

Volusia Community Organizations Active in Disaster (COAD)
Steering Committee Meeting Summary – 8 April 2025

The meeting was brought to order at 10:03 by Ray Parkhurst

Members and Guests in attendance:

Becker, Lori	Hively, Kendra	Slater, Cynthia
Bendl, Heather	Howell, Charlie	Sokol, Daniel
Brown, Corry	Jackson, Tina	Troxler, David
Bruno, Frank	Lovatt, Jessica	Pat White
Collis, Linda	Melendez, Mariana	Williams, Chris
Greenberg, Warren	Moore, Don	Winhoven, Holly
Henderson, Kayla	Parkhurst, Ray	

Mr. Ray Parkhurst asked everyone to sign in on the attendance sheets. He also called for approval for the minutes of the last meeting. Minutes were approved with changes. Chuck E Cheese has donated \$5000 to Volusia COAD.

Ms. Corry Brown talked about the Volusia Ready Response Corps registration day at the EOC. She showed the online form for registration and the beginning of the web page. The registration day is scheduled for Thursday May 22, 2pm to 6pm at the EOC. Corry also showed what information is being collected on the registration form. When we release the press release, we would like everyone to share it.

Mr. Frank Bruno talked about the COAD brochure. Please email Frank with changes.

Ms. Pat White talked about the Chuck E Cheese event. With the \$5000 donation we will have \$10,609 in the bank.

Ms. Holly Winhoven gave a Volusia County EOC update. We are hosting a few classes in the next couple of months. The first one is a SkyWarn Spotter training class. This is learning how to identify and report hazardous weather to the National Weather Service. We have the FEMA 191 ICS Interface Class coming up on June 11th and a Cyber Security Awareness class on June 24th. Holly also introduced a new EOC staff member, Edward Martinez, from Puerto Rico. He is a Planner 3. There was a discussion concerning FEMA and its effectiveness at this time. Heather expounded on her experience in trying to volunteer as a reservist. Ray noted that this is why COAD is so important.

Ms. Jessica Lovatt from Volusia Manufacturers Association gave an update on VMA. She has a strong passion for not having anyone new come into our county and screw things up. She would like to see neighbors helping neighbors. She would like to see our people be willing to help in times of disaster.

Ms. Melendez from Endeavors reported that they are still working with Hurricane IAN. We are working with Transform 386 and VIND.

Mr. Don Moore with Disabled American Veterans noted that we are currently helping disabled veterans in need.

Ms. Lori Becker has developed about 5 team leaders in Port Orange to help flood victims.

Ms. Cynthia Slater East Volusia NAACP president said that she is glad to be here to get information.

Mr. Chris Williams reported that the Milton Action Plan is in public comment period, then it will go for council and HUD approval. Sometime this summer it should be up and running. We have 600+ applications in the pipeline.

Mr. Daniel Sokol runs a non-profit called CreditVolusia. He writes emergency response plans for small businesses.

Ms. Heather Bendl is a geo-scientist and currently involved with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection. She volunteers with local parks. Heather works with environmental concerns in Southeast Volusia and is in the process of creating a Cert Team.

Mr. Warren Greenberg is working on the Map You Neighborhood program. He is verifying who the management companies are.

Ms. Kayla Henderson from VIND gave a current report. VIND currently has 1 case manager, an intake specialist and a volunteer coordinator. VIND has 1 roof and interior being vetted for Hurricane IAN.

Ms. Linda Collis tells us that the Red Cross goes into a disaster area as soon as they are allowed and distributes water and tarps and provides information to those in need. They also do damage assessments. Red Cross responds to home fires every day.

Ms. Tina Jackson is a supervisor for Endeavors. She indicated that she works with many of the organizations that are present.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:18 am

Submitted 05/13/2025
Charlie Howell
Secretary