

# **Waluga Neighborhood Emergency Preparedness Area/Street Coordinator Meeting Minutes**

Wednesday, Feb. 13, 2013, 7:00 p.m.

Oakridge Park Senior Housing

**Introductions** proceeded around the table. New to our group is Art Ostergard who lives in Country Woods Ct. and he plans to assist Jason Lang. **Others present were:**

Jason Lang; Country Woods Ct.; Katherine Purtzer and Will Mahoney-Watson: West Quarry and Carman; Greg Bowen: Albertson's mgr.; Rett Russell: Harvey Way; Ann Chilcote & Chuck Vermillion: Heritage Hills; Chris Battista: Trillium Woods; Suzanne Causer, Jan Hilderbrand, & Terri Fay: Oakridge Park; Jim Newcomer, co-facilitator: Collins Way; Larry Goff: Asst Fire Chief, and Cheryl Uchida: co-facilitator.

**Not present:** Leslie Lampson, Dick Benedetti, Brad Horton, Virginia Lagow, Steve Allaway, Ron Anderson & Bryant Cayhill

## **Website updates**

Will M-W showed everyone what the WNA website looked like and the menu for Emer. Prep. He asked if everyone was okay to list the coordinators' email addresses. It was decided that when the neighbors sign up, they will have access to the specific email addresses for their coordinator(s). Harvey Way and Heritage Hills emergency gathering place will be posted on the website: general location or address only. Oakridge Park's site will be in their community room and vacant lot next door, if safe. Trillium Woods' site hopes to be the Lutheran Church or under portable canopies set up in Trillium Wood cul-de-sac.

**Program for March-June, 2013** was briefly explained.

## **Emergency equipment update:**

Flash light show and tell: Cheryl showed two kinds of flashlights. Chris showed and told about a bevy of different lights he owns. One can never have enough. No decision was made tonight for purchasing a specific kind for emergency coordinators. Larry shared that a narrow beam light works better in hazy conditions, but any kind of flashlight won't work very well in dense smoky areas. It was discussed and decided without specificity that we need to maintain a battery cache for these kinds of tools.

There was brief discussion about hand crank lights and battery operated fluorescent lanterns.

Headlamps from Costco will be purchased for Chris, Ann, Chuck, Art, Jason, one for Oakridge Park and possibly one for Bryant Cayhill.

Two or three types of water valve tool (key) will provide useful for the various street water valves in our neighborhood. Cheryl showed two kinds, with a possible third kind necessary for valves that are harder to access located to the side of the opening. Everyone was encouraged to find out what type(s) of water valve key they needed in their area. Be ready to report this at the March meeting.

Jason has a great start with creating a map of the houses in Country Woods Ct. and has located and marked many of the gas and water valves for those houses. Will asked for direction on what his area/street neighbors should do next after the first meeting held last Fall. Jim and Cheryl will assist Will and Katherine for future plans to meet with the neighbors in the W. Quarry and Carman Drive area. Trillium Woods will be having their first neighbor meeting on March 11 at Our Savior's church. Heritage Hills will have their second meeting with the Assistant Fire Marshall, Gert Zoutendijk, on April 6. Their neighbors will learn about fire extinguisher safety and use, fire suppression and securing homes for earthquakes.

*Living on Shaky Ground* booklet and E.P. 2013 Calendar were handed out to all present. Emphasis on pages 13-15 and 18 is important to read in the event of an earthquake. February has good reminders for creating a support team and creating an evacuation kit.

Katherine announced she made up 50 more red cross signs and family info forms in zip loc bags to put on the inside of refrigerator wall. Chris took 34 for his neighbors in Trillium Woods. She will make up more as needed for those neighbors who haven't received them yet.

### **"Infrastructure damage during a disaster": Larry Goff, LO Assistant Fire Chief**

What to expect & what not to expect: Extent of potential damage depends on the disaster event...ice, wind storm, flood etc. For infrastructure damage in an earthquake for example, we could have a magnitude of 7, which means more intense shaking. For an earthquake due to the Cascadia Subduction zone magnitude will most likely be 4-5, but the shaking would last longer.

Most roads, bridges and underpasses will fail, but most homes in our area are fairly strong except those made of all brick. Homes can be bolted to foundation to further stabilize the house. Deliveries of medication, food, water and other essential items will be disrupted and unable to get to Albertsons and other destinations. Heavy fire trucks will be unable to cross unstable bridges and overpasses, so usually smaller fire vehicles are sent out to initially assess damage.

Lake Grove Elementary School is very vulnerable and unsafe during an earthquake so they may be on the top of the first responders' priority list, if an earthquake happens during school hours. But having an emergency preparedness plan for our neighborhood doesn't mean we are on the bottom of their list.

Other damage and jam ups will occur to the normal communication system, as well as the main water line from West Linn. The soil around Hwy 43 will experience liquefaction and will become unstable resulting in sink-holes.

Larry mentioned that the portable water treatment trailer is available, but are meant to be used for small areas.

The West End Building does not have back up emergency power and hasn't been tested for seismic stability.

The first thing the LO Fire Department will do in case of an earthquake is to pull out all of its apparatus out of the stations, then see where all staff is at that moment. They do not over commit their emergency apparatus too soon. Also, the time of day when an emergency occurs affects priority response.

Larry said that LO has an active volunteer amateur ham radio group and they meet on the third Wed. of each month. For the Westlake station the channel is 10 and 11 for the Jean Road Station.

He also added that 80% of rescues are done by volunteers.

**Code Red** option works like the reverse 911 plan. For more info go to <http://www.ci.oswego.or.us/citymanager/code-red-emergency-notification>

It is a way to communicate quickly emergency situation to those who have signed up by phone, email or text message.

Larry left some colored red and green HELP and OK signs for everyone. They are a colorful supplement to what is found on the back of the Map Your Neighborhood booklet.

### **Next meeting agenda items**

Food, Water, and Waste Management--March meeting

Fire Suppression and Home Fire Extinguisher & 4 in 1 tool training—April meeting

Search & Rescue and/or Making your Home Earthquake safe—Marcel Rodriquez(?)—May meeting

Information Sources and Central Communications in LO & two way radio use—June meeting

Laying out a plan for neighbors' meetings/events to help guide area coordinators.

**Next meeting will be on Wednesday, March 13 from 7-8:30 p.m. at Oakridge Park Senior facility.**

Minutes submitted by Cheryl Uchida