Volusia Community Organizations Active in Disaster (COAD) Steering Committee Meeting Summary – 13 August 2024

The meeting was brought to order at 10:08 by Frank Bruno

Members in attendance:

Brandon, Andrea Fredette, Michelle Parkhurst, Ray
Brandon, Jerry Fulton, Milton Sokol, Daniel
Brown, Corry Greenberg, Warren Troxler, David
Bruno, Frank Grizzard, Laurie Winhoven, Holly
Buckles, Yolanda Hively, Kendra Winter, Jim

Burbaugh, Brad Howell, Charlie Coleman, Terry Jackson, Thomas

Foley, Teri Judge, Jim

Mr. Frank Bruno opened the meeting at 10:08 AM and each person in attendance introduced themselves.

Mr. Bruno explained what the COAD is and how it fits into the overall functions of disaster recovery.

Ms. Buckles reported that Volusia County Emergency Management is working on their Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan. It will go to the county and the state for their blessings. This will be going on for 6 to 8 months. Jim Judge reported that they have an allocation from the state that will go towards improving the EOC by adding sleeping areas. When the plan is approved, it will be available upon request.

Ms. Coleman explained the purpose and role of her organization in pulling churches together for disaster relief. The organization is the Disaster Relief Alliance.

Updates were provided from the Health Department, Community Services, Red Cross and Salvation Army.

Volusia Interfaith/Agencies Networking in Disasters (VIND) is involved in long-term recovery in Volusia County. Non-State, non-federally funded, volunteers to help repair or replace homes for those mostly for those that are over 55 and uninsured or underinsured. They are down to 2 case managers and funding is drying up. They work with Endeavors case management and Transform 386.

There was a discussion about how lucky we are to have the Transform 386 relationship that was established with the county. Other counties are having to deal directly with the state.

Mr. Judge announced his retirement at the end of hurricane season.

Red Cross has about 1600 youth volunteers in Red Cross clubs. Red Cross Clubs allow youth to address important issues in creative ways that make sense for their community. There is leadership training involved. The goal this year is to involve the parents.

Mr. Howell provided an update on CareerSource Flagler Volusia and has volunteered to be the COAD Secretary.

Mr. Sokol with Credit Volusia (creditvolusia.org) explained his organization's entry into emergency services.

Mr. Fulton with First Presbyterian Church NSB gave an update on their residential rebuilding project. He is checking out the COAD to see if there is a role for them with us.

There was an extensive conversation about the role of churches in emergency management. Mr. Bruno would like to get more churches involved with our annual hurricane expo.

Mr. Greenberg explained the Map My Neighborhood program and has videos for the website for Mr. Howell.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:25 AM followed by a DOH tour.

Submitted 9/9/2024 Charlie Howell