

Volusia Community Organizations Active in Disaster (COAD)
Steering Committee Meeting Summary – 13 March, 2018

The meeting was brought to order at 10:01 by Jerry Brandon, Co-Chairman.

Members in attendance:

Brandon, Andrea	Brandon, Gerald	Dominguez, Jason
Greenberg, Warren	Howell, Charlie	Jackson, Clayton
Kennedy, Lynn	Lewandowski, Frank	Lowe, Deanie
Rademacher, Jeanne	Troxler, David	White, Pat

Guests in attendance:

Harter, Bud	Judge, Jim
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- Mr. Brandon began the meeting by asking each person in attendance to introduce themselves and say what organization they represent.
- Next on the agenda was discussion about the minutes of the Steering Committee meeting of 13 February, 2018.
 - Pastor Troxler noted that although he gave a report at that meeting, there wasn't a notation of it.
 - Lynn Kennedy said that she represents Healthy Volusia, not Healthy Start.
 - A motion was made by Charlie Howell, seconded by Deanie Lowe, to adopt the minutes as amended. Motion passed.
- Mr. Brandon reviewed a printed list of potential agenda items. Using this list for the next series of meetings, we will be able to analyze goals toward re-establishing our priorities. The list of discussion points includes the following:
 1. Short term goals
 2. Long term goals
 3. Up-date call list
 4. Up-date Capabilities Matrix
 5. Up-date Resource Matrix
 6. CERT program
 7. Map our Neighborhood (MYN) program

8. How COAD fits in with ESF 15
9. Establish liaison with all municipalities
10. Establish liaison with Chambers of Commerce
11. Establish liaison with local businesses
12. How to increase membership
13. Periodic up-dates with news media
14. Disaster Expos
15. Order FEMA materials
16. Reaching out to other agencies such as schools

- Mr. Brandon noted that our Steering Committee is a team and he would like to infuse all ideas from all members to come up with a workable plan. He asked if everyone present felt that going back and re-evaluating is a feasible plan.
- Mrs. Lowe said that we need a plan to be better able to co-ordinate with ESF 15.
 - Clay Jackson, who is with Volusia County, speaking on behalf of Donna Butler, noted that we need to co-ordinate with Mrs. Butler and with Carmen Hall. He went on to say that our COAD already has 2 functions:
 - Volunteer and tracking co-ordination prior to a storm.
 - Up-dating calling lists to know which partners we can call for various things such as equipment, who has refrigeration, storage units, cots and other needed items as pre-storm implementation.
 - After the storm, Mr. Jackson will assess damages as well as co-ordinate with the State and the Feds.
 - He noted that there is still an issue regarding the legalities of releasing names involved in the lists of damages as well as who has been displaced, because of confidentiality rights. This issue needs to be resolved before there is another event.
 - Mr. Jackson also wants to know if these lists and information can be turned over to someone to be dealt with. He said that he has the ability to divert some of his social workers to work with FEMA and people affected by the event. He has to know what is in his authority.

- The primary thing seems to be outreach: How can we identify who these people are and how can we co-ordinate with them?

- There was much further discussion regarding our COAD's functions as well as issues which must be dealt with after an event.
 - An explanation of the "SNAP" program which gives money specifically for food to people who are not on food stamps. Formerly called "Food For Florida", it also allows people who were on food stamps to re-apply.
 - Any lists or matrixes dealing with capabilities and resources available from potential partners in the community as well as lists of volunteers to help need to be "living documents" which are constantly up-dated.
 - In the county's ESF 15 file, our COAD's functions and potential assignments need to be detailed in writing.
 - Because of the necessary fluidity of any list or matrix, there needs to be a member of our COAD on scene working the list immediately after an event occurs.
 - All lists and matrixes need to be up-dated quarterly by phoning each party on the list to see if they are still available.
 - Lynn Kennedy with Healthy Volusia said that the up-dating of databases is one of the things she will be reporting on today.

