

Volusia Community Organizations Active in Disaster (COAD)
Steering Committee Meeting Summary – 11, August 2020

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

Members in attendance:

Brandon, Andrea	Brandon, Gerald	Buckles, Yolanda
Greenberg, Warren	Harder, Bud	Howell, Charlie
Jackson, Clay	King, Bobbi	Korkus, Tarayn
Troxler, Dave		

- Mr. Brandon said that Frank Bruno, Co-Chairman, and Pat White, Treasurer, would not be in attendance. He then asked all people in attendance to introduce themselves.
- Mr. Brandon talked about our next meetings:
 - The next Steering Committee meeting will be on 8 September, 2020. It will be a teleconference like today, and the telephone number and time will be the same.
 - The next General Meeting is scheduled for 16 September, 2020. Mr. Brandon feels that we should cancel this because the rooms at the Health Department will probably not be available.
- Mr. Brandon asked Jim Judge, Volusia County Director of Emergency Management to give an up-date on what is going on at the County level.
 - Volusia County continues to deal with Covid19 with the motto: Wash up, Back up, Mask up.
 - On Fridays, the County does a Facebook Live dealing with many different topics. The times are between 10 AM and 2 PM.
 - A new state-run testing site will begin operating this Friday, 14 August, at the Fairgrounds. It will be open from 8 AM to 4 PM 6 days a week. It will be closed on Wednesday because of the Farmers Market. Appointments are required.
 - There will be a drive-up site for viral and antibody testing. There will be a lane for people who are symptomatic with test results to be given from 36 to 72 hours. The anti-body testing basically is a blood draw with results in 30 minutes. An appointment is necessary. Go to www.doineedacovid19test.com. Register and print out a voucher. It is free.

Steering Committee Minutes

Meeting of 11 August, 2020

Page 2 of 3

- Hurricane Isaias: At one point we were looking at Category 1 winds along the coast, but it moved to the east. We opened a couple of shelters and fielded about 250 phone calls about the shelters, but they were shut down that afternoon.
 - This hurricane season may get even busier. Colorado State has increased the number of possible named storms from 20 to 24, with an increase in hurricanes from 9 to 12 and 4 to 5 category 3 or higher. Other groups including NOAA have also increased their numbers. Right now they are monitoring a system called 95L which will be called Josephine if it develops.
 - Mr. Judge is constantly up-dating all city managers.
 - He is also in contact around the state with conference calls on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday with the state emergency management and separate calls with the Health Department.
 - Jim Cameron with the Daytona Beach Chamber of Commerce, has put Mr. Judge in contact with Maria Davila who is in charge of a group called Healthy Souls. Mr. Judge will have Mr. Cameron put her in touch with Donna Butler so that she will have further in-depth knowledge of what is going on in the community.
 - Mr. Judge discussed the races that are going to be in town with thousands of spectators. The EOC will be open but they are not expecting any problems.
 - He went on to briefly discuss the possible up-coming events such as bike week and any fireworks demonstrations which may be postponed or cancelled.
- Mr. Brandon asked Mr. Judge to clarify our COAD's standing on ESF 15. There is some question on what we would be expected to do when a disaster occurs. Mr. Judge said that right now everything is being done virtually, and our COAD would only become active after an event with duties such as taking information from WebEOC and what damages have occurred and what has been taken care of. Basically, he is keeping only a minimum number of people at the EOC. In future, our COAD would be back to doing things the same way as before: working at the EOC, co-ordinating volunteer agencies with county organizations.
- Mr. Brandon responded by saying that our COAD is ready, willing, and able to react whenever the County needs us.
- Mr. Judge then said that Yolanda Buckles would be very much involved with our COAD and asked her to introduce herself, which she did.

- Mr. Brandon now asked each member in attendance for up-dates on their organizations:
- Warren Greenberg with Volusia ARES said that they have had a demonstration in the county in order to have people ready just in case something happens.
 - Tarayn Korkus with the Health Department had nothing to report except that they are continuing to do Covid19 testing through 21 August.
 - Clay Jackson with the Volusia County Human Services:
 - Providing utility assistance. Businesses may call the dedicated appointment line: 386-239-7757. Appointments are scheduled a week in advance.
 - There is an emergency rental program with some money for help, but the County has grant money available for people impacted by the pandemic. For rentals: VOLUSIA.ORG/C19RA. For homeowners: VOLUSIA.ORG/C19MA.
 - Bobbi King with Volusia County Community Services introduced herself and said that she looks forward to working with our COAD.
 - Pastor Dave with VIND:
 - They are still working with problems from Irma.
 - Many homes are still damaged but they need volunteers to do the work, and that is a problem during this pandemic.
 - They have received a major grant through Volunteer Florida for mobile home damage from both Irma and Matthew.
 - VIND continues to help clients who have registered with Rebuild Florida.
 - They are applying for another grant with Volunteer Florida which will support a volunteer co-ordinator position.
 - There has been more communication between Florida VOADs and COADs to increase co-ordination and co-operation between these organizations.
 - Charlie Howell with Career Source said that they are helping a few clients by appointment only. The staff are working from home and have been able to handle the entire caseload virtually.
 - Bud Harder with the Spruce Creek CERTS said that they appreciate all the work toward preparedness for a disaster. They stand ready to help.

Meeting adjourned at 10:23 AM.