



NJVOAD

New Jersey Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster
Cooperation - Communication - Coordination - Collaboration

NJVOAD Membership Meeting

Tuesday, 12/6/2016 from 10 am – 12 noon

The American Red Cross

850 N. Franklin Ave., Pleasantville, NJ 08232

I. Call to Order (Keith)

Keith called the meeting to order at 10:05 am.

II. Welcome & Introductions (Keith)

On the Phone: Ken Assab (Arab-American Civic Organization); Kelly Mead (Heart 9/11); Phyllis Worrell (Burlington COAD); Judy Lieberman (NJ Governor's Office of Volunteerism); Pat Guempel (United Way of Hunterdon Co.); Mary Emilius (Sussex-Warren COAD); Arnold Valentin and Maria Nikolatos (Catholic Charities, Trenton); Brenda Beavers (Salvation Army)

In Person: Alex Elefante (Lutheran Social Ministries); Melissa Hruska, Katherine Johnston and Rohan Allen (Catholic Charities, Camden); Elaine O'Neill (Southern Baptist Disaster Relief); David Rauer (Presbyterian Disaster Assistance); Keith Adams (Episcopal Church, Diocese of NJ/NJVOAD); Ed Conover and Jamie Bodrog-Powell (NJ DHS); Cathy McCann (Community Food Bank of NJ); Chris Miller (Greater NJ Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church); Ellen Korpar (A Future With Hope); Kelly Higgs (NJVOAD); Seth Golbey (FEMA); Megan Sullivan (NJDMHAS Disaster & Terrorism Branch); Ben Haygood (Housing & Community Development Network of NJ); Yaakov Bindell (Jewish War Veterans); John Hammer (Rotary)

III. Minutes (Keith)

David Rauer approved the minutes; Ellen Korpar seconded. None opposed. Minutes approved.

IV. Financial Report (Yaakov)

Financials are in good shape and report was distributed to all.

No questions.

V. Staff Report (Kelly)

Reviewed written report which summarized the last 3 months of activity for Kelly Higgs and Linda Hardy. In addition to what was printed in the report, Kelly discussed the cross-sector collaboration event. She also directed everyone's attention to the VOAD/COAD report and indicated that she and Linda were continuing to support certain VOADs/COADs as they develop and strengthen, whereas others are operating independently and NJVOAD offers a supportive presence.

VI. Chairperson Report (Keith)

Keith reported on the NVOAD Fall Meeting in November. He is chairing a NVOAD State Task Force, and is mirroring the strategic planning process that NJVOAD explored to gather input and feedback from the 56 states and territories that make up this group. NVOAD named a new CEO – Greg Forrester, formerly of UMCOR. NVOAD is also seeking office space in Washington DC.

VII. Committee Reports

Conference Planning (Kelly) – The committee has made great strides in planning many details including the location (DCF training center in New Brunswick), date (4/5/17), theme (Purposeful Partnerships: Planning for the Unthinkable). The morning will have a focus on planning and preparing for Gotham Shield, so there will only be 2 tracks of educational breakout sessions. The committee has decided not to do a call for presentations, but will welcome ideas from NJVOAD members and partners. There will be a networking event at a nearby restaurant after the conference. In an effort to develop sustainability for the conference beyond our current funding through 2017, the committee has created levels of sponsorship. This will be shared with NJVOAD members later this month, followed by outreach to other potential partners in early 2017. Please direct any ideas for keynote speaker possibilities, breakout sessions or sponsors to Kelly.

Nominating Committee (Cathy) – The committee presented a full ballot as follows:

Chairperson (select 1):

Keith Adams, The Episcopal Church in New Jersey

Vice Chairperson (select 1):

Arnold Valentin, Catholic Charities, Diocese of Trenton

Secretary (select 1):

Brenda Beavers, The Salvation Army

Keith and Brenda have both agreed to serve a second 2-year term and Arnold Valentin has agreed to be considered for the Vice Chair position.

VIII. New Business

Board Election (Cathy) – Ballots were distributed and additional nominations were requested from the floor – none were offered. Private ballots were reviewed and the proposed slate above was unanimously selected.

