

**Volusia Community Organizations Active in Disaster (COAD)**  
**General Membership Meeting Summary – 18 November, 2015**

The meeting was brought to order at 2:04 PM by Deanie Lowe, Co-Chairman.

Members and guests present:

|                   |                |                    |
|-------------------|----------------|--------------------|
| Brandon, Andrea   | Brandon, Jerry | Bruno, Frank       |
| Cisco, Tom        | Clements, Jim  | DuPont, Gaynell    |
| Greenberg, Warren | Heald, David   | Howell, Charlie    |
| LaHue, Larry      | Law, Audriana  | Lewandowski, Frank |
| Lewis, Danielle   | Lowe, Deanie   | Monroe, Sherri     |
| Parkhurst, Ray    | Troxler, David | White, Pat         |

- Mrs. Lowe welcomed everyone and reminded them to have parking passes validated. She thanked Frank Bruno, Co-Chairman, for providing the refreshments and then called for a moment of silent prayer for the people of Paris who were involved in the recent terrorist attack.
  
- The first agenda item was a report on the activities of the Preparedness Strike Team by Jerry Brandon, Chairman
  - Letters have been prepared which will be sent to HOAs, Manufactured Home Parks, and CONDO associations inviting them to have a presentation for Map Your Neighborhood (MYN) in order to prepare themselves for potential disasters.
  - Because of El Nino, there is a good chance that tornadoes this season will be bad.
  - Our second Expo was extremely well received, and we are currently planning for the next one to be on the west side of the county in May, 2016.
  - We are looking at the Lowe's or the Home Depot in Deltona or Orange City and Pat White will be in charge.

- Next on the agenda was a report from Frank Lewandowski for the Response and Recovery Strike Team.
  - The team had a Volunteer Reception Center (VRC) exercise last May at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints building in Daytona Beach. This exercise went extremely well and they are planning on doing some additional training and re-evaluating the software.
  - Once the software is ready, it will be packaged and sent to anyone in the United States upon request.
  - Saturday, 21 November, 2015 the team will have another exercise at the LDS church in DeLand for training and re-validation of the software.
  
- Mrs. Lowe next introduced Audriana Law to discuss a grant proposal for the purpose of providing our COAD with necessary funds.
  - The United Way, which Ms. Law represents, has presented a proposal to the County Emergency Office for a Volunteer Management System.
  - The purpose of this system is to provide a needed database of volunteers who are pre-screened and pre-entered with lists of skills.
  - Mrs. Lowe went on to say that during a disaster, because our COAD is involved with the county's ESF 15 and we are in charge of volunteers and donations, this kind of database would be extremely helpful.
  
- Pat White talked about the recent FLASH workshop.
  - FLASH stands for Federal Alliance for Safe Homes.
  - The topic of this workshop was, "How to Build Back Better".
  
- Mrs. Lowe gave the treasurer's report, saying that COAD's bank balance remains at \$ 144.33.

- Next on the agenda, Mrs. Lowe introduced the guest speaker, Nancy Keefer, President and CEO of the Daytona Regional Chamber of Commerce.
  - Mrs. Keefer began by noting that disasters come in many forms, from hurricanes to other weather events to terrorism.
  - She commended our COAD for the job being done in preparing ahead of time for this type of event rather than reacting to it after it has occurred.
  - The Chamber of Commerce is in a growth pattern and has spread geographically throughout the county.
  - There are 5 primary areas that are addressed:
    - Advocacy and working with lobbyists.
    - Connections: there are 5 regional connections groups specifically designed to talk issues and to help each other.
    - Disseminating information.
    - Developing a website.
    - Working with the county and cities on economic development helping local businesses to expand and stay here.
  - They are trying to be the “Chamber of Influence” helping to set local and state priorities.
  - There is a new magazine soon to be issued called “Evolve”.
  - Mrs. Keefer next took the audience on a verbal “tour” of the community to explain how the economy of Volusia County has been expanding and improving. Some of the places that were mentioned were:
    - Tanger Outlets
    - Sam’s Club
    - Trader Joe’s
    - Auto Mall expansion
    - Daytona Rising
    - One Daytona
    - ERAU

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- Jet Blue
    - Beachside:
      - Hard Rock
      - Russian project
      - Westin
  - Mrs. Keefer then opened the floor for a period of questions and answers.
- The next agenda item was the election of officers. Nominees were:
- Chairman – Frank Bruno
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair – Jerry Brandon
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair – Frank Lewandowski
  - Secretary – Charlie Howell
  - Treasurer – LaDelle Cookston
- A motion was made by Ray Parkhurst to accept these nominations. The motion was seconded by Pat White and passed by acclamation.
- The next General Membership meeting will be on 20 January, 2016 at the airport.
- The meeting was adjourned at 3:14 PM.