

Volusia Community Organizations Active in Disaster (COAD)

Steering Committee Meeting Summary – 8 April, 2014

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM by Deanie Lowe, co-chairman of COAD.

Steering Committee members present:

Brandon, Andrea	Brandon, Jerry	Bruno, Frank
Clark, Jesse	Clements, Jim	Forand, Patrick
Greenberg, Warren	Heald, David	Howell, Charlie
James, Pat	Lowe, Deanie	McCombs, tom
Olsen, Diane	Parkhurst, Ray	Troxler, David

- Tom McCombs announced that there is a national VOAD meeting in Indianapolis 13 – 17 May.
- Ray Parkhurst said that the Florida state-wide hurricane awareness exercise for this year is the week of 19 May. Volusia County will do the exercises on 21 and 22 May.
- Mrs. Lowe talked about VOAD vs. COAD:
 - VOAD is a state and national volunteer organization.
 - We wanted to include businesses, so we chose to become affiliated as community organizations.
 - Mrs. Lowe also had heard about our being region 5 for something but did not know what it meant,
 - The answer was given that from Volusia to St. Lucie counties are Region 5 of RDSTF – The Regional Domestic Security Task Force.
- Mr. McCombs and Warren Greenberg, who is our communications expert, tested the GROUPME texting and calling program.
 - Sends texts quickly
 - A person on-site can send pictures

- Maps can be generated from GROUPME to direct a person to the correct site.
- There was a lengthy and detailed discussion of the “calling tree”, GROUPME, and how COAD activates when an incident has occurred.
 - We get activated through the EOC or ESF15.
 - We’ll co-ordinate with a liaison from Emergency Management.
 - We will be interfacing with the Volusia County Sheriff’s Communication Center (VCSCC) through the Emergency Management Center.
 - Once it gets down to that level, one of our co-chairmen, either Deanie Lowe or Frank Bruno, will start COAD’s activation through the phone tree or texting through GROUPME.
 - The EOC or ESF15 will specify needs and then the designated chairperson will start the calling tree.
 - Specialty groups such as the Red Cross may also be contacted.
 - Area co-ordinators or their alternates will then begin their part of the calling tree.
 - There was a question about other specialty groups that are fairly large that may need to be contacted such as the Salvation Army and VIND.
 - Charlie Howell will have the activation chart and phone tree on the website, but questioned who gets access to this information.
- There was discussion about COAD’s having a bank account.
 - A motion was made by Dave Troxler and seconded by Pat James that a bank account for non-profits be set up for out COAD with 2 signers.
 - The motion also designated Deanie Lowe and Jerry Brandon as the signers.
 - The motion was passed by the members present.
- Group discussion continued on activation and types of work that COAD members would actually be doing when there is an incident.

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- Mr. Howell said that resources and specific skills of our members should be listed on our website.
- A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) needs to be completed by every potential organizational member.
- Jerry Brandon brought up the idea of having a card given to COAD members and those who have had the presentation. This card would be used at Lowe's or Home Depot, etc. for a discount on the types of emergency supplies noted as being important. Members said that although this idea was a good one, they thought it might cause difficulty between vendors. Mr. Parkhurst then mentioned that this type of thing could be used when the vendors have their hurricane awareness sales.
- Based on this type of idea, discussion continued on the possibilities of setting up a table at the vendor's site to explain COAD.
- This part of the discussion continued and led to a talk about our setting up and/or participating in a type of Preparedness Training Fair.
- The next meeting will be Tuesday, 13 May, 2014.
- The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 AM.