

MINUTES OF THE 899th BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING February 6, 2018

The meeting was called to order by Vice President Michael Galliher at 19:01

Pledge of Allegiance

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

Others Present: D. Bianchi, M. Caron, A. Gelber, S. Gottlieb, R. Mansfield, Joe Speich, R. Theriault and Dave Theriault.

Minutes of the January 2nd meeting were approved.

Communication from Members:

- Assistant Chief Joe Speich asked the Board to approve purchasing St. Patrick Day shirts. He showed the logo that would be used. The Board will bring this up under New Business
- Assistant Chief Joe Speich presented to the Board the results of the survey. 59 members took the survey and 44 members made comments. He will present the results at the March Corporation meeting.

Communications from Board Members: None

Secretary Report: Jean Barton

- Tunxis Hose is celebrating their 125th Anniversary and we were asked if we could do an ad for the Ad Book. This will be brought up under New Business.

Treasurer's Report: Joe Kowalczyk (emailed reports)

- There is a total cash in the Corporation of \$612k, down from \$656k. Of this money there is approximately \$145k (154k prior) of funds that are free of restrictions and belong to the Corporation. There is \$33k (29k prior) of restricted funds within the Corporation and the remaining cash relates to Town grant money that we have received and totals about \$434k (476k prior). Of this \$434k there is \$79k of encumbered 16/17 grant funds and \$355k of current year grant funds.
- Consistent with past years the Corporation fundraising is slow during this time of year and this will likely continue through the March/April timeframe. Three months into the fiscal year for the Corporation we are showing a loss of about \$29k. Again, this is very typical and will continue through till at least May when letter collections kick in. Like I have pointed out before as a frame of reference, last year we ended with \$34k of income by October 31st.
- The largest cash expenses for the Corporation for the year thus far are the 75th Anniversary expenses (\$14k), the annual dinner (10k) and the Live Burn Building (14k). It's important to point that the 75th expenses are offset by \$7k of fundraising which seems to be off to a great start. Also, the Live Burn Building expenses are offset because we had temporary restricted funds to cover this cost.
- Over the six months for Budget we have spent about \$337k. To date we have \$355k of our \$692k left which is about 51% of our total budget left for the remaining five months of the fiscal year. At this point last year, we had about \$440k left of \$678k, a ratio of 65%. On average we can spend about \$71k per month over the next 5 months. That number last month was \$66k, so up on the month end.
- 1099s for the members that required them were completed and sent by the 1/31 deadline. In addition, the 990 was extended in line with prior years.

Town Representative Report: Jamie DiPace

- Commended Captain Dave Theriault and the 75th Anniversary Committee for all the work they are doing.
- Met with the Legislative State Fire Caucus members. Trying to get funding for the Regional Fire Schools. The funding was taken out of the budget, trying to get the money available.

Chief's Report – Chief Trick

- Membership Committee meeting will be next Tuesday February 13th.
- We have 5 new members and possibly a few more. The Captains of their perspective companies will be doing the interviews along with HQ Director.
- We have 43 members signed up for their Life Scan physicals. 27 members did not make an appointment.
- Hall of Fame Dinner – Chief would like the Board to approve purchasing a table of 10 \$40.00 each and an Ad for the book. This will be brought under New Business.
- Reached out for support letters to Congresswoman Esty. She will reach out to Blumenthal and Murphy asking them to do support letters for the grant that we submitted. With the support letters Congresswoman Esty's office said they have 70% success rate.

Committee Reports:

- 75th Anniversary
 - At last Thursday's Town Council meeting the department received a Proclamation from the Town Council on its 75 years of service to the Town of Avon.
 - March 1 is the deadline for the Ad Book.
 - April 11 Dennis Bianchi will be reading at the Library.
 - April 14th is the 5k Road Race.
 - May 5th Emergency Service Day – We will be doing fire prevention, we will have a SWAT Team, trying to get Life Star for this event.
- Recruitment and Retention: Aaron Gelber
 - 57 attended the Super Bowl Party held at Company 1 on Feb. 4th.
 - The Recruitment and Retention Committee will meet 15 minutes before the March Corporation meeting.
- SCBA Committee
 - There was a demonstration on the MSA SCBA equipment and next Thursday we will have a demonstration of the SCOTT SCBA equipment.
- Membership Committee will have a meeting February 13th.
- John Ryan would like to start up a Planning Committee and a Buildings Committee. Will have to look to see what these committees did in the past.
- Pool Club – John Ryan will get signs posted as soon as the ground thaws. The Town does have insurance on this property.
- Scholarship Committee- Matt Polesel needs more information on how the department can do this.

Unfinished Business:

- Bonus Points – Tabled until March Board Meeting.

The following items were brought under New Business with a motion made by Matt Polesel and seconding by John Ryan:

- T-Shirts for St. Patrick's Day for all member in the department.
- Purchase \$200 books through Library for the 75th Anniversary
- Tunxis Hose Ad Book for their 125th Anniversary.
- Mohawk Ski Team
- Hall of Fame Dinner – purchase a table for \$400.00 and a Black and White Full Page for \$125.00

New Business:

- Fundraising letter – After discussion it was decided that Joe Kowalczyk will work with Dennis and Grace Bianchi on the verbiage of the letter.
- Little League sponsorship and 2 4' X 8' signs for \$500. After some discussion a motion was made by Peter Buonome and seconded by Joe Kowalczyk to do the sponsorship and the signs for \$500. Motion was passed.
- Keep sign at Buckingham will be tabled for now.
- Change to Section 24.8 under Tie. To read as follows: A red tie with Velcro or clasp fastener. A fire department tie tack may be worn to secure the tie to the shirt. A black tie shall be worn at wakes and funerals. Motion made by Matt Polesel and seconded by Andy Ozmun. Motion passed.
- Mohawk Ski Team – February 25th \$285 for a team of 5. Peter made a motion with Tad Green seconding. Motion passed.
- Ad for Tunxis Hose 125th Anniversary \$300 for a black and white full page. Motion was made by Peter Buonome with Tad Green seconding. Motion passed.
- Library donation of \$200 worth of books from the 75th Anniversary budget. Andy Ozmun made the motion with Matt Polesel seconding. Motion passed.
- Hall of Fame Dinner purchase of 10 tickets @ \$40.00 each and an ad for \$125.00. John Ryan made the motion with Matt Polesel seconding. Motion passed.
- Green T-Shirts for St. Patrick's Day \$850 for 100 shirts. Andy Ozmun made the motion to purchase the shirts and if more are needed to purchase any extras with John Ryan seconding. Motion passed.

John Ryan made a motion to be into Executive Session with Matt Polesel seconding. The Board went into Executive Session at 20:20.

John Ryan made a motion for the Board to come out of Executive Session with Matt Polesel seconding. The Board came out of Executive Session at 21:56

Motion was made by John Ryan and seconded by Matt Polesel to bring under New Business Jean Barton's membership – Motion passed.

Peter Buonome made a motion to extend Jean Barton's medical leave to March 31st to comply with all the other policies to get back on line with John Ryan seconding. Motion passed.

Chief asked the following to be part of the minutes:

The Board of Directors has decided to modify the Operations Manual to allow this extension of the medical leave.

Meeting was adjourned at 22:00 (GB)