

Trailer Estates Minutes

Community Emergency Response Team

September 16, 2026

Members in Attendance: Laura Freese, Charlie Rizzo, Sharon Litschauer, Tom Briggie, Sharon Denson, Jim Brunett

The meeting was brought to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 10:00 AM

TREASURERS REPORT

- Sharon Denson presented the financial report of \$5,165.80. She reported that \$300 was sent to Bayshore Gardens to train lifeguards, which was matched by their HOA.

HIGHLIGHT OF MEETING:

- A discussion was led by Laura to have meetings after the woodshop meets in the hall from 9 to 10AM. The two consecutive meetings would generate interest in Trailer Estates CERT which would meet at 10AM.
- Training programs for new CERT members were conducted in January and Lakewood Ranch is scheduling a class in late September. Trailer Estates will conduct a class when enough students register.
- Sharon Litschauer reported on the August CERT conference in Disney Springs, FL. Next year the conference will return to Disney Springs, August 1-5, 2027.
- A discussion followed about new backpacks for CERT class graduates. Manatee County has noted they will not continue to supply backpacks. It was discussed that the backpack announcement may be premature but that Trailer Estates CERT will cover the costs of new backpacks for TE CERT graduates.
- Stop the Bleed and Automated External Defibrillator (AED) presentations will begin before CERT meetings when snowbirds return. Sharon Litschauer said there may be interest in Cribbing and First Aid presentations.
- Laura announced a CERT recruitment plan that would be promoted as an open house to residents at the end of January 2027.

- Sharon Denson noted that CERT had an old program where they would provide Toys-for-Tots and requested we bring back the program in December. She said it was very well received in the past. Charlie reported that the woodshop has a parallel program where they would distribute resident created wooden toys to four locations in the area.
- CERT breakfasts in 2027 will be held January 11, February 8, March 8 and April 12. The costs will be held to \$10 per breakfast or \$35 for a package of all four to be sold before the January breakfast.
- There will be a hot-dog luncheon on the beach that will coincide with the December 16 meeting. Members and family members will bring their own drinks and a dish to share, while Laura will purchase plates, cups and table service.
- November 7, 2027 was announced as the Cedar Hammock Fire District Open House. In the past TE CERT has volunteered services for parking, face painting and hot-dog cooking and has announced its commitment for the 2027 festivities. Other local CERTS will be invited to help.
- Sharon Littschauer noted that the 2027 Hurricane Expo will be held in May at the Salvation Army, 5328 24th St E, Bradenton across from the Oneco Elementary School. She said FPL may be listed as involved next year and that other Manatee County CERT teams will be invited.
- The Patterson Foundation will hold the next CERT summit on February 25, 2027 involving four area counties as announced by Sharon Littschauer.
- Tom noted that the new HAM radio antenna was installed by TE maintenance worker Randy Hedgcock. Tom noted that a temporary pole to hold the antenna broke in a wind storm and the antenna was knocked to the roof of the activity building. Tom noted the broken antenna and a test provided positive results with a connection to EOC. The antenna was then reinforced with a metal antenna holder. A copper grounding rod was located and attached to the antenna. Tom also noted that the 20 Watt GMRS upgrade worked well to contact Emergency Services outside of the community.

Meeting adjourned at 11:10.