

Volusia Community Organizations Active in Disaster (COAD)
Steering Committee Meeting Summary – 9 February, 2016

The meeting was brought to order at 10:02 AM by Frank Bruno, Chairman.

Steering committee members present:

Brandon, Andrea	Brandon, Jerry	Bruno, Frank
Greenberg, Warren	Heald, David	Howell, Charlie
Law, Audriana	Lewandowski, Frank	Parkhurst, Ray
Selvaggi, Karen	Troxler, David	Wealand, Bill
White, Pat		

Guest: Tom McComb

- Mr. Bruno asked if there were any questions or discussion regarding the minutes of the last General Meeting. Hearing none, it was moved and seconded to adopt them as written. The motion passed.
- Mr. Bruno then explained how he would like to structure the Steering Committee meetings during his tenure as Chairman:
 - Each meeting will be one hour in duration.
 - The format will include a speaker at every meeting if possible, especially if our COAD becomes a member of the group called “One Voice for Volusia” because there will be many possible people to choose from.
 - We can advertise our meetings through that group as well as other places.
 - He will print copies of the minutes of the previous meeting for all Steering Committee members to have in front of them during each new meeting.
 - From now on, minutes will be posted on the COAD website as a draft, and after they have been approved, the word “Draft” will be removed.

- Mr. Bruno next spoke with Pat White about how we can get weather radios in the hands of the general public.
 - Can we get grants to obtain them?
 - We need to educate people who own Smart phones about an APP that is available for warnings about potential emergency weather situations.
 - Mrs. White explained that there is a county alert system that people can sign up for at Volusia.org.
 - David Heald said that in about a week the state is going to a program called “Everbridge” and people will be able to sign up for that and be alerted to emergency weather announcements in geographical areas that they need to know about.
 - Mr. Bruno asked Mrs. White to co-ordinate with Mr. Heald to present a plan at the next Steering Committee meeting.

- Mr. Bruno asked Frank Lewandowski for a review on the “FLASH” conference he recently attended. Mr. Lewandowski and Mrs. White explained the various meetings which included presentations by the National Weather Service. Mr. Bruno suggested that the members of our COAD be kept informed about future FLASH conferences for possible attendance.

- Mr. Bruno next spoke on behalf of Jim Clements who has reiterated his request that our COAD sponsor a CERTS program. This valuable service-type organization has almost disappeared in Volusia County. Mr. Bruno has requested that Mr. Clements discuss his plans for CERTS at our next meeting.

- Mr. Bruno discussed the organization called “One Voice for Volusia”. He will personally pay the annual dues on behalf of our COAD and he hopes that we will be able to have one or two people from this large, multi-faceted group who will speak at each of our Steering Committee meetings. Perhaps they would also be able to speak at our General Meetings. Audriana Law

will attend the next meeting to present our dues and see if representatives from the various member-agencies would be willing to do this. Ms. Law will present a summary of this at the next Steering Committee meeting.

- The next item on the agenda was a discussion regarding our total membership.
 - Andrea Brandon, Secretary, reported that the membership list at hand included the names of anyone who was present at any of the past meetings since our COAD's inception two years ago.
 - Mrs. Brandon suggested that this list needs to be up-dated.
 - Mr. Bruno said that he would like to have an email sent to everyone on this list to see if they are still interested. The email could also say that we are making a fresh start, and include an announcement of our next General Meeting.
 - Charlie Howell will sign up all people on the list onto our COAD website and send a "blast" type email to all.
 - Mr. Bruno asked Karen Selvaggi to head up a membership committee.
 - Mrs. Selvaggi stated that in her opinion the public "atmosphere" has changed.
 - She thinks that people are thinking more about security.
 - She also feels that the general public is more aware of various potential dangers.
 - Therefore they are more interested in what emergency plans are in place and learning about them.
 - Mrs. Selvaggi also thinks that businesses in general are more aware and want to be involved.
 - Mr. Bruno then remarked that our COAD is a co-ordinating type of group and therefore needs to have other groups come to speak to us to further the integrating of various services more efficiently.

- The March General Meeting could be the beginning of a renewed interest in the general public’s awareness.

- There was much discussion about speakers for the next General Membership Meeting on 16 March, 2016.
 - Scott Spratt, a speaker from the National Weather Service was suggested.
 - Jim Judge, Volusia County Emergency Co-ordinator was suggested as a back-up.

- Mr. Bruno reported that there is no change in the Treasurer’s report.

- He also said that we need to up-grade and up-date our hand-out titled, “Who We Are”.

- The meeting was adjourned at 11:08 AM.