

Volusia Community Organizations Active in Disaster (COAD)
Steering Committee Meeting Summary – 14 March, 2017

The meeting was brought to order at 10:03 AM by Frank Bruno, Chairman.

Members in attendance:

Brandon, Andrea	Brandon, Gerald	Bruno, Frank
Clements, Jim	Greenberg, Warren	Howell, Charlie
Lewandowski, Frank	Martin, Francine	Troxler, David
		White, Pat

Guests in attendance:

Fisher, Bob	Guido, Jordan	Opisso, Jo
Ungaro, Carmen		

- After introductions of guests and members in attendance, Mr. Bruno began the meeting with several discussions:
 - The emphasis in the hurricane aftermath has now turned to long-term recovery.
 - The COAD General Membership meeting set for tomorrow will be at the airport. The speaker will be Pastor David Troxler, President of Volusia Interfaith/Agencies Networking in Disaster (VIND).
 - Pastor Dave has met with Isaiah Carlton, President of the Disaster Assistance and Relief Team (DART) at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University (ERAU).

- Mr. Bruno asked if there were any changes to the minutes of the Steering Committee meeting of 14 February, 2017. Frank Lewandowski moved to accept them, seconded by Francine Martin. Motion passed.

- Next, Mr. Bruno asked Pat White for up-dates from the Emergency Operations Center (EOC). Although she had nothing to add, she did ask Pastor Dave for more information on his meeting with DART at ERAU.

- Pastor Dave continued his discussion of DART. It was mentioned that the university does not want the members of DART to do any potentially risky tasks such as operating a chainsaw or putting tarps on roofs.

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- Carmen Ungaro gave an over-view of the problems that he and his group have had with liability while they helped in the aftermath of the hurricane. The bottom line is that none of the county or state disaster umbrella groups will cover any of the liabilities that are incurred.
- Discussion continues regarding miscellaneous places damaged.
- Pastor Dave continued the over-view by listing various activities of VIND:
 - They now have hired 3 more staff and 3 more case managers.
 - Their funding is handled differently now.
 - They must be a 501(c)(3) inter-faith organization to get funding.
 - There are now 2 re-building co-ordinators on staff.
 - There will be a large meeting of VIND with all agencies involved at the United Way on 23 March, 2017.
- Mr. Bruno mentioned the fact that more revenue is needed in order to help people who are still having troubles. He suggested that it might be helpful to talk to the CEO Alliance to present the facts to them. Because there are still many unmet needs toward long-term recovery:
 - We need to have a plan.
 - We need to have specific stories to tell them in order to explain the various situations.
- Jerry Brandon, Co-Chairman, mentioned the lack of support to our COAD from Volusia County.
 - We need to approach the county manager, the county attorney, and then move on to the County Council.
 - We should identify what our needs are and where we need to go.
 - We are making a big effort to help the county.
 - He and Mr. Bruno plan to sit down with others to talk about this situation.

- Mr. Bruno used, as an example, the fact that our general meetings at the airport are a \$200 out-of-pocket expense he has been paying for. Perhaps the county should be providing a room for this.
- Mr. Bruno also said that he will get with Mrs. White and talk to Jim Judge, Director of Emergency Services for Volusia County.

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- Mr. Lewandowski was asked to summarize the activities of the LDS church with regard to community projects:
 - One project was the cleaning up of a cemetery on Nova Road in Ormond Beach.
 - Another involves working with the United Way for a program with their youth.
 - They are looking for smaller projects to help others.
 - They have a website called, “Just Serve” which is designed to be used by people needing help as well as a place to sign up if a person wants to help others.
- Mr. Brandon next brought up several items:
 - Since the Strike Teams that we had in the beginning have been dissolved, sub-committees will be used.
 - Warren Greenberg has agreed to head the committee dealing with Map Your Neighborhood (MYN).
 - Jim Clements is in charge of CERTS.
 - CERTS groups will also be presenting the MYN program whenever possible.
- Mr. Brandon went on to say that he and Mrs. White will be gearing up to plan the next Expo.
 - Mr. Bruno interjected that this is another area where the County should be supporting us by pushing these Expos with good PR and advertising.
 - Mr. Brandon added that because of the volume of information disseminated to the public through these Expos as well as the other organizations such as the United Way, Fire Departments and many others who participate, this is actually a “total package”.
- Bob Fisher and Jo Opisso, both of whom are fully certified in CERTS, discussed this subject and how important it is that each city fully support it. Mrs. Opisso said, “The fundamental unit for emergency management is the trained, ordinary citizen who can help himself first. That’s what CERTS is for.”

- There was much further discussion of the ramifications of recent disasters, the necessity for an organization to be able to pull together resources and manpower when an event occurs, and how our COAD actually did this during and after the hurricane.

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We tried to do this without duplicating services and worked with the cities without getting in their way. We stood in for ESF 15.

- Mr. Clements brought up the issue of liability insurance again. Mr. Bruno and Mr. Brandon will talk to Hyatt Brown who is with Brown and Brown Insurance.

- Mr. Howell discussed several issues:
 - He would like to have additional pictures of the destruction from Hurricane Matthew to post on our website.
 - He has been asked to be on the panel of the Governor's Hurricane Conference.
 - This will deal with community resources for business recovery.
 - He will encourage people in the audience to organize and participate in a COAD.

- Francine Martin invited everyone to the 75th anniversary of the Volunteer Appreciation Dinner sponsored by the United Way. This event will be held on 27 April, 2017 at Pelican Bay, from 11:30 to 2:00. The cost is \$ 30. If anyone wants to sponsor a volunteer to be recognized, there are several different ways as shown on the website.

- The meeting was adjourned at 11:04 AM.