

Volusia Community Organizations Active in Disaster (COAD)
Steering Committee Meeting Summary – 10 December, 2019

The meeting was brought to order at 10:02 AM by Gerald Brandon, Co-Chairman.

Members in attendance:

Brandon, Gerald	Brandon, Andrea	Bruno, Frank
Captain, Kevin	Daniels, Dede	Greenberg, Warren
Hemmerlein, Jill	Howell, Charlie	Judge, Jim
Kennedy, Lynn	Lewandowski, Frank	Martin, Francine
Troxler, David	White, Pat	

- First on the agenda was a review of the Hepatitis A outbreak in Volusia County. This detailed summary up-date was given by Suzanne Grubbs, Epidemiologist:
 - An emergency declaration for Hep-A has been issued by the county.
 - Volusia County is ranked third in the state for the number of cases.
 - The outbreak started around the end of winter in 2018.
 - In 2018 there were only 5 cases.
 - So far in 2019, there have been 291 cases.
 - Hep-A is a virus spread primarily through feces of infected people, and is transmitted in at-risk populations because of poor sanitation.
 - A vaccine is available to prevent the transmission of the disease with 2 doses given 6 months apart.
 - Hand washing and use of proper disinfectants prevents transmission.
 - At-risk groups include drug-user populations, the homeless, and those who have been recently incarcerated.
 - There are 6 to 8 new cases per week being reported.
 - Approximately 80% of people who are infected require hospitalization.
 - Volusia County is the top county in the state for the number of deaths from Hep-A.
 - Steps that the county is using to help to decrease the number of new cases include:
 - Identify people who have come into contact with each new case.
 - Offer the vaccine to anyone on the list of contacts.
 - Doing a lot of outreach to prevent contamination.

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- Contract nurses are doing foot patrols to vaccinate in the homeless populations.
 - Vaccine outreach at drug treatment centers.
 - Working with hospitals to distribute the vaccine to those who would be susceptible but are not drug users. In these cases, the county provides the vaccine for free to the hospitals.
 - Jails are also vaccine providers to inmates.
 - Church ministries can provide the vaccine through out-reach programs.
- Next on the agenda was a series of up-dates by each member of the Steering Committee:
- Jim Judge, Director of Emergency Services in Volusia County, gave a detailed summary of all activities involving Volusia County:
 - He reviewed how Volusia County personnel have discussions with emergency management services all over the country and in some cases in other countries in order to extract details of how various situations were handled and summarize possible methodology which can be used locally.
 - Cold weather shelters will be activated when the forecast is for 40 degrees and below.
 - Nurse triage is now in place to preclude the activation of Evac when professionals deem the situation is appropriate. This triage program will be for 12 hours per day, 7 days per week.
 - Pat White, COAD treasurer, said that our finances are the same as last reported in November.
 - Mr. Frank Bruno, Co-Chairman, said that purchases for the next Expo are \$380.00 at this time.
 - After this meeting, Mrs. White will meet with Mr. Bruno for updates on our COAD finances.
 - Charlie Howell with Career Source:
 - They are continuing entrepreneurship workshops teaching a mind-set which looks at problems as opportunities.
 - This teaches looking at problems as opportunities and that it is not somebody else's to fix.
 - Jeanne Rademacher with United Way:
 - VITA training will be working on voter registration and Census 21.

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- Francine Martin, also with United Way:
 - They have been approached by local business partners asking for job opportunities.
 - She may be able to approach the business partners for help at our Hurricane Expo.
 - Pastor Dave Troxler with VIND:
 - They are down to 2 case managers due to funding.
 - Some funding will continue for the next 2 years.
 - There are 2 teams scheduled for January.
 - 9 stick-built projects are waiting for volunteers to complete and over 170 mobile homes are registered with continuous advocacy with Rebuild Florida.
 - They are still receiving around 2 new clients per month.
 - Rebuild Florida remains at a stand-still with funding.
 - In Volusia County, Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery (CBDG-DR), VIND has completed 25 applications.
- Next on the agenda, Mr. Bruno led a lengthy discussion of our next Hurricane Expo including much detail about the many facets involved.
- The initial flyer announcing the Expo will be the same as last year with a change of date.
 - How much to charge each exhibitor was discussed in detail.
 - Mr. Brandon asked for a motion to withdraw the previous decisions on funding for exhibitors.
 - Mr. Bruno, seconded by Frank Lewandowski, so moved. Motion passed.
 - Jill Hemmerlein, COAD liaison with Volusia County, suggested that this information should be sent out to previous exhibitors and sponsors before the end of the year because many times companies have monies available at the end of the calendar year that they are looking to spend.
 - Mr. Bruno responded that it is necessary that we contact Kevin Captain with the county regarding this.
 - There was much discussion regarding fees for exhibitors, sponsors, and speakers.
 - Mr. Bruno suggested 3 tiers for sponsors: Bronze - \$500; Silver - \$1,000; Gold - \$2,500. Exhibitors would be charged \$100.

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- Mr. Howell made a motion to accept the fee structure as discussed. Seconded by Mrs. Rademacher, the motion carried.
- Mr. Brandon asked whether there has been any mail-outs to previous exhibitors. Mr. Bruno said that was still to be done. Mrs. Hemmerlein will send as many as possible by email including a copy of this year's flyer.
- Our next guest speaker for the Expo will be Jobie Smith, Bay County Director of Emergency Management during Hurricane Michael. He will cost less than \$1200. Our speaker last year cost us more than \$5,000.
- The speaker for our next General Meeting on 15 January, 2020, will be Holly Smit from the Health Department, who is very knowledgeable on the Hep-A outbreak and has taught at the Emergency Management Institute (EMI).
- Mr. Brandon asked Mrs. Rademacher to reserve a room at the Health Department for our general meetings for the 2020 year.
- Mr. Brandon asked Warren Greenberg about the status of meetings for Map Your Neighborhood (MYN). Mr. Greenberg needs a list of HOAs and Condo Associations to continue the presentations.
- Next on the agenda was to decide on a slate of officers which is voted on at the General Meetings every two (2) years. This year's slate is:
 - Co-Chairmen } Frank Bruno
 - } Jerry Brandon
 - Vice Chair – Jean Rademacher
 - Co-Secretaries {Charlie Howell
 - {Andrea Brandon
 - Treasurer – Pat White
- The next Steering Committee meeting will be 14 January, 2020.
- Meeting adjourned – 11:07 AM.