

**Volusia Community Organizations Active in Disaster (COAD)**  
**Steering Committee Meeting Summary – 13 September, 2016**

The meeting was brought to order at 9:57 AM by Frank Bruno, Chairman.

Members in attendance:

Brandon, Andrea	Brandon, Jerry	Bruno, Frank
Clements, Jim	Erickson, Jenna	Greenberg, Warren
Howell, Charlie	Lewandowski, Frank	Martin, Francine
Parkhurst, Ray	Selvaggi, Karen	Troxler, David
Wilary, Loretta		

Guests: Harter, Bud                      Kirch, Candy                      Law, Audriana

- The meeting began with much discussion about the effects of Hurricane Hermine on the West coast and Northern areas of Florida.
- Frank Bruno, Chairman, asked Jerry Brandon, Vice-Chairman, to review our recent Expo at the Home Depot in New Smyrna Beach.
  - Mr. Brandon thanked Pat White for making arrangements for electronic signs on the roadway which advertised the Expo. Mrs. White was also able to have other signs in the parking lot as well as in the store which further increased customer awareness.
  - This was the first time we were inside the store. While this made things more comfortable for us, the fact that our participants were dispersed throughout the store was not necessarily a good thing. We will need to discuss this particular issue further.

- It actually appears that the best area for us to be would be at the entrance door so we can meet the people as they are coming in. Being by the exit doors would not work because customers want to be on their way out.
- Mr. Bruno is working on getting a tablecloth for us to use to enhance our display of various materials.
- Mrs. White said that while the signage was very helpful in advertising the Expo, we really need to be planning each Expo at least 2 months ahead of time so that we can get announcements in various HOA newsletters.
- Mrs. White went on to say that it appears that we are not hitting the times and places for the most effect and questioned whether perhaps we should have it at a community center instead.
- Mr. Brandon interjected that this was our 4<sup>th</sup> Expo and we have learned a lot and improved after each one.
- Further discussion on where to have the Expos included the possibility of being included in the “Comunidad Wellness Expo”. It is a combination disaster preparedness and health fair. In the past it has been held at the fairgrounds in DeLand through the Hispanic Chamber. The County is involved in it as are banks, mortgage companies, the Health Department, Sheriff’s office, and local police departments. Mr. Bruno will try to stop over at the one being held this Saturday to see if there is a possibility of our partnering with them.
- We will be having 2 Expos per year – at the end of May which is the beginning of hurricane season, and in September which is National Preparedness Month.

- Next on the agenda was a discussion about the next General Membership meeting.
  - It will be held on 21 September, 2016, from 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM.
  - The speaker will be Kevin Smith, State Disaster Co-ordinator for the Salvation Army.
  - Mr. Smith will be talking about the Salvation Army's role during and after the occurrence of a disaster.
  - It will be at the Salvation Army located on LPGA Boulevard.
  
- Mr. Bruno next asked for updates and a general overview on the CERT program that our COAD is now involved in.
  - Mrs. White reported that she met with Mr. Brandon, Ray Parkhurst, and Jim Clements in order to get some thoughts down on paper as to the total program's mission and goals:
    - Mission: The training of the Community First Responder Volunteer Force.
    - It will now be county-wide.
    - The goal is to teach 3 classes each with at least 15 people throughout each fiscal year.
    - The basic CERT idea is to train people to support themselves and their families until the first responders can get to them.
    - Mr. Parkhurst mentioned that perhaps one of the goals of the program should be to engage them at least once a year to maintain training and certification.
    - Bud Harter, with the Spruce Creek Fly-In CERT program, spoke about the necessity of recurrent training for all CERT team members.

- Jim Clements went on to say that it is up to each CERT group to continue and practice the training that they have received and to do further volunteer work to hone their skills.
- He went on to say that perhaps a database could be created and maintained to include the classes and skill each group has.
- Mr. Brandon said that the decision has also been made to tie-in the Map Your Neighborhood (MYN) concept into the COAD's CERT program. This is a logical extension from one to the other, and would also give each CERT group an activity to continue throughout the year.
- During the full, detailed discussion which followed, it was determined that we can make announcements about CERT classes through HOA newsletters, at meetings of the City Fire Chiefs Association, and on the "One Voice for Volusia" website.
- Mr. Harter noted that our COAD's sponsoring of CERT is appropriate because COAD's goals are to organize, facilitate, advertise and get the programs going.
- Mr. Brandon suggested that the high school ROTC programs would be a really good place for the CERT training because in addition to the actual classes, many hours of volunteer community service are required.
- A committee comprised of Pat White, Jerry Brandon, Frank Bruno, Loretta Wilary, and Jim Clements will meet separately to further plan COAD's CERT program.

➤ Mr. Bruno asked if anyone had more to add on any topic:

- Mr. Harter – the secret to getting a county-wide CERT program going is to tie it to people who can be a core group.

- Jim Clements mentioned that he is in the process of looking for trainers for the CERT program.
  - Charlie Howell said “Career Source” where he works, is currently re-doing its own emergency plan.
  - Jerry Brandon – We have a lot of old business that we haven’t concluded. His examples are:
    - Re-visiting the protocol for 211 calls.
    - Up-dating the contact lists for the different quadrants of the county.
    - Get moving again on MYN by having more instructors so that all of the meetings don’t fall on the shoulders of just one or two people.
    - We need an active address for MYN applications being sent to HOAs. On this, Mr. Parkhurst said that COAD can use the address of the Daytona Beach branch of the American Red Cross at 341 White Street.
    - Mr. Parkhurst went on to say that COAD’s bank balance as of this month is \$ 1,058.08 and the domain for VolusiaCOAD.org has been renewed.
    - Loretta Wilary with The United Way said that their database will now include volunteer hours which will make it much easier to track. This kind of information can be used when we apply for grants to show what we are doing in the community. Therefore, this will be a tremendous asset for both COAD and CERT.
    - Warren Greenberg – The Volusia ARIES is trying to get Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) with various organizations to be better co-ordinated with a limited staff when an event occurs.
    - Karen Selvaggi – Working to establish a COAD in Flagler County.
- The meeting adjourned at 11:11 AM.