NJ Non-Profit Long-Term Recovery Assessment (Kelly) – A printed copy was created with a cover page showing some highlights from the assessment: almost 30,000 households assisted, 3,060 rebuilds, 352,335 volunteers contributing volunteer hours of service valued at more than \$93 million and more than \$116 million in direct financial assistance was offered. This report highlighted the flexibility and agility of non-profits to respond to the ever-changing recovery landscape and provide an excellent return on investment for funders.

Cross-Sector Collaboration Event (Kelly) – This concept grew out of initial dialog about a philanthropic event and expanded to include multiple sectors. NJVOAD will organize a host committee with key members from different sectors (philanthropic, for-profit, government, non-profit) to discuss lessons learned, address concerns and strengthen relationships and plans for future response and recovery efforts. The Board has approved bringing in Elizabeth Murphy as a consultant to help convene and guide the host committee in planning the event. RWJF has agreed to host the event at their space in Princeton, and the tentative date is 10/19/17.

Annual Awards (Kelly) – The NJVOAD Board discussed the possibility of creating awards for VOAD/COAD of the year and a possible Innovative Program/Partnership or other award. The membership liked the idea of

VOAD/COAD of the year and will further explore the concept of other awards in a separate committee consisting of: Mary Emilius, Melissa Hruska, Elaine O'Neill, Maria Nikolatos, Cathy McCann, Linda Hardy and Kelly Higgs. This group will develop the award categories, criteria, selection, and additional considerations (cash award, press release) with the goal of making the first awards at the 2017 conference. A conference call will be scheduled in early 2017 to begin planning.

IX. Old Business

Working groups (Kelly) – The DCM Working Group is in the process of finalizing a post-disaster education resource to be distributed at shelters, MARCs, DRCs, etc. after disasters. Discussions continue around a common intake form and client-focused process. The Donations and Volunteer Management Working Group has been working on a number of projects, including advocating for an extension of the Executive Order allowing volunteers who are minors to work on Sandy construction projects. NJOEM has a final draft of the donations management annex, which includes HELPNJNOW, a critical component to having this site be a true statewide resource in a disaster.

Strategic Plan update (Kelly) – Everything is on target - either in progress or complete.

X. Presentation: Gotham Shield Exercise

Trooper Tom Walsh provided a broad overview of the Gotham Shield exercise that FEMA is planning in the spring of 2017. This exercise involves prevention, response and recovery efforts related to an improvised nuclear device in Hudson County. Discussion ensued about the different needs of an event such as this in comparison to the weather-related events we have experienced over the last decade. More details will be forthcoming about the role of NJVOAD members and partners.

XI. Announcements

OCLTRG received a grant from Robin Hood which will continue operations through 2017. Non-Profit builders (A Future With Hope, SBP, Affordable Housing Alliance and Episcopal Relief & Development) also received a grant allowing them to support rebuild on 50 additional homes. Funds cannot be combined, and there is a \$20,000 maximum award for any client.

Catholic Charities, Diocese of Trenton, reported that Sandy DCM program closed effective 11/30/16. All cases were transitioned to OCLTRG, Affordable Housing Alliance or SBP or provided with a transitional plan for self-recovery.

A Future With Hope is continuing to operate through 2017 with some staff reductions. This is Ellen Korpar's last meeting.

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance has been working closely with NVOAD partners to develop an LTRG training to replace the Church World Services Recovery Tools training, which is no longer being supported. They are working on webinars and train the trainer programs to share this information.

FEMA has begun to implement the new DCM guidance in Matthew impacted states.

The Salvation Army is looking for bell ringers for their kettles.

Burlington County COAD is meeting on 12/8/16 for a tabletop exercise with county OEM.

Members and Board recognized Mike Prasad for his years of service to the Board and thanked him (in absentia).

XII. Adjournment

David Rauer moved; Chris Miller seconded. Meeting adjourned at 11:49am.

Next meeting will be on 3/7/17 at 10am in North Jersey.