

**Volusia Community Organizations Active in Disaster (COAD)**  
**Steering Committee Meeting Summary – 8 September, 2015**

The meeting was brought to order at 10:06 by Deanie Lowe, Co-chairman.

Steering committee members present:

Brandon, Jerry	Bruno, Frank	Greenberg, Warren
Howell, Charlie	LaHue, Larry	Lewandowski, Frank
Lowe, Deanie	White, Pat	Wilary, Loretta

- Mrs. Lowe introduced Frank Lewandowski, State Emergency Preparedness Co-ordinator for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latterday Saints. Mr. Lewindowski was in charge of the Volunteer Reception Center (VRC) exercise which went extremely well.
  - Mrs. Lowe and Jim Pillow, also from the LDS church, had spoken about sending information about the VRC as well as software developed by Mr. Lewandowski to Jim Roberts, who is with the state ESF organization, in order that they can be used in other Florida counties.
  - They could then talk to Ken Skalitsky. Emergency Co-ordinator for Broward County for Volunteer Florida, which serves as ESF 15 for the state.
  - Mr. Lewandowski will do this after our COAD has one more VRC exercise to work out any “bugs” still in the software.
  - He went on to say that he would like to talk to Mr. Larsen, President of LDS, so as to present the total package to representatives around the state which would also mean that the LDS churches county-wide would be prepared to set up a VRC if a disaster happens in Volusia.
- Mrs. Lowe discussed an up-coming meeting regarding a comparison and updating of the 211 system with the data base developed by the Response and Recovery Strike Team with the United Way, as presented by David Heald, Chairman.

- Ms. Lowe thanked Charlie Howell for starting the GROUPME exercise last Monday. This is a group texting format which enables our COAD members who have signed onto it to be in contact when there is an emergency situation. These weekly practices keep us reminded of how to complete this task.
- Mr. Howell said that he needs a complete list of names with email addresses. It was decided that this list needs to be up-dated. Jerry Brandon said that he will send an electronic copy to Mr. Howell who will use it to notify all previous COAD attendees of the general meetings.
- The agenda for the general meeting of 18 November was the next area of discussion.
  - The speaker will be Nancy Keefer, President of the Daytona Beach Chamber of Commerce.
  - It was noted that we should also include a representative from Brown and Brown Insurance Company specifically to make note of how businesses are affected on an insurance-related basis.
  - We could possibly have both on the same agenda with perhaps one-half hour for each person.
  - The agenda for this meeting will also include the election of officers.
- Mr. Bruno suggested that the bi-monthly COAD General Membership meetings be at the airport as many times as possible. The room that is available is smaller and more inviting. Mrs. Lowe said it is easier to find than the Heath Department and the airport's atmosphere is more conducive to this type of meeting. Pat O'Brien is the contact person for the airport.
- It was noted that we should be getting all of our information out to all of the seven (7) Chambers of Commerce in Volusia County. Jim Cameron would be able to do this and it would then include the large Hispanic community that is on the west side of the county.
- There was a general discussion of our up-coming election in November specifically regarding some potential names of people who might be interested in certain offices.

- Mr. Brandon, Chairman of the Preparedness Strike Team, spoke about this team's accomplishments and future plans:
  - This team meets every other month.
  - The main thrust of this strike team is to get the word out about Map Your Neighborhood (MYN)
  - The team has changed their primary method of contact by developing letters to be sent out to various associations such as HOAs, Condos and Manufactured Home Parks explaining COAD as an organization and inviting them to have us on one of their meeting agendas.
  - We would train them so that they can in turn train their own people in order to be prepared for an emergency.
- Mr. Bruno suggested that for future General Membership meetings, we see about having a sponsor for each one who can then provide refreshments in return for the name recognition they would receive. This sponsorship would be named in the press release announcing the COAD meeting itself.
- Loretta Wilary mentioned that the MYN concept might be a good time to try for a grant.
  - We should re-address our budget which was already created in order to apply for these grants.
  - Mrs. Wilary and Mr. Brandon will work together toward obtaining this grant for a county-wide series of presentations of MYN.
  - Monies from a grant could be used for:
    - Disks
    - Printing
    - Postage
    - Various other necessary materials
- Mr. Brandon talked about future Expos:
  - The manager of the Ormond Beach Lowe's was impressed with the way we handled everything and wants us to do another Expo at that location.

- Mr. Pillow was supposed to get in touch about going to Orlando regarding an Expo as well as a sponsorship by Lindor. As of this time, they have not communicated.
- Mrs. Lowe talked about the fact that Jim Judge, Volusia County Emergency Co-ordinator, has asked our COAD to sit in at the ESF 15 when a disaster occurs. She has a checklist of items that the ESF 15 is responsible for but she feels that our COAD is not prepared for these at this time for a variety of reasons.
  - Larry LaHue said that at this time the county's emergency management will cover these responsibilities.
  - Mr. Bruno said that it is his understanding that the format has changed since the last series of hurricanes. He went on to list various groups and some of their present responsibilities.
  - Mrs. Lowe went on to enumerate some of the responsibilities as listed on the checklist.
  - Mrs. White also listed some of the partners such as the Red Cross who will be covering some of these items as listed.
  - Mrs. Lowe then suggested that at the next Steering Committee meeting we re-address the checklist in order to be prepared for our part when an event occurs.
  - It was also decided that Mrs. Lowe would meet with Mrs. Wilary to go over the checklist prior to the next Steering Committee meeting.
- The meeting was adjourned at 11:42 A M.