

Atlantic County Firefighters' Association
December 21, 2005
Bargaintown

A **regular meeting** was called to order by President Thomas Hunter at 8:00 PM. Following the flag salute, Chaplain Sweeny offered an invocation. The members were welcomed to Bargaintown by Company Chief Tom Nace and Egg Harbor Township Chief Wally Shields.

Roll Call was taken; a quorum was present.

Minutes of the November 16, 2005 meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report presented and approved.

Committee Reports:

Executive Committee: Next meeting Friday, January 6, 2006 in Pomona.

Public Relations: Whitey Swartz advised that he made a presentation to the winner of our Poster Contest at Oakcrest High School. Sponsors for the next contest are already being lined up. Whitey also advised that he needs nominations for Valor awards.

Training: Mike Corbo advised that the schedule for next semester will be out in mid-January. Payroll is complete. Mike also gave an overview of the Flashover and RIT classes that are being planned for the spring. Graduation for the summer and fall Firefighter I classes will be on Monday, January 23, 2006.

Fire Coordinator: Ed Vincent advised that there will be a reorganization meeting for deputy coordinators and associated personnel in early 2006. He also noted that he recently met with the leadership of Tanker Task Force "B" working toward a degree of consistency in operation throughout the county. Ed has received confirmation of his reappointment to a two year term. As to plans for 2006, Ed listed the following as examples of activities: Mutual aid plans must be updated and information collected as to the # of active members; he plans to attend company/department meetings throughout the county; plans to be active with the trainings and meetings of the task forces.

Howard Berchtold advised that he has received positive feedback as to the possible county funding of a part-time salary for the fire coordinator.

Library: Progress.

Chiefs' Association: Jim Garth advised that the next meeting will be on January 31, 2006 in Absecon. Nomination/Election of Officers and also discussion of representatives for the Training Center Board of Directors will be on the agenda.

Training Center Board of Directors: Next meeting Monday, January 9, 2006 at the Training Center.

Fireman's Home: Oscar Dutch provided an update.

Fire Photographers: Dennis Sharpe reported on the significant amount of recent activity.

State Fireman's Association: Executive Committeeman Henry Schoenstein provided updates from the 2005 Convention including that proposals for a location for the 2010 are being reviewed. He further advised that our county's question concerning why Hudson and Essex Counties have 2 executive committeemen is being reviewed. **County Caucus is scheduled for August 15, 2006 in Egg Harbor City.**

County Fireman's Death Benefit Fund: Next meeting **January 26, 2006 in Egg Harbor City.**

Unfinished Business:

Member's reminded that the Association Dinner will be March 10, 2006 at the Crap Trap in Somers Point.

New Business:

A motion was made, seconded and carried amending the Constitution as follows:

Article VI Section 2: A nomination will be considered official only after the member nominated has verbally, at the time of the nomination, accepted that nomination. A nominee who is unable to be present at the time of nomination due to extenuating circumstances may submit a written acceptance. Said correspondence must be approved by a majority vote of the general membership.

All bills presented and approved for payment out of the proper funds.

The election of officers for 2006 was held with the following duly elected:

President	R. Thomas Hunter, Jr.		
1 st Vice President	Dennis Sharpe		
2 nd Vice President	Kathleen Dierwechter		
Secretary	Robert Mellon		
Treasurer	Lou Riciti		
Asst. Sec./Trea.	Stacey Wellington		
Chaplain	Rev. Thomas Sweeny		
Sgt.-at-Arms (3)	Chester P. Crowell	Charles Harlan	
	William Thomas Hand		
Executive Comm. (9)	Howard Berchtold, Jr.	Oscar Dutch	Skip Portale
	Ronald Bird	James Garth	Ted Reinhard
	Rick Coraluzzo, Sr.	Charles Guenther	Gilbert Zonge

Departments/companies are advised that the roster requests/dues statements will be coming out with the December minutes. E-mail addresses are going to be requested so that we can hopefully more toward automated distribution of association business.

Good of the Order: Ted Reinhard advised that holiday greetings have gone out to more than 30 vendors that have been kind to us in the past!

Adjournment: 9:50 PM Next meeting January 18, 2006 8:00 PM in Egg Harbor City. This will be the annual memorial service – dress uniforms encouraged.

Howard Berchtold, Jr. Acting Secretary