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**Sent:** Friday, March 19, 2010 12:12 AM

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Shannon Huggins

**Subject:** Notes/Comments from Feb. 23 PNA CERT Meeting

### **PNA held an Emergency Preparedness Informational meeting**

Meeting called to order by Mark Easley at 7:00 pm February 23, 2010 at the Stafford in the Sullivan Room.

There were 12 attendees and two guest speakers, Ben Stein, LO Emergency Planning and Larry Geoff, Assistant Fire Chief.

- Ben Stein introduced himself as a recent (Oct. 2009) addition to LO City staff in charge of emergency planning
- Stein outlined LO's basic plan as follows:
  - Preparedness
  - Reduce Harm
  - Post event rescue/recovery and damage assessment
- Stein's message/suggestions:
  - City has limited people resources – 12 LO firepeople, a few cops - to deal with a disaster
  - City has no specific/designated place(s) to shelter people. (The Gemini has 21 taps – no brainer)
  - It's up to individuals, households and neighborhoods to develop their own plans and resources.
  - Get a ham radio or walkie-talkie and tune it to Channel 12, which is the Palisades Neighborhood emergency channel/connect with Fire Station
  - Designate and train area emergency leaders responsible for 20 – 30 homes. More than that is unmanageable. (Volunteer area leaders?)
  - Pick-up the LO calendars with list of EP tips.
- LOFD Assistant Chief, Larry Goff, reiterated Stein's message of citizen preparedness plus the following:
  - Confirmed that the fault lines and geology make the steep sloping areas of Palisades particularly dangerous in an earth quake. Expect severe damage.

- The LOFD has a list of the 30 plus ham radio operators are in LO –this will be our primary source of information/communication.
- LOFD has list of CERT trained people in PNA, won't disclose who those folks are, but you'll know them by their green helmets.
- There are no designated emergency staging areas for tools and food supplies. Probably makes sense to go to nearest fire station
- Church, muni golf course, Stafford and other large buildings in Palisades Neighborhood, including Palisades Elementary and LHS, could be used as emergency gathering/shelter, not clear how to designate or get permission.
- School admins are trained, have EP plan. (It would be helpful to know what that plan is, if we can coordinate, etc.)
- The National Guard Armory is apparently off-limits for staging for emergency shelter (REALLY!?)
- Goff will provide “light” CERT training in 2 to 3 hour sessions as an alternative to formal seven 1-hr plus half day regular training.
- Boy scouts have done CERT trainings for advancement projects (Can we enlist their help?).

Recommended/possible next Steps:

- Place CERT on April 22 Agenda, elicit participation from neighbors.
- Designate a PNA Board Member or Area Rep with responsibility to form a committee to develop a plan.
- Have a CERT “party” to raise awareness, sell emergency kits radios to raise money for additional resources.
- Connect with schools about their emergency plans, ask about staging facilities and shelter.
- Organize a light CERT training for a group from each PNA area.
- Coordinate with neighborhood planner (Selden) to learn what other neighborhood associations are doing/have done.

Many thanks to Mark for organizing the eye-opening event.

Notes taken by Doug Rich

Former, Ex-PNA Treasurer - Retired

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