

Atlantic County Firefighters' Association

"In Union For The Safety Of All"

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



Secretary
Robert A. Mellon
Treasurer
Jaime C. Mellon
Asst. Sect./Treasurer
Cindy L. Badger

December 21, 2016

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Atlantic County Firefighters' Association was called to order at 20:00 on December 21, 2016 at the Scullville Volunteer Fire Company by President Amor "Skip" Portale. The meeting was opened with a flag salute followed by an Invocation by the Chaplain of the Association, Reverend Thomas Sweeny. President Portale then pointed out the fire exits and asked that all electronic devices be silenced.

Opening Remarks and Introduction of Host Chief

President Portale introduced Scullville Volunteer Fire Company Captain; Pat Flynn. Captain Flynn welcomed all to Scullville.

In Attendance

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

Total Chief/Delegate Attendance – 38 of 176 Total Member Departments/Companies Represented – 20 of 44

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to approve the minutes of the November 16, 2016 meeting, as sent to the member companies.

Report of Treasurer

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to accept the report of the Treasurer, totaling \$143,356.07, as read by Treasurer Jaime C. Mellon.

Bank of America / Bank of America / Capital One 360 / Parke Bank
Checking: \$61,270.45 / Savings: \$5,008.76 / Savings: \$52,909.69 / 13 Month CD: \$24,167.17

Committee Reports

Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board – Howard Berchtold reported that Advisory Board did not hold a meeting in November and that the next meeting of the Advisory Board is scheduled for January 9, 2017 at the Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center.

Executive Committee – Chairman Howard Berchtold reported that the next meeting of the Executive Committee is scheduled for January 6, 2017 in Pomona at 19:30 and will be the reorganizational meeting for 2017. Howard reported on a plan to have each committee member head up a program or project in 2017. Projects would include health/wellness of county firefighters, increasing association membership participation, and reviewing/updating the valor awards program. Howard reminded all that having department delegates that are able to attend meetings of the association is important and asked that all departments consider the importance of regular participation when selecting their delegates for 2017. Howard reminded all

to slow down once and a while, take a breath, reflect and enjoy the good things they have in life. Howard wished all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Training – Director of Training Mike Corbo reported that the Firefighter I class has completed, with the exception of needing to make up a night burn in the spring. Mike reported that Fire Officer I will start on January 3rd and Fire Officer II has been canceled due to low enrollment. Mike reported that the spring semester course book should be completed before the January meeting of the association. Mike informed all that the fall semester Firefighter I graduation ceremony will be held at 7:00 PM on Monday, January 30, 2017 at the training center. The spring semester Firefighter I will start on Thursday, February 9th (not the later date originally reported at the chiefs’ association meeting) and Firefighter II will start on Monday, March 6th. Mike thanked the fire academy instructors for their hard work throughout the past year and the association Executive Committee and Officers for working with him. Mike wished all Merry Christmas and a Happy and Safe New Year.

Atlantic County Fire Chiefs’ Association – Butch Kienzle reported on the December 14th meeting of the Atlantic County Fire Chiefs’ Association held in Sweetwater. Butch reported that the parade trophy was returned from Wildwood and a potential scheduling issue for the January meeting was discussed. Butch spoke with the Chief of the Absecon Fire Department after the meeting and reported that the meeting will still be held on January 11th. Butch reported that nominations/elections were held and the incumbent officers were nominated and elected unopposed. Butch wished all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. The next meeting of the Atlantic County Fire Chiefs’ Association will be 8:00 PM on January 11, 2017 at the Absecon Volunteer Fire Department.

NJ State Firemen’s Assn. – Cindy Badger reported that NJSFA President Gunson and Vice President Ordway were both impressed by the information that was disseminated at the November meeting and that they both hope to be invited back in the future. Cindy reported that the Atlantic County Caucus will be held on Tuesday, August 8, 2017 in Egg Harbor City and that the NJSFA convention will be on September 15 & 16, 2017 in Wildwood. Cindy reported that all local associations in the state have filed their quarterly reports on time. Cindy reported that the healthcare assistance program will start in January and that those seeking to apply should contact their local secretary. Cindy reported that the special relief scale has been increased to \$5,000 minus local level. Cindy reviewed the upcoming due dates for reports. Cindy reported that 2nd Assistant Secretary Jerry Naylis has resigned and resumes for a replacement will be sought by sending notice to the local association secretaries. Cindy reported that President Gunson, and the building committee, met with the architect about conceptual drawings for the new state association office. Cindy reported that the NJSFA officers, along with the Judge of Election, met with the voting machine manufacturer, Election Graphics, to review the problems encountered during voting in Wildwood. Several issues were identified and will be corrected. A full test of the voting machines will be conducted early in the year. Cindy reviewed the local associations that still need to file officer listings and delegate reports. Cindy reported that she is working on a training session for local association executive boards. The training will include information about required reports and will utilize a PowerPoint presentation. Cindy will notify the local secretaries when a date for the training has been set.

