Saturday, March 11, 2023, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.  
  Five volunteers staffed the Wake County Emergency Management table at Lowes, Crossroads.
* **Dorcas Ministries**, March 23, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. – 8 p.m.  
  Robin, and Sonia gave **Preparedness** presentation. Backpacks were be given out. 16 of max 20 attended. Well received! Robin did presentation.
* **WEB EOC**, Saturday, April 22, 2023, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. Julie Carlino
  + Station 9. Lecture style. Introduction, not hands-on.
  + Actual class is at the EOC and must sign-up via NCTERMS
  + ACTION: Open to membership to increase attendance. Originally was Go-team only.
* **Smoke Detector**, ~~Sunday, April 23, 2023~~ Moving to Saturday, June 3rd; Same day as Project PHOENIX event but may attract different member volunteers
* **Spring Days**, Bond Park, Saturday, April 29, 2023

Sandra Baker - 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Tony Biondo - 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Julie Carlino - All day

George Dolicker - All day

Sonia Estroff – All day

Clifford Goodman - 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Cathy Hooper-Newlin - 12 p.m. - 6 - p.m.

Jackie King - 1 shift at the information booth only

Bob Kulow - All day

Stan Levine - Only partial walking- all day

George Medeiros - All day

Ken Stark - All day as net control

Randy Stark – All day

Sandi Tian – After 10 a.m.

Dawn Truskowski - 9 am. - 3 p.m.

Dave Taylor can get the trailer there and back but cannot be there for the day.

ACTION: Sonia questions for new festival planner, including options disconnecting trailer early or leaving until late Saturday. Need festival layout, logistics and how our team will communicate with those in charge. Get us in the loop on pre-event updates.

Change plan of 5 roaming teams to possibly 2.

Julie gave George 2 of the medical bags she ordered. We have some supplies that should be checked before purchasing (including gloves, bandaids and alcohol wipes in storage; triangle bandages and more in metal wall mount first aid kits in trailer bins labeled response).  
ACTION: Julie and Sonia will work with George to get these supplies.

Neck brace with bag and straps in storage unit (from grant funds)

* **Project Phoenix**, Wrenn Drive, Saturday, June 3, 2023, 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.
  + **David Taylor not available to tow trailer at this time.**
* **Safety Day**, Academy Street, September 16, 2023, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.
  + **David Taylor requested and now available to tow trailer for this event.**
* **Project Phoenix**, Nottingham Drive, Saturday, October 21, 2023, 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.

**Old Business**:

* **AED** Julie Carlino  
  Has not been sold yet. Listed on Facebook **for $500**
* **Name tags** for GO Team Randy Stark  
  Find out information from whom we got the last ones. Do we want to do this at all or go to an electronic method (Merit?).
  + **Julie purchased Teslin system/equipment for $90ish and is learning how to use it.**
  + **ACTION: document process for requesting and getting Cary CERT badge**
* **Strategic Plan for Cary CERT** to guide future activities Julie Carlino/Stan Levine  
  Julie and Stan to begin working on this in 2023. The goal set for 1st quarter of 2023
* **Cary Senior Center – “Are You Prepared?”** for 2023  
  Discussion of ideas for better attendance. Sonia is still working with the Senior Center. Cannot ask for money, cannot up attendance because of classroom size limitation.
  + **Sonia reported that $5 “supply fee” can be charged and paid at registration for class.** Invoice will be created to bill Cary Senior Center for $5 per attendee as of 1 week prior to class date. $5 will be used to purchase preparedness item given to participate IF they attend the class. Any surplus will be used at other events.  
    **Requested approval to setup payment to our Paypal account. Approved.**

**New Business**:

* Clothing Order – good response.
  + ACTION: JULIE resend order for final chance.
  + ACTION: JULIE Ask Kimber if t-shirts can be in by Spring Daze
* Trailer – review trailer inventory and note what items have expiration date. Reallocate surplus or expired for use in classes hands-on or exercises. ACTION: ---- Don’t recall ---
* Sonia noted - Neck brace with bag and straps in storage unit (from grant funds). These may go with the new orange back board? Move to trailer and label.
* Cary may begin doing **background checks (via SVI)** on people on town committees. Stay tuned.
  + We would need to understand how to roll-into our membership levels and record.
  + Trailer – review trailer inventory and note what items have expiration date. Reallocate surplus or
* George D. expressed need for more structured communication to members – UNIFIED

Goal would be to send regular communication to reduce emails and give a update on what’s been doing, coming up. Suggested a monthly newsletter after each board meeting and consider including a member profile (new and old), upcoming speaker with bio and topic, etc. He was requested to do a sample template to consider.

