

Atlantic County Firefighters' Association

"In Union For The Safety Of All"

President
Amor "Skip" Portale
Vice President
Ellsworth Ott
2 Vice President
Charles "Chick" Kisby



Secretary
Robert A. Mellon
Treasurer
Stacey Wellington
Asst. Sect./Treasurer
(vacant)

February 20, 2008

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Atlantic County Firefighters' Association was called to order at 20:00 on Feb. 20, 2008 at the Longport Vol. Fire Company by President Amor "Skip" Portale. The meeting was opened with a flag salute followed by a moment of silence. President Portale then pointed out the fire exits and asked that all electronic devices be silenced.

Opening Remarks and Introduction of Host Chief

Chief Clayton of the Longport Fire Company was introduced. Chief Clayton welcomed all to Longport. Chief Clayton introduced Mayor Mary Garvin. Mayor Garvin welcomed all to Longport and offered thanks to all in the county fire service for the dedication, generosity, and service provided. Mayor Garvin also offered thanks for the spouses, significant others, and family who support the firefighters.

In Attendance

Roll call was taken by Secretary Robert A. Mellon who reported a quorum was present.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to approve the minutes of the Jan. 16, 2008 meeting, as sent to the member companies.

Report of Treasurer

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to accept the report of the Treasurer as read by Treasurer Stacey Wellington.

Committee Reports

Executive Committee – Howard Berchtold Jr. summarized the minutes of the Executive Committee meeting held on Jan. 4, 2008. The next meeting is scheduled for Mar. 7, 2008 at Somers Point Sta. 1.

Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board – Howard Berchtold Jr. summarized the minutes of the Advisory Board meeting held on Jan. 14, 2008. The next meeting is scheduled for Mar. 10, 2008.

Fire Coordinator – Ken Badger reported for Ed Vincent. There will be a Tanker Task Force Drill at the 4H Fair Grounds on Apr. 27, 2008 at 08:00. Those who are not participating are welcome to observe.

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Public Relations – Whitey Swartz reported that the poster contest has had a poor return this year. So far only twelve posters have been received. Approximately \$1200.00 of donated funds is spent on the poster contest. The funds are donated from businesses specifically for the poster contest. Eight-one schools are contacted and sent information about the contest. With only twelve posters submitted, it might be wise to reevaluate the continuation of the poster contest. Whitey also reported on the valor awards scheduled for the regular meeting in April and the 200 Club Memorial Service and Brunch scheduled for Mar. 30, 2008. Nominations for the valor awards should be submitted as soon as possible.

Fire Marshal – Whitey reported on the companies that did not file any run reports with the county or missed some reports over the last year. Please submit all reports as soon as possible.

Training Committee – Mike Corbo reported that FFI is running smoothly. The "Nozzle" newsletter is out and will be published bi-monthly. Mike reported on the details of the FFII challenge test. Mike reported that the state has only enough FFI books to finish the year out. The state will have to go out for bids on buying new FFI books. Mike reported that the Division of Fire Safety has fire officer text books for half price. Mike will discuss buying some at the next Executive Committee meeting since students will need the books when the Fire Officer class starts. Mike reported that RIT training classes should be uniform across the state as soon as the state finalizes a training standard. Mike reported on the upcoming classes including FFII scheduled to start on Mar. 10, 2008. Mike reported on the status of firefighter training, or lack there of, in several counties in New Jersey. Mike reported on the QTO, QSO, ODI training and the need for companies to have members attend yearly.

Library – Ron Bird reported that he is still working on moving some of the library material. If anything is needed, feel free to contact him.

NJ Forest Fire Service – Ken Badger reported that controlled burns are scheduled.

NJ Fireman's Home – Oscar Dutch reported on a golf tournament scheduled for May 13, 2008. Oscar reported on the status of the discussions held concerning the Masonic Lodge Home. Due to legal issues a deal is not likely. They are now working on another possibility for a home in southern New Jersey.

NJ Firemen's Assn. – Henry Schoenstein reported that membership reports are due on Feb. 28, 2008. Henry reported on the application process and the correct way of filing applications.

Atl. Co. Firemen's Death Benefit Fund. – Henry Schoenstein reported that the next meeting is scheduled for Jul. 24, 2008 in Egg Harbor City at 20:00. Henry would like to have information posted to the association web site as a way to increase membership. The current payout on the death of a member is \$500.00.

Audit Committee – President Portale reported that the books are being reviewed by an accounting firm. A report should be ready for the next meeting.

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ACFFA Dinner – Wayne Dilks reported on the dinner scheduled for Apr. 18, 2008 at Careme's on the campus of Atlantic Cape Community College.

Communications

An invitation to the Cape/Atlantic 200 Club Annual Memorial Service and Brunch was received..

Deferred Business

Henry Schoenstein nominated Cindy Badger for the vacant office of Asst. Secretary/Treasurer. Discussion was held concerning the vacant office. It was pointed out that since open nominations had passed without a nomination then filling the position now would be a presidential appointment. It was recommended that the Executive Committee review the status of the position at their next meeting. Henry Schoenstein rescinded his nomination.

Charles "Rob" Winkler III questioned the need to post the regular minutes on the association web site. Discussion followed. It was recommended that this be reviewed at the next Executive Committee meeting.

New Business

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to purchase an ID card printer for \$724.94 out of the proper funds.

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to send two instructors to be trained as CPR instructors at a cost of \$275.00 each to be paid out of the training fund.

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to sponsor a hole for the Fireman's Home golf tournament for \$200.00 out of the proper funds.

Bills

The bills were read by Treasurer Stacey Wellington. A motion was made, seconded, and carried to pay the bills from the proper funds.

Applications for Membership

There were no applications for membership to act on.

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Good of the Order

Whitey Swartz is working on a county wide fire company info book. He will be sending out questionnaires and would appreciate it if they are filled out and returned to him.

There is a new web site for Somers Point Fire Dept. Sta. 2. Check it out at - <http://www.spfd-2.org>

Adjournment

There being no further business at hand, the meeting was adjourned at 21:00. The next regular meeting is scheduled to be held at 20:00 on March 19, 2008 in Folsom.

Attested:

Robert A. Mellon, Secretary

Date Clearing

Sun. Mar. 30	10:30	St. Nicholas / 12:00 Borgata	23 rd Annual Cape/Atlantic 200 Club Memorial Service and Brunch
Sat. Apr. 5	20:30	Hammonton Sta. 2	Dinner & Comedy Show
Sat. Apr. 12	16:00	Oceanville	Ham & Oyster Dinner
Fri. Apr. 18	18:00	Atl. Cape Comm. College	ACFFA Dinner at Careme's
Sun. Apr. 27	08:00	Atl. Co. 4H Fairgrounds	Tanker Task Force Drill
Tues. May 13		Neschanic Valley Golf Club	NJ Firemen's Home 2008 Golf Outing
Sat. May 17	11:00	Hammonton Sta. 2	Motorcycle Run & Open House
Thurs. Jul. 24	20:00	Egg Harbor City	Atl. Co. Firemen's Death Benefit Meeting

(Please email your event info to robert.mellon@atlanticcountyfireassoc.org)