

Atlantic County Firefighters' Association

"In Union For The Safety Of All"

President
Amor "Skip" Portale
Vice President
Ellsworth Ott
2nd Vice President
Charles "Chuck" Kisby



Secretary
Robert A. Mellon
Treasurer
Stacey Wellington
Asst. Sect./Treasurer
Jaime C. Mellon

July 15, 2009

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Atlantic County Firefighters' Association was called to order at 20:00 on July 15, 2009 at the Linwood Vol. Fire Co. by President Amor "Skip" Portale. The meeting was opened with a flag salute followed by a request to remember former ACFFA Secretary Howard Guenther (dec.) and 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 President

Chief Foster of the Linwood Fire Company was introduced. Chief Foster welcomed all to Linwood.

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 June 17, 2009 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.

Checking: \$11,305.40 / Tuition: \$656.97 / Twelve Month CD: \$51,178.97 / Nine Month CD: \$10,212.23 / Capitol CD: \$4,204.19

Committee Reports

Executive Committee – Chairman Howard Berchtold summarized the minutes from the meeting held on July 3, 2009 in Landisville.

Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board – Howard Berchtold summarized the discussion from the meeting on July 13, 2009. Freeholder Sutton was in attendance. An official request was put forward to the county seeking the purchase of a used Mack/Pierce engine available though Lee's Emergency Service Equipment.

Fire Marshal – President Portale reported that Fire Marshal Swartz will be assembling committees, during August, for the Fire Expo and the Memorial Service, both scheduled in October.

Fire Coordinator – Howard Berchtold reported that the Mutual Aid update request is available on the association website. This should be completed by all Atlantic County Fire Depts. and returned to Ed Vincent.

Training – Director of Training Michael Corbo reported that 150+ attended the FFI/FFII graduation ceremony. Mike thanked all of the chiefs who attended the ceremony. Fifty-One graduated from Firefighter I and sixteen graduated Firefighter II. Mike reported that an Advanced Pump class was taught in June. Mike thanked all of the departments who sent equipment to this class. The Fall FFI class will start on Tuesday August 18th. The fall class schedule should be complete by the end of July. The Summer FFI class has twenty-seven students. The heat of the day has proven a challenge for this class. Mike reported that the Atlantic County Fire Academy trained over five hundred students during the last semester. That was the highest semester total to date. Mike reported that RIT and SCBA competency training is available. It appears that not all county fire departments are receiving the same type of RIT training. Mike is looking into coordinating county RIT training so that all departments can work together when needed. Training can be arranged with classroom time at your station and practical training at the academy. The state is working on a mandatory RIT training standard. Mike has already instituted this standard for training offered through the academy. Mike reported that, on Sept. 9, the academy will offer a fire inspector class following the NJ standard. The class and books is \$450.00 and will last fifteen weeks. Mike reported that the burn building racks are almost done. The equipment shed has not been maintained in an orderly fashion. All equipment needs to be returned to the correct location after being cleaned properly. Mike reported that the training center is a recycling facility and all recyclables should be placed in the proper containers. Mike reported that the fire service contact for the training center will remain Marianne Cullen and that a start date for the Fall FFII class has not yet been scheduled.

Library – Ron Bird reported that books have been returned to the library and if anything is needed, call him.

Atl. Co. Fire Chiefs' Association – Jim Garth reported that the next meeting of the Chiefs' Association is scheduled for July 28, 2009 in Estell Manor.

NJ Firemen's Home – Oscar Dutch Jr. reported that the home is full. This is the first time it has been full in twelve years. Oscar reported that a new pavilion has been installed in front of the home. It has been used for BBQs and a recent memorial service with one hundred twenty in attendance. Oscar reported that he is interested in being reelected to represent Atlantic County on the Board of Managers for the home. Oscar reported that the current rate for guests at the home is \$850.00 per month and accommodations will be arranged for those who can not pay. Oscar reported that a virtual tour has been placed on the home's website (www.njfh.org). Oscar reported that an episode of "Cake Boss" (TLC – The Learning Channel) was filmed at the home in May and a fire engine cake was presented to the guests of the home. Oscar reported that the museum at the home has just received another antique engine and is worth the trip to visit. Contact Oscar for a tour of the home and museum.

NJ Firemen's Assn. – Henry Schoenstein reported that the Atlantic County Caucus is scheduled for Aug. 18 in Egg Harbor City. Registration starts at 18:30 with the caucus starting at 19:30. The convention is scheduled in Wildwood on Sep. 18 and 19. All relief associations should have their cards shortly. Four resolutions have been submitted and three will be voted on. Henry summarized the submitted resolutions. Henry reported on the new standard for convention expenses. The office of President will be contested at the convention. Henry reported that the 2% checks will be distributed by direct deposit only in the future. Henry reported that there is an opening for a field examiner and resumes should be sent to the NJ Firemen's Association. The burial benefit was raised to \$9,500.00 on July 1.

4H Fair – Howard Berchtold reported that the fair is scheduled for Aug. 6, 7, and 8. Apparatus is requested for display purposes. Whitey will be coordinating a poster contest with the 4H organization. Gene Wellington reported on the firefighter competition. The drafting competition will be on Aug. 1st and all other events will be held at the fair on Aug. 7th. Applications for the firefighter competition and apparatus display will be available on the association website.

Communications

A letter of resignation was received from Sergeant at Arms Jeffery Rascone.

Deferred Business

The first biannual financial summary for 2009 was submitted by Treasurer Stacey Wellington.

New Business

Motion was made, seconded, and carried that the association accept the letter of resignation from Sergeant at Arms Jeffery Rascone. President Portale appointed Wayne Dilks, Linwood FD, to serve the remainder of the term as Sergeant at Arms.

