



COOPERATION | COMMUNICATION | COORDINATION | COLLABORATION

COAD Connect #8 December 31, 2017

1. Administration

- a. Karen Seidman has resigned as the Membership Officer and a member of COAD. She is going to give her full attention to the functional needs projects that she is pursuing through the Metropolitan Medical Response System (MMRS) Meta-Coalition.
- b. At this time it will not be necessary to seek a new Membership Officer as duties are not time-consuming and can be assumed by the President.
- c. Membership renewals are due. Please submit your application (attached) as soon as possible or at least send an email with your intention to continue your membership.
- d. Suggested *Bylaws* revisions for 2018: (1) Eliminate the Membership Officer; (2) eliminate the designation "Executive Committee" and simply have meetings of the Officers; and (3) eliminate formal renewal applications and replace them with a statement of the organization's intent to continue membership, which can be delivered verbally or by email.
- e. The next meeting of the Executive Committee (Officers) will be Monday, January 22, 2018, 10:00a-12:00p, American Red Cross. All are welcome. Agenda will include approval of new memberships. Full agenda to follow.

2. Preparedness Committee

- a. Nothing pending.

3. Mass Care Committee

- a. Cooling centers were opened this past summer and warming centers were opened this winter, so the completion of COAD's *Warming and Cooling Center Operations Guide* was timely. It is posted under **Resources** on the COAD webpage at <http://ja.cuyahogacounty.us/en-US/COAD-Resources.aspx>.

4. Emergency Assistance Committee

- a. *Evacuation and Re-entry*
 - Waiting for an instructor to become available in 2018 for the *Evacuation and Re-entry Planning* course.



COOPERATION | COMMUNICATION | COORDINATION | COLLABORATION

b. *Repatriation*

- Waiting for the State to complete its repatriation plan, so Cuyahoga County can develop a consistent plan and COAD can determine its role.

c. *Functional Needs Subcommittee*

- One of the objectives of the Subcommittee is to engage individuals with functional needs in disaster training and exercises. The National Disaster Medical System will hold an exercise in August 2018. We will recruit individuals for this exercise.
- Karen Seidman and the County Office of Emergency Management have decided not to pursue functional needs projects through the COAD Functional Needs Subcommittee because COAD would be duplicating the efforts of MMRS (See Administration 1a above). The COAD Functional Needs Subcommittee can continue as an information-sharing mechanism.

d. *Animals Subcommittee*

- As yet there has been no response to our request for volunteer veterinarians to work with the Animal Decontamination Group.
- The Animals Subcommittee will continue to identify organizations to fill roles and responsibilities that were identified in the Animals in Disaster Plan. The Subcommittee will need to develop its public awareness campaign, which will inform the public about pet preparedness and sheltering. Date of the next meeting is to be determined.
- In 2018 the Animals Subcommittee will be developing its pet sheltering process.

e. *Faith-Based Organizations Subcommittee*

- The Subcommittee held its first meeting on November 30 at the Independence Public Library. Attendance was light but discussion was fruitful.
- FBO Objectives:
 - Prepare congregants for disasters.
 - Plan for the continued operation of the organization.
 - Extend everyday ministries to disaster situations within the congregation and in the community.
 - Implement security measures at the house of worship.
 - Network and coordinate with other FBOs, community organizations, and local government.
 - Connect with the national/state/regional disaster response group within the faith.



COOPERATION | COMMUNICATION | COORDINATION | COLLABORATION

- Learn emergency management principles and operate within the emergency management system.
- Receive planning guidelines, training, resources, and technical assistance.
- The attendees determined that a series of workshops covering planning steps for each objective would be helpful. The tentative plan is to provide workshops in four geographical areas (e.g., northwest, northeast, southwest, southeast) with some workshops during the day and others on an evening/weekend.
- The Subcommittee will need to find a way to reach individual FBOs.
- Geauga County EMA has expressed an interest in joining the program, so COAD will extend an invitation to the other counties in Ohio Region 2 (Lorain, Cuyahoga, Lake, Geauga, and Ashtabula). Other counties, such as Medina and Summit, are welcome. All counties would have input into the program/workshops and would implement them in their county according to what works best for them.

f. *Volunteers Subcommittee*

- The Volunteers Subcommittee will launch in early 2018. The Subcommittee objectives will be to network organizations that can provide or will need volunteers for a disaster response; integrate voluntary organizations into the county emergency management system; plan for the operation of a Volunteer Registration Center; credential volunteers according to FEMA guidelines; and provide training.
- The Subcommittee will be engaged in the National Disaster Medical System (NDMS) exercise in August 2018.

5. **Human Services Committee**

- a. Planning for a long-term recovery group will need to begin in 2018. This will be an extensive project that will require the collaboration of many organizations. There are four models long-term recovery groups from least formal to most formal: (1) Unmet Needs Committee; (2) Long-Term Recovery Committee; (3) Long-Term Recovery Organization; and (4) Community Coalition for Recovery. We will focus on the first two models because they are the one most likely to be needed in our area. We will be examining the roles of governmental and non-governmental organizations and integrating them into a case management system. We will be following the FEMA and VOAD models.
- b. Noelle Tsevdos of the County Board of Developmental Disabilities will help to mobilize the County human services agencies to determine a systematic approach to disaster casework. These agencies will be first-tier responders, along with non-governmental organizations, to assist disaster survivors.