Volusia Community Organizations Active in Disaster (COAD)

Steering Committee Meeting Summary – 9 October, 2018

The meeting was brought to order at 10:00 AM by Frank Bruno, Co-Chairman.

Members in attendance:

Brandon, Andrea  Brandon, Jerry  Bruno, Frank
Dominguez, Jason  Greenberg, Warren  Gwartney, Brad
Jackson, Clayton  Judge, Jim  Kennedy, Lynn
Lewandowski, Frank  Lowe, Deanie  Rademacher, Jeanne
Troxler, David  White, Pat

➢ After general introductions of members present, Mr. Bruno asked each person for updates.

• Jim Judge, Director of Volusia County Emergency Management:
  – He gave an update on Hurricane Michael which is predicted to make landfall as a strong Category 3 with a storm surge of 5 to 7 feet.
  – There is concern about the lack of preparation in the Panhandle area on the part of both private citizens as well as Emergency Services. He noted that they haven’t had a significant event in a long time.
  – Volusia County is looking at 1 to 2 inches of rain, with 7 foot seas, potential for rip currents and wind gusts up to 34 MPH.
  – There are at least 2 conference calls occurring per day to keep all county emergency services throughout the state up-to-date.

• Jeanne Rademacher with the United Way:
  – They are continuing to work on call lists for both of our matrixes.
  – There is still a need for helping evacuees who have nowhere to go.
  – Mr. Bruno added that we need to have a conversation with Bob Davis and other people involved with the Hotel/Motel Association. If they have vacancies, sometimes they will help these people. We should approach them to see what they can do.
• Frank Lewandowski with the Church of Latter-day Saints:
  – They have a scheduled help trip going to the Carolinas starting on the 19th of this month.
  – They will also be sending people to help in the Panhandle after Hurricane Michael has moved on.

• Brad Gwartney with Stetson Baptist:
  – They have sent people to the Carolinas.
  – They have two (2) portable kitchens and have been asked for 100,000 meals per day.

• Pastor Dave Troxler with VIND gave a detailed report which specifically targets long-term recovery cases. See attached.

➢ A motion was made and seconded to have Pat White, former liaison with the County, be our treasure. Motion passed.

➢ Clay Jackson, with Volusia County, gave a county-wide general up-date, noting that there have been problems in the past with housing displaced people.

• Mrs. Lowe asked about the comp plan for ESF 15:
  – Has COAD been changed to support?
  – Is it amended and ready for us to have a copy of it?
• Mr. Jackson replied that he has sent it up the chain and he and Jill Hemmerlein said that it is still being worked on. The primary is the EOC and Community Services. Secondary is COAD and Red Cross and perhaps another group.

➢ Mr. Bruno continued on with the agenda, next discussing CERT.

• At this time, we do not have a CERT leader.
Mr. Bruno and Mr. Brandon will contact the representative from Spruce Creek Fly-in’s CERT to see if he will help.

Mrs. White suggested also contacting Andy Cotton, a retired sheriff’s deputy, who was in charge of South Daytona’s CERT program.

Myn (Map Your Neighborhood) was discussed next.

- Informational letters and materials are ready to send out to HOAs and Condo associations.
- Warren Greenberg who is our leader for Myn, said that the video to be used for the presentation still needs to be re-edited.
- Mrs. Lowe suggested that we not use the video at all.
- Mr. Bruno said that we need to contact a member of these HOAs and Condos to be the key person to present it to their members.
- Mr. Brandon said he would get together with Mr. Greenberg about this.

Mr. Bruno brought up that the date for the next General Meeting is just before Thanksgiving. It was decided to cancel this meeting. Therefore, the next General Meeting will be in January. There is no need for elections because of the existing two-year terms.

Volunteer Florida will hold its 4th Annual Hurricane Convention in Orlando on November 6 – 7, 2018. Mrs. Hemmerlein will co-ordinate with Jim Judge on arrangements.

Mrs. Lowe discussed a potential speaker for the General Meeting. Mrs. Susan Skinner, who is with a group called, “Until Help Arrives”, can give a very informative presentation on this topic. She also will include hand-outs and other materials. Mr. Brandon and Mrs. Lowe will co-ordinate with Mrs. Skinner for the General Meeting in January.

Mr. Bruno next discussed the county-wide Expo. He and the county are working together to present this at the fairgrounds just before hurricane season begins.

Mrs. Kennedy announced a Flood Mitigation Webinar series. It is on the computer so all we have to do is sign up.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:02 AM.
Report for COAD, October 9, 2018

Currently VIND has reached out to the most severely impacted of those who failed the income test and were either uninsured or underinsured totaling over 15,000 registrants. VIND has recently begun calling persons who were offered by FEMA to apply for the Small Business Loan and either failed to apply or were denied for one reason or another. This list totals just over 14,400 registrants.

VIND currently has 71 homes waiting for repair/rebuild services and funding. There are approximately 120 mobile home owners needing either repair/rebuild or another alternative where most of the mobile homes are 30 to 40 years old and it would not be cost effective to repair the mobile home. VIND anticipates between 300 to 350 mobile homes that will need repair/replacement.

VIND has partnered with many agencies in order to provide services to our clients.

We are working with Volusia County in their move to get Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) money to repair or replace mobile homes with modular homes.

We are in the process of developing a partnership with Rebuild Florida and their CDBG-DR (Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery) which includes assistance for home owners, rental properties and mobile homes.

We are working with Red Cross who is, for the first time, working with long term recovery needs. They are targeting those homes that were determined by FEMA to be major/destroyed properties. VIND obtains and verifies the information and enters the clients documents into CAN (Coordinated Assistance Network). Coordinated Assistance Network (CAN) is used universally to prevent duplication of services. Red Cross is in the process of approving a “complex needs” program to assist those who were affected by Hurricane Irma.

Together WE ALL CAN CONTINUE TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE. Week of Compassion donations have allowed VIND to continue service to 9 repair / rebuild projects, overhead to ensure the operations of VIND's info structure remains intact, and outreach services to ensure the public and other contributors remain aware that VIND is here and is working hard to maintain the stability of Volusia County’s home owners.

Together we have hosted two AmeriCorps Teams as well as almost weekly volunteer teams from across the United States. VIND's primary Volunteer Housing Facility is located at the United Church of Christ in Holly Hill. This facility can house up to 24 persons and is fully equipped with all the amenities to include showers, bunk beds, and full kitchen privileges.

In the long-term aspect of recovery, VIND expects to be assisting Volusia County for the next two years with recovery efforts, barring there are no further disasters.

We, at VIND thank you all for your continued support and dedication to our mission.