

MINUTES OF THE 898th BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING January 2, 2018

The meeting was called to order by President Robert Shillington at 19:03

Pledge of Allegiance

Board Members Present: J. Barton, J. DiPace, M. Galliher, W. Green, M. Polesel, A. Ozmun, J. Ryan, R. Shillington and M. Trick Excused: P. Buonome and J. Kowalczyk

Others Present: D. Bianchi, M. Caron, A. Corrado, A. Gelber, Maggie Light, Michael Light, F. Lupis, R. Mansfield, S. McMahon, Joe Speich, R. Theriault and Dave Theriault

Minutes of the December 5, 2017 meeting were approved with two corrections. Under Communications from Members second to last sentence changed bringing to bring and the third bullet, last line under 75th Anniversary changed to "The residents that weren't home were left the information.

Communication from Members:

- Assistant Chief Joe Speich presented to the Board a survey that he worked on asking the membership how the department is doing and what improvements the membership would like to see. He just wanted the Board to know that he was doing a survey and what type of questions were going to be asked. The survey will be sent out to the members shortly.
- Dennis Bianchi asked the Board to think about verbiage for the 2018 fundraising letter.
- Assistant Chief Joe Speich told the board that there are still some safety issues that need to be done at the Live Burn Building such as: net inside between levels, non-slip coating on roof, power to high temperature alarm and an audio and visual alarm for high temperature. The smoke machine that was being used was sent back to the manufacturer for warranty work,

Communications from Board Members:

- John Ryan welcomed Andy Ozmun as the newest member to the Board. John also informed the Board that all the changes for the revision of By-Laws Article III were sent out via email to Avonfire and the vote could take place at the January 8th Corporation meeting,
- John Ryan went to the Neighborhood Assistant Grantee Reception and received a check from CNG in the amount of \$4,461.99.
- John Ryan suggested that Jean Barton have someone help her during parade season with honor guard and other items needed at parades.
- Rob Shillington -The department website is being revamped. If you have any suggestions of what is needed on the website please let Rob know. Ramona Mansfield will also be helping with the website.

Treasurer's Report: Joe Kowalczyk (emailed reports)

- There is a total cash in the Corporation of \$656k, down from \$850k. Of this money there is approximately \$154k (\$180k prior) of funds that are free of restrictions and belong to the Corporation. There is \$29k (\$41k prior) of restricted funds within the Corporation and the remaining cash relates to Town grant money that we have received and totals about \$476k (\$629k prior). Of this \$476k there is \$79k of encumbered 16/17 fund and \$397k of current year grant funds.
- The Corporation fundraising has slowed which is typical of this time of year and will likely continue through the March/April timeframe. Two months into the fiscal year for the Corporation we are showing a loss of about \$15k. Again, this is very typical and will continue through till at least May when letter collections kick in. As a frame of reference, we had income of \$34k last fiscal year and our letter fundraising brought in \$3k more than the prior year.
- The largest cash expenses for the Corporation for the year thus far are the annual dinner (\$9k) and the Live Burn Building (\$14k). The Live Burn Building expenses were not incurred by the Corporation as we had temporary restricted funds to cover this cost. This is the main reason for the drop in restricted funds in bullet (1) from 41k to 29k. If you remember we had a Live Burn Donation of \$30k to spend when future expenses came in related to the facility.

- Over the six months for Budget we have spent about \$296k. To date we have \$396k of our \$692k left or more than 57% left for six months. At this point last year, we had about \$469k left of \$678k, a ratio of 69%. On average we can spend about \$66k per month over the next 6 months. That number last month was 68K.

Town Representative Report: Jamie DiPace

- IRS laws for LOSAP have changed. The maximum was \$3,000, now it is \$6,000. Will have to look into raising it.
- Peter Buonome and Jamie DiPace went to a meeting of the Connecticut Fire/EMS Caucus with some of the State Legislators. Jamie is hoping more legislators get involved with this caucus.
- Town will be busy with construction. New factory going in at 50 Tower Lane, also possible furniture store going in where Boyles was and the new subdivision off Sylvan Rd.

Chief's Report – Chief Trick

- Informed the Board that the member physicals for the department will be using Life Scan. A company that can do everything for a department physical. March 17th thru March 24th all members will be able to have physicals with Life Scan in 3-hour blocks. Blood will be drawn February 21st thru February 23rd. All new members will be going to UCONN as soon as the transition from Hartford HealthCare to UCONN can be made. The Chief or Captain Corrado will be presenting this information to the membership at the January 8th Corporate meeting,
- Budget presentation went well. We don't know what we will be getting. Funding for apparatus was not put in the Capital Improvement Budget. Funding for SCBA was put in the Capital Improvement Budget.
- Company 4 Timeline – (See attached document). The timeline was submitted to the Town Manager from Bruce Williams.

Committee Reports:

- 75th Anniversary
 - January 13th there will be panel discussion at the Library.
 - January 17th the department will be hosting the State Firefighters Irregulars meeting and dinner.
 - In April the department will host a 5k race and more library events.
- SCBA Committee
 - January 17th the representative of MSA SCBA will be at Company 1 for the SCBA Committee meeting,

Unfinished Business:

- Bonus Points – Looked at language to increase bonus points. Bring current positions to see if those bonus points should be changed before looking at the new positions.

John Ryan made a motion to bring under New Business the email received from Captain Theriault to purchase dinner ware and cups instead of paper goods and a Christmas Tree for Company 1 with Mike Galliher seconding. Motion passed.

New Business:

- New Dinner Ware – After some discussion Matt Polesel made a motion to purchase dinner ware for Company 1 up to \$2,000 with Any Ozmun seconding. Motion passed.
- The following Board Members will represent the following companies:
 - Company 1 – Tad Green
 - Company 2 – Andy Ozmun
 - Company 3 – Matt Polesel
 - Company 4 – Pete Buonome
 - Explorers – Mike Galliher
 - John Ryan – HQ
 - Jean Barton – Fire Police

- Proposal for AVFD Scholarship Committee to be formed with Matt Polesel as Chairperson. Will put out forms for sign up at the Corporation meeting.
- By-Law Committee will be formed with a member from the Board spearheading it and forms for sign up will be out at the January Corporation.
- Will reestablish a Company 1 kitchen committee. Will put out signup sheets at the January Corporation meeting.
- Will have a meeting to go over Board goal for 2018.

Misc. Items:

- Jamie DiPace informed the Board that some high school students are parking on the department property across from the high school. Maybe some no trespassing signs should be posted. If something happened the department would be liable. Will check with Bud Desmond to see if we still have insurance on this property.
- Chief Trick informed the Board that he took the old Outstanding Service Award Plaque and had the old plates put on a new plaque and he also purchased a new Firefighter of the Year Plaque. Both will be put up at Company 1.

Meeting was adjourned at 20:43 (GB)