

# Ready Force Steering Committee Meeting Minutes

**Wednesday, May 8, 2024**

**Training Room**

**Attending:** Nancy Dorn, Mary Eusterman, Marti Franc, Ed Gellenbeck, Jean Lofy, Mayo Marsh, Judith Pearson, Jude Watson, and Louise Williams.

About half of the meeting was devoted to discussing the responsibilities of residents and staff regarding the care of mobility-impaired residents who need to exit multistory buildings in emergencies.

A case in point is the recent false fire alarm in North Main. What is the role of staff in communicating with residents? RVI staff came and shut off the false alarm; then they left. Several people with mobility problems took significant time to exit the building.

An added complexity is that residents have **not** been told that they can use the elevators if they are operating. Several residents with severe mobility problems took significant amounts of time and endangerment to themselves because not only did they not know it was a false alarm, they were operating under the old communication that elevators are unsafe and don't function in fire emergencies. This is information RF will help correct during the upcoming RF MYN meetings.

The Executive committee will ask Jim Willeford for clarification before the RF MYN meeting for North Main on June 1st. Questions for Jim Willeford include

- If there is a false fire alarm, can staff attempt to go on the floors and let people know it is a false alarm? Or, at least, can all impacted residents be simultaneously called on their landlines and notified that this is a false fire alarm?
- Does RVI have plans for helping people in multistory buildings with mobility problems that apply to different types of emergencies? For example:
  - False fire alarms
  - Regular Fire alarms ( we assume firefighters will help residents with mobility problems)
  - Climate emergencies (no electricity)
  - Forest fires (smoke)
  - Earthquakes: People have to get out of the building, and help may not be available for days.

Other items discussed

1. First Aid Training: People want more hands-on practice relative to video time. The videos should be presented so class members can practice and ask questions. Greg

Wenneson and his team from OLCERT will present the first aid training this fall. There will be plenty of chances to speak to Greg about his plans and give him feedback from this training session.

2. The twin bucket sets are arriving. We will be asking for volunteers to help assemble and deliver.
3. Jude has delivered radios to most of the CERT-lite graduates. They will participate in the May 14 radio check-in.
4. The date or times for several future Steering Committee meetings must be changed because of conflicts with Resident Council District meetings.