

Minutes: Special Board Meeting of the Avon Volunteer Fire Department
Tuesday September 25, 2012
Location: Avon Volunteer Fire Department, Company 3
Time: 18:00 – 20:00

Topic: Board Discussion of the August 02, 2012 Special Corporation Meeting

Present: Dave Bourgard, Ramona Mansfield, Sue Jansen, Ken Sedlak, Lynn Sedlak, Rob Shillington, and Michael Trick.

Absent: Peter Buonome, Jean Barton, Jamie DiPace

President Ken Sedlak called the meeting to order at 18:00 hours.

Membership Morale was discussed at great length. Board Members and Officers will take a more proactive approach in reaching out to the membership; as to solicit feedback on overall Fire Department performance and ensure we continue to effectively progress as a volunteer organization. Department leaders will ensure they are working with our members to accomplish the goals and objectives of the fire department in an effective and efficient manner. The perception of favoritism toward certain members was discussed. Some of the membership is under the impression that department leadership has made a practice of applying certain rules toward certain people based on political climate. The leadership will continue to monitor this concern and ensure that this is not taking place.

Board and Officer Leadership concerns were discussed. The Board Members and Officers will ensure they are setting a positive example amongst the department members. Department leaders will continue to work with our members to accomplish the goals and objectives of the Avon Volunteer Fire Department in an effective and efficient manner

Corporation Meetings – Monthly vs. Bi-Monthly: Lengthy discussion took place on this topic and it was decided that continuing with Bi-Monthly meetings was the best option at this point. Holding our Corporation Meetings Bi-Monthly continues to allow us extra time for necessary training. As Officers and Board Members; we have made great strides over the last few years in opening several lines of effective communication for department members. Thus ensuring necessary information is being exchanged efficiently and effectively without needing the Corporation to formally meet on a monthly basis.

Continued Education of Board Members: Board Members should be proactive in educating themselves on the Department Guidelines/By-Laws and stay current with Volunteer Fire Department and Board Best Practices. As leaders of the organization we need to ensure we are open, honest, and approachable and that we act with integrity. Should an issue arise and as leaders we are unaware of how to handle a situation or if there is doubt as to what rules should apply; regardless of the situation; we will openly admit the gap and work diligently to correct and handle the situation.

Meeting was adjourned at 20:10 hours