

**Volusia Community Organizations Active in Disaster (COAD)**  
**Steering Committee Meeting Summary – 9 March, 2021**

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

Members in attendance:

Brandon, Jerry

Brandon, Andrea

Greenberg, Warren

Howell, Charlie

Martin, Francine

White, Pat

- Mr. Brandon began the meeting by reviewing a meeting with George Recktenwald, Volusia County Manager, and COAD members Gerald Brandon, Frank Bruno, and Andrea Brandon.
  - We discussed the need of having a good working relationship between the County and COAD.
  - He is very supportive of our COAD.
  - We've lost the May 29<sup>th</sup> date for the Expo in the Hester Building at the Volusia County Fairgrounds because of the COVID vaccine distribution.
  - Mr. Recktenwald is suggesting sometime in June with the date yet to be determined.
  - He also suggested having the Expo at the Ocean Center.
  - Mr. Bruno and Mr. Brandon are not sure about using the Ocean Center because the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce members probably will not come to the East side of the County.
  - Parking could also be an issue.
  - Mr. Brandon noted that the News Journal Hurricane Expo held on the East side of Volusia at Destination Daytona in 2019 was not well attended.
  - A meeting is being set up with Kevin Captain to review the possibilities at the Fairgrounds. It would be good if Charlie Howell, Jeanne Rademacher and Pat White could join us so that all the officers of COAD would be present.
  - Mr. Brandon noted that it is very late to be getting started on the Expo and losing the date of 29 May makes getting everything including exhibitors and sponsors pulled together even more difficult.
  - Francine Martin brought up the fact that many people are doing virtual conferences now. She went on to discuss a method of having exhibitors at a kind of conference table where there can actually be interactive on a virtual level between the exhibitor and the person who is looking at it. There is also a way of having a panel discussion on a particular topic. Mrs. Martin went into a great deal of detail on the subject and said that she would send the link to Charlie Howell.

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- Mr. Howell said that he agrees with Mr. Brandon about not having the Expo on the East side of the County and for the same reasons.
  - Mr. Brandon thanked Mr. Howell for setting up this meeting.
  - There was much continued discussion on the Expo.
- Charlie Howell, with CareerSource continued the meeting:
- From a CareerSource perspective, they are trying to determine who will be in person in the office and who will continue to work from home.
  - The Federal stimulus money will provide Federal subsistence money for the unemployed through September.
  - He asked if Ray Parkhurst is still around. The Western part of our COAD's name is due to expire and Mr. Parkhurst can help fix it.
  - The phone numbers and mailbox that our COAD has been using at CareerSource has changed. Phone calls are now being forwarded to Mr. Howell's mailbox and the mailbox that our COAD was using no longer exists. Mrs. Martin agreed to accept the phone calls.
- Pat White, treasurer reviewed a few items:
- She has renewed the annual fee for Corporate Renewal for our COAD.
  - She has also deposited the refund check from the News Journal from the last Expo in 2019.
  - She will also fill out the Income Tax form for the IRS soon.
- Mr. Brandon discussed dates for a meeting at the Fairgrounds. A decision will be made later.
- The meeting was adjourned at 10:25 AM.