

Volusia Community Organizations Active in Disaster (COAD)
Steering Committee Meeting Summary – 12 February, 2019

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

Members in attendance:

Brandon, Andrea	Brandon, Jerry	Bruno, Frank
Dominguez, Jason	Greenberg, Warren	Hall, Carmen
Hemmerlein, Jill	Howell, Charlie	Jackson, Clay
Kennedy, Lynn	Madison, Rose	Rademacher, Jeanne
Troxler, David		

- After general introductions from each member, Mr. Brandon requested approval of the minutes for the meeting of 11 December, 2018. Charlie Howell moved to accept these minutes. Seconded by Frank Bruno, Co-Chairman, motion passed.
- Mr. Brandon requested approval of the minutes of 8 January, 2019. Jill Hemmerlein moved to accept these minutes. Seconded by Mr. Bruno, motion passed.
- Mr. Brandon asked for each committee member to give up-dates on their organization's activities
 - Carmen Hall with Volusia County Community Services:
 - Gave a review of the County Development Block Grant (CDBG) (Disaster Recovery) which the County applied for to the State through the Department of Equal Opportunity (DEO).
 - The approval for this funding has been given verbally.
 - All monies are from funding for Hurricane Matthew. Funds for help for Hurricane Irma are not yet available.
 - A total of more than 300 people are waiting for assistance.
 - Pastor David Troxler with Volusia Interfaiths Networking in Disaster (VIND):
 - Volunteer hours for January equals 926 hours with 33 volunteers. Four projects worked with two completed.

Steering Committee Minutes

Meeting of 12 February, 2019

Page 2 of 5

- 57 stick built projects waiting for volunteers to complete.
 - Over 159 mobile homes registered.
 - Still receiving new clients.
 - Rebuild Florida:
 - Does not have access to the Co-ordinated Assistance Network (CAN).
 - Possible duplication of services is a problem. Without CAN, this cannot be verified.
 - VIND has offered to work with Rebuild Florida to ensure that duplication does not occur.
 - Communication is slow but progressing positively.
 - The president of the Florida District 14 Mobile Home Organization has contacted VIND. VIND will speak at their May meeting and the VIND program co-ordinator will assist mobile home owners with registering with Rebuild Florida before the deadline of 29 March, 2019.
 - VIND is continuing to grow in capacity and stability.
 - The grant has been approved for teaming up with American Baptist Church and Disaster Ministries to host the United Church of Christ (UCC) Summer Communities of Service where 2 or 3 interns will learn their long-term recovery organization and leadership skills.
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- Charlie Howell with CareerSource mentioned that the Department of Equal Opportunity (DEO) has had a change in leadership so they are somewhat disorganized right now.

 - Lynn Kennedy with Volusia County Health Department asked for help to promote the Community Health Survey which is being conducted in Volusia and Flagler Counties. She provided website and graphic information, shared business cards to be distributed, and gave a list of suggestions on how to help the Health Department to get the information needed for the survey.

 - Jason Dominguez with the United Way:
 - Now using their trained people to help residents with their income tax returns.

Steering Committee Minutes

Meeting of 12 February, 2019

Page 3 of 5

- Continuing to up-date their web-site to be sure that the data is correct and complete.

- Jeanne Rademacher, also with The United Way:
 - They are working with the school system to determine a plan for weather problems and other disasters.
 - At this time, there is no up-date on how the Hotel/Motel Association will help with people displaced by a disaster, but Healthy Start has been working with them to assist in this type of situation.

- Clay Jackson with Volusia County Emergency Services discussed protocols for opening shelters on both sides of the county.

- Rose Madison with The Red Cross has been helping out with the forest fire situation in California and had nothing to report at this time.

- Warren Greenberg with Volusia ARES:
 - The state Emergency Operating Center (EOC) is continuing to vet all ARES members state-wide.
 - The Map Your Neighborhood (MYN) program will be re-starting soon.

- Jill Hemmerlein with Volusia County Emergency Management had many updates:
 - The speaker for the COAD General Membership meeting of 20 March, 2019, will present and teach the program on “Until Help Arrives”. Melanie Black will make the final arrangements. This meeting will take approximately 2 to 2 1/2 hours.
 - Someone needs to call Susan Stewart at the Health Department to schedule a room for the General Membership meetings for the remainder of the calendar year.
 - Jim Judge, Director of Volusia County Emergency Services, is still working with the County Evac department.

- They are getting ready for the EMAP accreditation for which only a few counties out of the 57 in the state have met all the requirements.
 - The county is now going through an annual CIC training to up-date their skills to be able to handle all kinds of disasters.
 - There is an Emergency Management Expo set for 23 May, 2019 at the Ocean Center.
- Frank Bruno, Co-Chairman up-dated the COAD Hurricane Expo:
 - Arrangements are being finalized for a community-wide Hurricane Expo on 8 June, 2019.
 - We will have a booth at the County’s Expo on 23 May to promote our Expo.
 - Mr. Bruno and Pat White have spoken to George Recktenwald, County Manager, who has committed to our using the County Fairgrounds free of charge as a sponsorship to out COAD.
 - Mr. Bruno is working with Inez Rodriguez, President of the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce towards making our collaboration an annual event.
 - We want to open it up to any organization which can give assistance to people before, during, and after a storm or disaster including insurance companies, churches, banks, Votran, school board, roofing companies, power companies and more. The Hispanic Chamber of Commerce is working with the media.
 - We hope to have donations for hot dogs and other refreshments, and we are working with Sam’s as a co-sponsor to provide the food.
 - Mr. Bruno and Mrs. White will be working with the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce to finalize all of the details.
 - The County is taking care of the rental of the building, but we have a financial responsibility for some employees such as those for security.
 - We may not charge the vendors anything for this first county-wide Expo in order to encourage as many different ones to participate so as to broaden the types of assistance for the general public.
 - Mr. Bruno wants to open it up to all 20 of the County’s ESFs.
 - There was much more discussion about both the County Expo and the COAD Expo.

- Mr. Brandon next discussed the CERT program.
 - He asked Mr. Bruno to contact Bud from the Spruce Creek Fly-in, where there is a very strong CERT program, in order to ask him to help.
 - Mr. Brandon went on to say that we need to contact all jurisdictions, many of whom have had a CERT program in the past.
 - We need to re-ignite interest and get the CERT program back in every community.

- Mr. Brandon asked Warren Greenberg about progress being made on the Map Your Neighborhood (MYN) program.
 - Mr. Greenberg said that he is waiting on the lists of HOAs, Condo Associations, and Mobile Home Parks in order to begin contacting representatives of each one to initiate the MYN program.
 - Mrs. Hemmerlein said that some of these lists have only just been up-dated and she will give Mr. Greenberg as much as she can generate as soon as possible, even though much of it will not be as accurate as we would like.
 - Mr. Brandon asked him what he needs once he has these lists. Mr. Greenberg said that he needs one or two people to help out with organizing the program. Mr. Brandon suggested asking Frank Lewandowski to help because he has been very involved with this program in the past.

- Mr. Bruno asked the committee if we should name our Expo in order to distinguish it from the County Expo. Several names such as “Prepare Volusia ~ Disaster Ready” were suggested. This discussion will be continued at our next meeting.

- Announcements:
 - Governor’s Hurricane Conference is coming up in May.
 - Next Steering Committee meeting – 12 March, 2019
 - Next General Membership meeting – 20 March, 2019.

- Meeting adjourned at 11:00 AM.