



Alexandria Citizen's Corps Council (CCC)
May Meeting
May 18th, 2026
Meeting Notes

1. Meeting called to order at 7:02pm.
2. Roll Call:
 - Donna Reuss, Beth Mahar, Rosy Noguchi, Elsy Melkonin, Patrick Moran, Sean Gallagher, David Mendez, Reba Winstead, Eric Letzgus, Parker Fritsch, Lachlan Kerr, Councilwoman Jacinta Greene, Juan Garcia, Jasmin Johnson.
 - Lachlan's first meeting as a member.
 - Councilwoman Sandy Marks will replace Kirk McPike as the other member from City Council.
3. Review and Approve November Meeting Minutes:
 - Motion to approve by Donna, seconded by Beth; approved unanimously.
4. Office of Emergency Management (OEM) Update (Parker):
 - Ready Kids event coming up: groups and CCC can have a table.
 - Looking for volunteer actors August 13th at Minnie Howard for a training event.
 - Hoping for CERT (and other) volunteers during America 250 and summer events.
 - Assuming DC will be asking for support during big events this summer.
5. City Council Update (Councilwoman Greene):
 - Focused on the budget process. Trying to avoid additional residential taxes.
 - Difficult year with snowstorm. Spent an additional \$8 million on contractors for snow removal.
 - Some contractors came from Minnesota and Michigan.
 - Councilwoman Sandy Marks is now the other member from City Council.
6. A. Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Update (Beth/Parker):

- New policies and procedures document approved by the Fire Chief regarding requirements for active involvement in CERT.
 - 4 hours training annually and 1 volunteer event.
- B. Civic Associations Update (Donna):
 - Nothing to report.
- C. Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) Update (Jasmin):
 - Rosy will return around August. 2 people will be covering for Rosy until then.
 - Supported VRC this weekend.
 - Table top measles exercise at ACPS.
 - Had a volunteer appreciation event recently for the MRC volunteers.
- D. Alexandria Radio Club Update (Sean):
 - D-Day celebration at the end of the month.
 - Field Day coming up, June 27th-28th.
 - Have spun off a volunteer team to train the different volunteer groups and plan out a communications plan for volunteer events.
 - Patrick asks if other radio clubs are as tied in with their government emergency management office.
 - Sean says not yet.
 - Parker says to let him know if he can help link other clubs up with their respective emergency management offices.
- E. Red Cross Update (Juan):
 - Held a chapter volunteer recognition event recently.
 - No firm date on Alexandria Sound the Alarm event yet.
 - Supporting some area summer events.
 - Working on building capacity this year to give themselves more options to open up shelters in case normal capacity support is not available.
 - Currently a platelet shortage. Summer is a slow season for blood donations.
- F. Volunteer Alexandria and Volunteer Reception Center (VRC) Update (Reba):
 - April started disaster management donations management program.
 - Thinking about doing a distribution exercise training.
 - New VRC class ended in March.
 - Annual functional exercise last Saturday.
 - MRC assisted as evaluators.
 - Considering putting together "summer camp" style trainings for July/August.
- 7. CCC Officer Brief:

- Chair Update (Patrick):
 - April event was a great first event for us. Great way to define what the "Citizen Corps" is.
 - Member organizations' presentations were really powerful.
 - Really liked the style of the event.
- No Vice Chair Update.
- Secretary Update (David):
 - Great presentations from all presenters at the April event.

8. Old Business:

- Review and debrief April CCC event.
 - Sean says it was great and we showed we are a group that is intertwined and works well together.
 - Need to do better with marketing events.
 - Reba says stuff needs to be on calendars at least 2 months in advance with E-News going out 2 weeks before the event.
 - Not enough advance marketing.
 - Presentations showed that the CCC groups all work together.
 - Parker says this event set a foundation for future events. We have a template presentation that we can use again and build off of.
 - 25 RSVPs with only 3 responses from the post-event survey.
 - We should have the events in different neighborhoods, not just the Lee Center.
 - Want to build in a bit more information about OEM and what they do.
 - Maybe market it as a "pathways to service" event.
 - Patrick likes this as a compelling marketing tactic.
 - Patrick says this was great for explaining clearly what CCC is.
 - Maybe have a CCC landing page where people can go and express interest.
 - Volunteer ALX has this for themselves and CERT and other CCC groups and can add links/pages to this website.
 - Done through the Volunteer ALX system.
 - A page for expressing interest would be ideal.
 - October would be a good time to do another outreach event. There is a desire to do this every 6 months.

- Donna says we should focus on awareness of emergency preparedness, not necessarily volunteerism recruiting events.
 - Volunteerism is secondary.
 - Need citizens to be aware and feel confident in the City.
- Sean says we should bring a "mini-show" to the individual civic associations.
 - Reba says it takes at least 3 months to get on a civic association calendar.
 - And might have very little time to present on their docket.
- We should make it clear that the "first 72 hours are on you."
- Need to work with communications on a new branding for these events.
- David says we should have a handout for the Tons of Trucks event.
- Reba says we should also do outreach at National Night Out on August 4th.
- Standing Subcommittee on Event Planning should meet at least once to plan handouts for Tons of Trucks (and National Night Out) and plan out basics for an October event.
 - And decide if we need to pull in the communications department.

9. New Business:

- Ready Kids Event, Saturday May 30th.
 - Expecting a big turnout.
 - Might triple the attendance compared to the 88 RSVPs.
 - Tables in parking lot/rotunda.
 - Groups can have a table.
 - It will be like a small-scale Tons of Trucks in terms of audience.
 - CCC can have a table.
 - David will attend for CCC.
 - Trying to get a new CCC tablecloth for future events.

10. Next Meeting Dates:

- Monday, July 27th, 2026.

11. **Motion by Donna** to adjourn at 8:55pm, seconded by David; approved unanimously.