



## **CERT Minutes 2/25/26**

**The meeting began at 7:06 pm.**

**Present:** Donna Apgar, Peggy Askew, Tristan Askew, Willie Corbisiero, Neil Hubbard, Carol Kouba, Ken Lauffer, Doug McIntyre, Dawn Mutschler, Connie O'Grady, Ilene Schwartz, John Tsadilas, Maureen Tsadilas, Shelly Vosper

### **Flag Salute**

### **Minutes**

The minutes from the January 28, 2026 meeting were not available and will be emailed to members.

### **Old Business**

There were no EMS or fire reports this month.

About fifty people attended the January community service presentation by JCPL, with members of the Hopatcong and Sparta CERT groups as well as the general public present. Amy Overman of JCPL, Mayor Vera Rumsey, OEM Coordinator Lisa Chamings, and Committee member Dave Mansor answered the public's questions. Thank you to the volunteers who helped with setup and clean up.

In response to comments from an attendee about frequent power outages in her area, Stillwater OEM, CERT, and JCPL made two trips to her home to ascertain the cause of the problem.

Ilene scheduled the next three community events.

Nine people completed Basic CERT training. They received their yellow jackets and head lamps tonight. We also received supplies for our go bags.

We also had nine people attend the American Heart Association first aid training on February 18. They are certified for two years.

The Arctic Plunge has been rescheduled to March 8. CERT has received \$885.00 in donations so far.

Twenty three people attended the ice rescue training on January 21.

Some takeaways from this training:

Connie pointed out that more people should have participated in the rope pull rescue because we need to learn how to work together.

Neil said he could not hear the count for the pulls.

Rescuers should have been arranged on opposite sides of the rope.

Ilene commented that we will improve with practice.

**New Business:**

From March 17--March 24 Doug and Neil will be in charge in Maureen's absence.

**3/10 March Madness** 1-2pm at the Community Center Lisa Chammings will speak.

**3/19 Setting Up a Shelter**-Ewing, NJ You must let Maureen know if you plan to attend. There was no application attached to the email. Check-in is from 8:30-9:00am. It ends at 1pm.

**4/7 Caring for Caregivers**--Presented by Rae Ann Gowan of the Division of Senior Services 1-2pm at the Community Center.

**4/12 Helmet Safety**—12-3pm at the Community Center. Parents can have their children fitted for and receive a free bike helmet. Ken is a motorcycle safety instructor and offered help teach this program.

**4/18 Basic First Aid and CPR**—American Heart course, two year certification

**4/25 Stillwater Cleanup Day**—If you intend to participate, please wear your yellow vest.

**5/3 Ramapo Search and Rescue**—9am-12pm Veterans Park. Bring a compass.

**5/5 Tick Awareness and Sun Safety**—Presented by Juliette Bannister, MRC Health Educator, Sussex County Division of Health