

Caspar Community Emergency Preparation Meeting — January 31, 2017

Present: Sally Stewart, Gary Grahame, Margie Enos, Mary Johnson, Patricia Kaohi, Annie Lee, Ray Duff, Bill Imhoff, Lisa Weg, Meridith and Bob Frey, Ed Murrell, Ellen Buechner, and me, Judy Tarbell

We modified the "Purpose" and "Who Will Benefit" statements of the Elk Community Emergency Preparedness Project (ECEPP) for the Caspar Community Emergency Preparedness Project (CCEPP) as follows:

Purpose of CCEPP:

Severe winter storms with power outages, forest fires, earthquakes, and toxic spills are the potential hazards Caspar residents may encounter. We recognize that immediately after an emergency, essential services to our remote area would likely be cut off and local disaster relief and government responders may not be able to reach us right away. Thus, for the initial period immediately following a disaster up to three days and most likely longer individuals, households, neighborhoods and the community may need to rely on their own resources for food, water, first aid, shelter and rescue operations.

The Caspar Community Emergency Preparedness Project is part of an overall effort to prepare the community for a major disaster. CCEPP will assist the community to prepare to shelter in place. It will also provide storage at the Caspar Community Center with rescue equipment, food and water rations, medical and shelter supplies, and appropriate communications equipment needed in the event of such a disaster.

The project will serve residents, visitors and people in need. In addition to providing evacuation assistance and medical attention to those in need, we anticipate stocking sufficient supplies to shelter up to 50 individual and feed 100 or more.

There are valuable sources of information about what items a shelter needs to provide for the people it anticipates coming as well as information on how to operate a the shelter. Ray Duff will get information on both matters from the Red Cross. Annie Lee and Judy Tarbell have a list on hand of what the ECEEP (Elk) group has in storage containers for shelter, food, and search and rescue needs. The populations of Elk and Caspar are similar; however, Caspar does not have a store or inns and therefore cannot rely on that food source as Elk has.

Meridith and Bob Frey gave a demonstration of phone system which works from West Caspar to where the dirt road begins on Fern Creek Road.

Ellen Buechner noted that satellite phone, though expensive, are invaluable for reaching out beyond our community.

Everyone noted the importance of setting up active neighborhood groups which will encourage/assist in preparing people to shelter in place " i.e. have pickle barrels (available at Dirt Cheap and Rossi's and probably other places) filled with necessary supplies. Ellen handed out lists of items needed for the pickle barrel. (N.B.: attached with these minutes are Emergency Supply List for

Home and Emergency Resource Inventory. (The latter is also in the packet of information I'm sending out this afternoon by snail mail).

Lisa Weg noted that following the CERT training she recently completed (organized by Jonathan McLaughlin who can be reached at Fort Bragg City Hall), the participants agreed to continue meeting on the fourth Wednesday of every month at the Ft. Bragg Police Department at 6 pm. Interested persons are welcome. This is an excellent way to share our communities' ideas and resources.

Regarding storage of items to purchase, there was much discussion about the possibility of using the existing garage (to the north of the Center) to place a cargo trailer, a container, or a metal/rat proof structure locally fabricated to house the equipment and supplies of the CCEPP. Bill Imhoff, Gary Grahame and Ed Murrell have recently purchased trailers and will look into possibilities for the CCEPP. After the meeting, Bob Frey said he would like to be involved to be sure that any structural needs for the garage to hold a container would not trigger an upgrade to the entire building.

Someone noted that we should look at other structures in case the Center collapses. Ellen Buechner noted that the resources of Fortunate Farm are available if the Center collapses.

The following sub-committees were formed, with a goal of coming together with their recommendations in four weeks (see note below about suggested meeting date).

First Aid: Sally Stewart, Margie Enos, Jim Katzel
Communications: Bob Frey

Food: Marty Johnson, Ellen Buechner

Shelter Needs: Annie Lee, Judy Tarbell

Storage: Bill Imhoff, Gary Grahame, Ed Murrell

Search and Rescue: no one yet...
Administration: Lisa Weg

I'm sure I've left out important matters, so please email around your corrections and additions! And ideas.

I'll put into Excel the names and contact information of people who over the years have been keenly interested in disaster preparation.

And finally, should we aim for getting together again in four weeks Monday, February 27, 7 pm at the Center?

All good wishes,

Judy Tarbell

31 January 2017