



CHRISTMAS TREE HILL NRG
www.cthnrg.org / cthnrg@gmail.com

MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES
Sunday, March 26, 2023

The regular monthly meeting was called to order on Zoom at 4:00 PM.

Members attending: Cynthia England, Brandon Hemley, Chas Voorhis, Anita Bock, Debra Sartell, Leslie Cunningham, Linda Meier, Elizabeth D'Orazio, and Stephanie Seiler.

1. March Evacuation Exercise: Updates, Best Practices, Feedback

All agreed the literature regarding the exercise was very helpful and while not everyone was able to do the exercise on that date or at that time, those that did reported learning important lessons, for example:

- Pets and family members, and the supplies needed for them, take up lots of room in a car and that limits the number of items you may be able to take along. FYI, the Police Department recommends taking only one car to minimize traffic congestion.
- Those with go bags ready ahead of time still reported that it took between 8-10 minutes to get everything loaded into the car.
- Taking time to know how best to prepare your house before evacuating is important, see the attached article for sound advice: <https://www.sfgate.com/california-wildfires/article/10-things-to-do-if-a-wildfire-is-approaching-your-15511007.php>

Action item: Cynthia will request additional colored OK/HELP signs from Central Marin NRG to increase our supply. Contact Cynthia if you need more signs.

2. Removal of apartment complexes and businesses from CTH NRG boundary and map:

After discussion and a review of proposed apartment and business deletions (see attached map) those present approved their removal from Zone 1. Map updates and revisions are underway and once completed a new version of the map will be sent to the team, along with an updated radio call sign list and BC/ZC contact list. Anita and Brandon are reviewing the current zone/block configuration with a view to making recommendations to the team about needed changes. Zone Coordinators are encouraged to contact them if they have suggestions.

3. Retevis radios:

A recommendation was made to enhance communications with Chapman Node and CERT, by purchasing Retevis for the chair, incident commander, 7 zone coordinators and CERT lead. It was further recommended that each of the 10 people currently occupying these positions* consider making a \$25 tax deductible donation to the Corte Madera Community Foundation earmarked for CTH NRG, said funds to be used to purchase the 10 Retevis radios. *Cynthia asked those in agreement with the proposal please send a \$25 check payable to "Corte Madera Community Foundation" (the CTH NRG fiscal agent) to her, once received she will bundle them and send them to Larry Reed at CMCF for deposit. Those not wanting/needing the charitable tax deduction can make the donation in cash should they prefer. After discussion about why contributions were being suggested to purchase the radios—the reason being to avoid depleting the CTH NRG fund reserve—those present approved proceeding as recommended.

It was also suggested and agreed to that Cynthia should send an email to the full group to encourage all team members to consider making an annual donation to CTH NRG. Those desirous of doing so should make their checks payable to the *Corte Madera Community Foundation*, which serves as the CTH NRG fiscal agent, and send them to Cynthia. Donations are tax deductible as the CMCF is a 501(C)(3).

4. Contribution to Chapman Node for Communication System Enhancement:

To enhance its ability to communicate with assigned NRGs and CERT, the Chapman Node team is investing in a repeater (to be erected on the fire station), an antenna and Retevis base camp radios. A proposal has been made to fund these items (which will total around \$500) by asking each of the 7 assigned NRGs to make an equal contribution to cover the cost of the enhanced communications tools. As a Chapman Node member, CTH NRG was requested to contribute to the cost. Approval was recommended as CTH NRG has the funds to support this important mutual aid tool, our current fund balance being approximately \$2,500. Those present voted to contribute the requested amount and gave the chair authority to contribute up to \$250 for the enhancements should some of the smaller NRGs not have the funds to pay their share.

5. New / other business:

- a. BC recruitment table preceding the Summer Concert Series at Menke Park: Leslie reported meeting with Kyle and Patsy of Zinz's Wine Bar, who said they would be delighted to host / assist in any way they could to help recruit BCs. Leslie suggested that we have a recruitment event before the first concert of the summer on June 11th and that we well advertise the event. More to follow! **Action item:** Anita offered to draft a flyer geared to BC recruitment to go to all CTH residents.
- b. Two upcoming events might be of interest to some – details/flyers attached.
- c. Chipper Days: Dates are now available - to sign up: <https://www.chipperday.com/marin>
- d. Safety tips for storing oily rags can now be found on the CTH NRG website. See "Minimize the Risk of House Fires Caused by Chemical Reactions" on www.cthnrg.org
- e. Protocols for sharing medical team information with other NRGs was discussed along with a refresher on the need to channel all mutual aid contacts through the incident command center.

The meeting adjourned at 5:10 PM.

REMINDERS | UPCOMING MEETINGS/EVENTS:

- **Next radio test.** Please RSVP promptly when the invitation is received:

April 10	Monday	8:00 PM	Stephanie Seiler Hosting
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- **Next meeting date:** Sunday, April 30, 4:00 pm
- **Next Firewise Board* meeting date:** Sunday May 21, 5:00 pm
*Firewise Board Chair: Brandon Hemley | Board Members: Cynthia, Anita, Debra, Linda, Beth, Leslie, Stephanie and Mark.