- Next on the agenda, Mr. Brandon asked each person to give an up-date on their organizations activities:
 - Jeanne Rademacher with United Way (UW):
 - Up-dating databases.
 - Have a plan to work with Mrs. Kennedy at Healthy Volusia for pre- and post- event activities.
 - Still working with Crisis Clean-up and Flagler County.
 - Regarding the databases, this is required for 2-1-1 on a state basis, and they will share these with our COAD.

- Mr. Brandon said that after Hurricane Irma, it was decided between COAD, UW, AND ESF 15 that these lists would be combined and then constantly up-dated to eliminate duplication of efforts.
- There was much discussion about the critical need to develop an integrated plan to co-ordinate all groups involved prior to the next event as well as the absolute necessity to be able to deliver clear, concise information and direction to the general public.
- Pastor Dave Troxler with VIND:
 - VIND is in the midst of recovering long-term.
 - The Presbyterian Church of Port Orange is housing volunteers from AmeriCorps now working in Volusia County. They appear to be a very skilled team.
 - They are faced with the challenge of finding skilled co-ordinators for the work being done.
 - The next 2 weeks have 2 different groups that will be working.
 - VIND still as about 40 cases to be resolved from Hurricane Matthew.
 - VIND has a total of 8 managers working on issues caused by Hurricane Irma. Volusia County had over 65,000 registrations.
- Jim Judge, Director of Emergency Services for Volusia County, joined the discussion to review various activities at the county and state levels:
 - The County is working on strategies plan up-dates. Which includes budget times, mandatory training, and performance measures.
 - There is a meeting in Tallahassee on current issues in emergency management, this will give all Emergency Management Directors up-dates on what is going on at the state level and in all other counties.
 - Mr. Brandon questioned the lack of a description of COAD services in the ESF 15 County manual. Mr. Judge agreed that this needs to be re-written.

- Frank Lewandowski with the Church of Latter Day Saints:
 - If there is a way, assessments need to be done within a 24 to 48 hour period and sent to the state president of the LDS in order for help to be received in Volusia County by the LDS. Last year, our county lost a great deal of potential help because of the time lag.
 - We need to keep him apprised of our needs in order to receive help. They want to send help where the need is.
 - It was noted by Mrs. White and Mr. Judge that it is critically important that we “get the word out” as soon as possible in order to receive needed help from all organizations.
 - Mr. Lewandowski said that the LDS will do such things as taking care of downed trees, mucking up, and other things necessary after a storm.
 - They work through Crises Clean-up which does not have a number to be contacted until an event actually occurs.
 - When an event does occur, the LDS as well as other organizations can look at the map of the Crisis Clean-up and know what needs to be done.
 - When an event occurs, we need to get the number out to the general public. The contact is: CRISISCLEANUP.ORG. for the general public.
 - Mr. Lewandowski noted that Crisis Clean-up is for individuals while the Volunteer Reception Center (VRC) is for organizations.
 - Mr. Judge said that drones are increasingly being used in order to assess damage and needs.
 - Mr. Judge went on to say that he wants to co-ordinate with HAM radio operators in order to assess problems.
 - Mr. Judge suggested that it might be a good idea to have someone from Crisis Clean-up come to speak to our Steering Committee in order to further understand the entire set-up.
- Lynn Kennedy, with Healthy Volusia, gave a first draft report of what she is doing in order to co-ordinate our COAD with her organization. She handed each of the members of the Steering Committee a copy of the report. After discussing it, she noted that if requested, she would present it at our next general meeting of COAD.

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- Mr. Brandon noted that because he and 3 other members of our Steering Committee would be in Orlando to attend a Volunteer Florida conference, the general meeting for March would be cancelled.
- Bud Harter, with Spruce Creek CERT, said that they are preparing to go to the National Conference in Naples, Florida in August. The website, which he said is extremely good, is: FLACERTASSOCIATION.ORG.
- Meeting adjourned at 11:14 AM.