**End Time**: 8 pm

**Financial Statement Attachment**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Cary CERT Bank Account Journal Summary — March 2023** | | | | |
| **Month** | **Beginning Balance** | **Ending Balance** | **Debits** | **Credits** |
| January | $8,540.45 | $8,150.46 | $389.99 |  |
| February | $8,150.46 | $9,110.34 | $64.34 | $1,024.22 |
| March | $9,110.34 | $9,051.34 | $59.00 |  |
| April |  |  |  |  |
| May |  |  |  |  |
| June |  |  |  |  |
| July |  |  |  |  |
| August |  |  |  |  |
| September |  |  |  |  |
| October |  |  |  |  |
| November |  |  |  |  |
| December |  |  |  |  |

| **Cary CERT Bank Account Journal Detail — March 2023** | | | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Month** | **Check #** | **Paid to:** | **Debit Amount** | **Credit Amount** | **Reason** |
| January | 995077 |  | $59.00 |  | Storage |
| 995078 |  | $59.00 |  | Storage |
| 1152 | Julie Carlino | $271.99 |  | HostGator and USPS |
| February | 1153 | George Dolicker | $64.34 |  | Training tourniquets |
|  |  |  | $24.22 | Amazon Smile |
|  |  |  | $1000.00 | Donation from member |
| March | 995079 |  | $59.00 |  | Storage |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| April |  |  |  |  |  |
| May |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| June |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| July |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| August |  |  |  |  |  |
| September |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| October |  |  |  |  |  |
| November |  |  |  |  |  |
| December |  |  |  |  |  |
| Debits and Credits | | | $510.33 | $1,024.22 |  |
| Begin Balance 2023 | | | $8,540.45 |  |  |
| Balance | | | $9,051.34 |  |  |

**Radio Options**

**From Randy:**

Two Options for the board to choose from

1. Motorola T260TP - standard low-power FRS radios. 6pack for $150 - total to replace 14 radios = $350 plus tax

Power output - less than ½ watt

1. Highly recommended Motorola T-800 PK of 2 = $99.99 to replace 14 = $700

High Power – 2-watt output

Waterproof

800 Features Include: Radio Control Settings, Bluetooth Connectivity, Off-Grid Group Messaging or Broadcasting, Offline Location Sharing and Tracking, Easy Group Communication, And Emergency Location

**From Ken:**

Motorola Talkabout T800 FRS Two-Way Bluetooth Radio

part 1

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yLnpdr6VrCE>

part 2

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p9ruFIddc5M>

If you watch this before you buy the Motorola T800, you will find that it RX/TX works better than a Garmin Rino $600.00 - $700.00 with GPS Radio.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lMIUFEh4O4c](https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.youtube.com%2Fwatch%3Fv%3DlMIUFEh4O4c&data=05%7C01%7C%7C7f04601062764db3f52008db2e187f91%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C638154454973923383%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=APZarBisaG9XKeH27C55qGC8%2BSbUzO4PlgX8V5fxj50%3D&reserved=0)

After Randy and I talked about FRS radio, and we both felt the T800 is the better choice for Cary CERT, I did some further investigation and thought the Cary CERT Board should be made aware of the following information so they can make a rational decision on what to purchase.

Any radio with 2 watts or less is now classified as FRS, and you don't need a license to use it. T800 meets that requirement. Unlike our present FRS radios, which are only 0.4 watts. The T800 is maxed at 2 watts. Reception may be improved on these radios over the ones we are used to using.

The FCC has changed the rules regarding FRS & GMRS radios. As before, both FRS (no license) and GMRS (FCC License required for use) share the same 22 frequencies (channels).

Channels 1-7 are now limited to 5-Watts max power for GMRS and up to 2-Watts max power for FRS. The T800 with the CERT Channel 7 Code 11 fits right in with 2-Watts max. While the T260 is at the same 0.4 Watts max as our present radios. This alone might make the T800 the better choice.

Channels 8-14 are limited to 0.5 watts of power, so again, the T800 fits in, but at .5, the signal would be no better than our present 0.4 Watts FRS radios on these channels. But Cary CERT has no need to use these channels.

Channels 15-22 allow up to 50 watts of power and can go through a repeater. This is where GMRS radios really come into play, and they will overpower all FRS radios on these channels. Cary CERT is better off staying away from these channels during CERT use.

Though the T800's additional features look like they can bring value to Cary CERT. Some things to consider.

To realize most of the other benefits of the T800 requires that the radio be paired via Blue Tooth to an individual’s Cell Phone, either an I or an A phone through a Motorola special app loaded on each individual’s phone. Some work would be required to get this app on every CERT member’s phone. When a CERT member is loaned a radio for use during an event, they would have to pair the radio to their individual phone.

So, this boils down to this: is the difference in the cost between these two radios providing Cary CERT with enough additional value just from the fact that the T800 can put out a stronger radio signal?