Oregon Citizen Corps - State Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes - April 27, 2011

Present:

Akiko Berkman, Oregon Health Authority
Steven Bullock, Multnomah County
Molly Fillion, Marion County
Eric Gebbie, Oregon Health Authority
Cathy Harrington, City of Gresham
Stella Hickey, Oregon Fire Corps (via phone)
Roberta Janssen, Oregon State Defense Force
Mitch Neilson, City of Hillsboro
Richard Newton, Medical Reserve Corps
William Warren, Portland Emergency Management
Kelly Jo Craigmiles, Bev Hall, Chuck Perino, Oregon Emergency Management

1. **Introduction and Opening:**
   Chair Cathy Harrington opened the meeting at 10:00 and introductions were made.

2. **Previous Minutes:**
   The minutes were tabled due to lack of a quorum.

3. **Citizen Corps News and Events:**

   **MRC:** Akiko said there are several MRC classes ongoing (Basic and Advanced Disaster Life Support and Disaster Burn). Akiko also said that the VISTA program kept its funding, so recruitment can start for AmeriCorps.

   **Fire Corps:** Stella announced that there are some Fire Corps webinars and training located at [http://www.firecorps.org/academy](http://www.firecorps.org/academy). The City of Lebanon has a new Fire Corps unit. May 13 and 14 are the dates for the NW Fire Expo. In June Stella is attending the Oregon Volunteer Firefighter Conference in Lincoln City, doing recruitment and retention activities. She also is presenting at a national Fire Corps conference in Texas.

   **CERT:** Mitch was proud to report that he has worked with DHS to approve CERT training for the annual training requirements for aged, special needs, developmentally disabled and addiction housing caregivers. Mitch also mentioned a link to an interactive USGS website that shows fault lines around the state: [http://geohazards.usgs.gov/qfaults/map.php](http://geohazards.usgs.gov/qfaults/map.php)

   **Marion County Citizen Corps:** Molly Fillion said that MRC has switched to Emergency Management from Health. Mt. Angel and Silverton training dates have been set.

   **POEM:** William reported on outreach held for homeowners regarding preparing houses for earthquakes. 87 people attended. A goal is to make a class for construction workers. His CERT trainings are all full through 2012. In May he will be attending a CERT TTT class at EMI. In June there will be an event called “Are You Ready – Is Your Neighborhood Ready?” The speaker is William Sullivan, author of a book titled “Oregon’s Greatest Natural Disasters.” The topic will be natural disasters in Multnomah County. Amateur Radio training is scheduled in their ECC.

   **Multnomah Co:** Steve said he was working on partnerships with cities and also various communities as to acceptable/appropriate training for diverse populations (Map Your Neighborhood, 72 hour kits, etc.). He has been holding workshops for First Aid, CPR, and ATC for long term needs. He has been partnering with churches. Regarding registration, he gave advice that the “Do Attend” registration
website (http://doattend.com/) has worked well for him. Steve then explained a program using volunteers observing Multnomah Falls parking lot where there was daily car break-ins.

**Oregon State Defense Force:** Roberta said that twice a year The OSDF holds training. In March 90 people attended. Yumei Wang from DOGAMI along with ODOT and Pacific Power sent speakers.

**Gresham:** Cathy said that The City participated in the “Oregon Shakeout” for 2.5 minutes.

4. **Federal Update:** Fred Bretsch did not call in.

5. **State Update:** Chuck said that Oregon has 86% of the population being served by Citizen Corps on the national website. There is now a Citizen Corps website via the Oregon Emergency Management website: (http://www.oregon.gov/OMD/OEM/plans_train/citizen_corps.shtml). Trainings and SAC info (like the minutes) are appropriate for posting. Discussion followed on content for the website to include programmatic information for the core programs as well as the SAC information. Chuck said he would work to make changes discussed.

Discussion was then held on how to promote the OEM website. Mentioned were OEMA, National Fire Corps registration site, perhaps a subcommittee to work on outreach to the state.

Mitch said in regards to the national website, that it is hard to keep it up to date, for example, with budget cuts Sherwood cut their Citizen Corps program.

Mitch said he does own all of the Citizen Corps website domain names. He is working as he is able to have a forum for national Citizen Corps networking and volunteer-to-volunteer questions and answers.

6. **March Fire Corps Conference lessons learned:** Stella said feedback showed that attendees wanted more classes, longer classes, both basic and advanced classes. They liked that Citizen Corps and the State attended. She learned that a lot of people don’t know about Fire Corps unless they are in it. She is partnering with the Oregon Volunteer Firefighter Conference being held in June.

7. **SAC Presentation at OEMA Conference this October:** Stella will be attending. The SAC needs an OEMA rep. Cathy will work on a presentation. Chuck will look into funding for a SAC meeting there. Kelly Jo said that the EMPG conference can include a SAC presentation.

8. **2011 Citizen Corps Grant Investment Justification discussion:** Discussion was held regarding use of grant money. Mitch stated the need for clear goals for 2012 grant money. Kelly Jo said they have to wait for the federal guidance. Consensus was that word needs to get out that the grant is available for all Citizen Corps groups.

9. **SAC Activity: Targeted Grant Discussion** Surveys were sent out to SAC members after the last SAC meeting to see what would be a valuable project/funding need for Citizen Corps programs if we are able to fund a targeted grant program.

Results were shared from those who sent surveys out or made phone calls. Smaller jurisdictions are struggling – some did not know they fell under the Citizen Corps umbrella. Requests ranged from a trailer and computers from larger groups to recognition pins from smaller groups.

Kelly Jo reminded the group that SAC recommendations have to go to the OEM management, who makes the final decisions. Cathy asked Kelly Jo to take to OEM management the following proposal:
Guidelines: Support core CCP programs not receiving CCP funds now, have to be connected with a government agency that is NIMS compliant, and equipment wanted needs to be on the Authorized Equipment List. Other additions were that the grant would go directly to the supporting governmental agency, targeted notifications of this grant would go out, and those applying would provide examples of possible eligible projects (training, public education, and equipment).

Cathy said that SAC can get the word out about needing to be NIMS compliant. She also mentioned the need for involved VIPS and Neighborhood Watch members on the SAC.

10. Volunteer Recognition: Discussion was held on the award amount for pins, patches, t-shirts, etc. for volunteer recognition. Some members wanted a statewide standard pin, while others wanted the option for individual groups to personalize them. Cathy asked Kelly Jo to present two options to OEM management for recognition – with the targeted grant or with state grant dollars.

11. Good of the Order: Two topics were tabled for another time. Those were: growth of Citizen Corps in Oregon, and gathering best practices from around the state.

12. Next Meeting: July 27, 2011 was suggested as the date of the next meeting. Look at the agenda for the next meeting for the start time as it may be different from this month’s meeting.