

Volusia Community Organizations Active in Disaster (COAD)

Steering Committee Meeting Summary – 12 April, 2016

The meeting was brought to order at 10:04 AM by Frank Bruno, Chairman.

Steering committee members present:

Brandon, Andrea	Brandon, Jerry	Bruno, Frank
Judge, Jim	Law, Audriana	Lewandowski, Frank
Parkhurst, Ray	Selvaggi, Karen	Troxler, David
Wilary, Loretta		

- A motion was made and seconded to adopt the minutes of the General Meeting of 16 March, 2016 as corrected. Motion passed.
- The next agenda item was a lengthy discussion of the Hurricane Expo to be held at the Lowe's in Orange City on 21 May, 2016 from 9 AM to 12 PM. Jerry Brandon and Pat White have been co-ordinating with Aaron Stone, manager at Lowe's.
 - A banner will be made with the COAD name and logo. Originally it was to be 5' by 8'. After much discussion it was suggested that we have 2 banners, a larger one for the wall, and a smaller one for the table. Loretta Wilary reminded everyone that this would be tax deductible because of our non-profit status.
 - Lowe's will provide hot dogs and water.
 - Lowe's will also provide DIY workshops as a draw for the general public.
 - Warren Greenberg has indicated that the Volusia Ares (Amateur Radio Emergency Services) will have a table and display.
 - Ray Parkhurst said that the Red Cross will be there. They will have a table and will also bring emergency response vehicles.

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- A total of 14 organizations have confirmed that they will be present.
Others include:
 - Orange City Fire Department
 - Deltona Fire Department
 - Volusia County Emergency Management
 - COAD will have its own table
 - Volusia COPS
 - Volusia County Health Department
 - Melbourne Weather Meteorologist Derrick Weitlich
 - Global- 5 Communications
 - Volusia/Flagler United Way
 - Florida Fish & Wildlife
 - Votran
 - Animal Services
- We still need media coverage for advertising. There was much discussion. Some of the points discussed included:
 - Try for a press release and perhaps include a list of some of the different vendors who have agreed to be at the Expo.
 - Radio and TV stations to contact:
 - WSBB out of New Smyrna
 - Channels 13 and/or 35 – both of which do a great deal of local news
 - Local newspapers:
 - News Journal
 - Hometown News
 - Penneysaver
 - DeLand Beacon
 - Check to see if Deltona and Orange City have a local paper.
 - Mr. Brandon will meet Mrs. White at the Lowe's in Orange City to discuss details and the lay-out with the manager.

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- A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the Steering Committee meeting of 8 March, 2016. Motion passed.
- The next item on the agenda was a review of the membership list. Mr. Bruno suggested that perhaps the best way to build our membership and to bring in speakers would be to work with Volusia County's "One Voice".
 - We can utilize all of the member agencies.
 - He will attend their next meeting to introduce himself and our COAD. He will also invite them to attend our next general meeting.
 - "One Voice" meets on the second Wednesday of the month at 9 AM at the Health Department.
 - We need to know what their capabilities are so that when an event occurs we can call on them for help.
 - At the meetings, there is a table where brochures can be left for further information.
 - Since our COAD is now a member, we can use their "Community Connector" which is an on-line information center.
 - There are approximately 120 organizations involved in this county-wide group which includes social services and the school system.
- Next on the agenda was a discussion regarding the September General Membership meeting.
 - Our target for this meeting will be a "renewal" of Volusia COAD.
- Jim Judge, Volusia County's Emergency Manager, joined the meeting with several announcements and updates:
 - There will be an EOC management course in April which explains how things work in the Emergency Operations Center.
 - There will be a state-wide, two-day hurricane exercise on 18 and 19 May, 2016, which will examine data from Hurricane Charlie to help the county personnel to be better prepared for this type of emergency.
 - A meeting with Airport Management will be a tabletop exercise for further planning and preparation for emergency events.
 - During the Memorial Day weekend, Mr. Judge and other county people will augment and support beach services.

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- He is working with the Ocean Center on Phase 2 of an “ACTIVE Shooter Exercise”. It will involve law enforcement, fire services, EVAC and Beach Services.
- Mr. Judge is working on a Citizen Information Center training which includes multiple exercises.
- A poster contest sponsored by the state was won by a Tomoka Elementary School student.
- County emergency people are collaborating with pediatric and childhood preparedness and flash flood preparedness.
- Frank Lewendowski announced that the Florida VOAD has tentatively set 2 August, 2016 as the date for a VRC (Volunteer Reception Center) exercise in Gainesville. Hopefully, this will continue to spread the word as well as the usage of the VRC software that has been being developed by the Church of Latter Day Saints in cooperation with our COAD.
- He went on to say that they are also trying to build a phone APP which can be used by people who have gone out to voluntarily work during a disaster. This could be used to record actual hours as proof for reimbursement from FEMA.
- Adriana Law has put a new disaster section on the United Way Volunteer website. She has included Red Cross, COAD, Volunteer Florida, and various other service-type organizations with contact information.
- Karen Selvaggi discussed our COAD’s promoting itself with a new start at the September General Meeting. Mr. Bruno suggested that we formalize our presentation before this meeting.
- Mr. Bruno also said that with everything going on right now, the discussion of our self-promoting in September may need to wait.
 - We need to capitalize on other organizations to have them come to our General Meetings.
 - Let’s get our message “out there” and determine how we can help one another.

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- It was suggested that the speaker for the next General Meeting be Scott Spratt who could give a hurricane forecast talk, or Jim Roberts, a regional co-ordinator in emergency management, to talk about the region and how everything can work together.
- Mr. Brandon suggested that at the next Expo, we consider having each vendor or participant have a presentation at a specific time and that we have an actual program of activities so that the general public can be educated on what we are doing. Mrs. White continued this idea by presenting an idea previously talked about to have the Expo at a community-type of venue expressly for this type of thing.
- The meeting was adjourned at 11:10 AM.