Motion was made, seconded, and carried that the association do what is necessary to coordinate with the county on the purchase of a used fire apparatus for the training center for the approx. cost of \$5,000.00.

Drawing for Wildwood Parade order within Atlantic County:

- | | | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|---|
| 1. Buena Boro | 6. Egg Harbor City | 11. Swartz Fire Museum | 16. Linwood Vol. Fire Co. No. 1 |
| 2. Mullica Twp. | 7. Hamilton Twp. | 12. Absecon | 17. Remaining Atl. Co. Units |
| 3. Longport | 8. Northfield | 13. Hammonton | as submitted directly to Parade Committee |
| 4. Dorothy, Weymouth Twp. | 9. Buena Vista Twp. | 14. Estell Manor | |
| 5. Somers Point | 10. Galloway Twp. | 15. Egg Harbor Twp. | |

Bills

The bills were read by Treasurer Stacey Wellington. A motion was made, seconded, and carried to pay the bills, totaling \$2,941.34, from the proper funds.

Bills --- American Safety - \$528.00 / Hughes Farm - \$480.00 / Modern Gas - \$463.13 / Paul Fuller - \$60.00 / Public Safety - \$167.93 / Mike Corbo - \$431.55 / Mike Corbo - \$110.73 / Mo's All Occasion - \$700.00

Applications for Membership

There were no applications for membership.

Good of the Order

Thank you to the Linwood Vol. Fire Co. for hosting the evening and providing the refreshments.

Adjournment

Benediction was conducted by Howard Berchtold.

There being no further business at hand, the meeting was adjourned at 21:10. The next regular meeting is scheduled to be held at 20:00 on August 19, 2009 in Mizpah.

Attested:

Robert A. Mellon, Secretary

Date Clearing

Sat. Jul. 18, 2009	10:00	Estell Manor VFC	Italian Sub Sale 10:00 - 14:00(or sold out)
Thurs. Jul. 23, 2009	20:00	Port Republic VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atl. Co. Firemen's Death Benefit Fund
Tue. Jul. 28, 2009	20:00	Estell Manor VFC	Hosting Meeting of the Atlantic Co. Fire Chiefs' Assn.
Thurs. Aug. 6, 2009	16:00	Atlantic County 4H Fairgrounds	ACFFA @ Atlantic County 4H Fair
Fri. Aug. 7, 2009	16:00	Atlantic County 4H Fairgrounds	ACFFA @ Atlantic County 4H Fair & Firefighter Competition
Sat. Aug. 8, 2009	09:00	Atlantic County 4H Fairgrounds	ACFFA @ Atlantic County 4H Fair
Sun. Aug. 9,2009	08:00	Somers Point VFC #2	Community - Breakfast, All You Can Eat
Sun. Aug. 9,2009	08:00	Blue Heron Golf Course	Egg Harbor City VFC 12 th Annual Golf Tournament
Sat. Aug. 15, 2009	10:00	Estell Manor VFC	Italian Sub Sale 10:00 - 14:00(or sold out)
Tues. Aug. 18, 2009	19:30	Egg Harbor City	Atl. Co. - NJ State Firemen's Caucus
Sat. Aug. 29, 2009	10:00	Atlantic County Park (Rt. 50)	Estell Manor VFC @ Friends of the Park Folk Festival
Sat. Aug. 29, 2009	09:00	Elwood VFC	Bikes, Beef, and Beer Motorcycle Run 2009
Fri. Sept. 18, 2009	13:00	Wildwood	NJ State Firemen's Convention
Sat. Sept. 19, 2009	10:00	Wildwood	NJ State Firemen's Convention
Sat. Sept. 27, 2009	12:00	Dover Intl. Speedway	Fundraiser – National Fallen Firefighters Foundation
Sat. Sept. 27, 2009	07:00	Dover Intl. Speedway	Oceanville VFC Bus Trip to Fundraiser – National Fallen Firefighters Foundation
Sun. Sept. 20, 2009	08:00	Somers Point VFC #2	Community - Breakfast, All You Can Eat
Thurs. Sept. 24, 2009	20:00	Nesco VFC	Hosting Meeting of the Atlantic Co. Fire Chiefs' Assn.
Sat. Oct. 3, 2009	16:00	Germania VFC	Turkey Dinner
Sun. Oct. 4, 2009	13:00	Atl. Co. Fire Training Center	Memorial Service @ Fallen Heroes Monument
Sat. Oct. 10, 2009	12:00	Atl. Co. Fire Training Center	2009 Fire Expo - Please Encourage Public to Attend
Sat. Oct. 10, 2009	12:00	Greentree Golf Course	Elwood VFC Golf Tournament
Sun. Oct. 11, 2009	08:00	Somers Point VFC #2	Community - Breakfast, All You Can Eat
Sat. Nov. 7, 2009	09:00	South Egg Harbor VFC	23 rd Annual Christmas Craft & Home Show
Sat. Nov. 14, 2009	16:00	Oceanville VFC	Baked Ham & Fried Oyster Dinner
Sun. Nov. 15, 2009	08:00	Somers Point VFC #2	Community - Breakfast, All You Can Eat
Tues. Nov. 24, 2009	20:00	Linwood VFC	Hosting Meeting of the Atlantic Co. Fire Chiefs' Assn.
Sun. Dec. 13, 2009	08:00	Somers Point VFC #2	Community - Breakfast, All You Can Eat
Thurs. Jan. 21, 2010	20:00	Bayview VFC	Hosting Meeting of the Atlantic Co. Firemen's Assn. Death Benefit Fund
Tues. Jan. 26, 2010	20:00	Absecon VFC	Hosting Meeting of the Atlantic Co. Fire Chiefs' Assn.

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