Communications

There were no communications to report.

Deferred Business

There was no deferred business to act upon.

New Business

Motion was made, seconded, and carried to approve the 2017/2018 meeting schedule as submitted by Secretary Mellon.

2017/2018 Meeting schedule for the Executive Committee (meetings at 19:30):

March 3, 2017 – Cardiff

July 7, 2017 – Landisville

November 3, 2017 – South Egg Harbor

May 5, 2017 – Whitey Swartz Fire Museum

September 1, 2017 – Absecon

January 5, 2018 – Pomona

2017/2018 Meeting schedule for the Regular Meetings (third Wednesday of month at 20:00):

March 15 – Weekstown	April 19 - Fire Training Center (Host Margate)	May 17 – South Egg Harbor
June 21 – Richland	July 19 – Linwood	August 16 – Cologne
September 20 – Hammonton #1	October 18 – Dorothy	November 15 – Somers Point #2
December 20 – Farmington	January 17, 2018 – Egg Harbor City	February 21, 2018 – Longport

Bills

The bills, totaling \$31,336.77, were read by Treasurer Jaime C. Mellon. A motion was made, seconded, and carried to pay the bills from the proper funds.

Bills --- Atlantic County Fire Chiefs' Assoc. - \$20.00 (forward dues received in error) / Robert A. Mellon - \$446.92 (reimburse postage, replace printer, update QuickBooks) / Home Depot - \$246.21 (equipment replacement) / Lowes - \$1,295.77 (supplies, equipment replacement) / Suburban Propane - \$433.03 (propane) / Staples - \$227.91 (training office supplies) / South Jersey Welding Supply - \$13.80 (equip. rental) / Walt's Primo Pizza - \$117.00 (training lunches) / This & That Uniforms - \$1,293.74 (106-instructor shirt, 1-polo) / Firehouse - \$29.95 (Firehouse magazine) / Jaime C. Mellon, Treasurer - \$1,200.00 (annual) / Robert A. Mellon, Secretary - \$1,200.00 (annual) / MES - \$1,059.50 (SCBA flow test & repair) / Mike Corbo - \$1,134.28 (reimburse 4 adult & 4 infant CPR manikins, 4 AED trainers) / Payroll & Payroll Taxes- \$22,618.66 (instructors)

Election of Officers

The election of officers was held. The positions of 2nd Vice President and the Executive Committee were voted on by ballot. The remaining positions were unopposed. A motion was made, seconded, and carried that the secretary cast the ballot for all unopposed positions. Those elected to office for the year 2017 are as follows:

President (1)	Amor “Skip” Portale
1 st Vice President (1)	Ellsworth Ott
2 nd Vice President (1)	Charles “Chick” Kisby
Secretary (1)	Robert A. Mellon
Treasurer (1)	Jaime C. Mellon
Asst. Sec./Trea. (1)	Cindy L. Badger
Chaplain (1)	Rev. Thomas Sweeny
Sgt.-at-Arms (3)	Charles Harlan, Wayne Dilks, William Donath
Executive Comm. (9)	Howard Berchtold Jr., Levon “Lefty” Clayton, Oscar Dutch Jr., James Garth Sr., R. Thomas Hunter Jr., Walter R. “Butch” Kienzle III, Charles H. “Chuck” Mackintosh, Eugene M. Sharpe, C. Robert Winkler III

Applications for Membership

There were no applications for membership.

Good of the Order

President Portale reported that he had spoken with Whitey Swartz and that he is still dealing with treatments for an ongoing infection.

President Portale reminded all to notify Fire Marshal Dave Buzby, ASAP or by the first week of January, of any firefighter deaths in 2016 for inclusion in the annual memorial service at the Atlantic County Firefighters' Association meeting in Egg Harbor City on January 18, 2017.

President Portale wished all a Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays, and Happy New Year on behalf of himself and the association officers.

Thank you to the Scullville Volunteer Fire Company for hosting the evening and providing the refreshments.

Adjournment

Benediction was conducted by Chaplain Rev. Thomas Sweeny. Reverend Sweeny wished all a Blessed and Merry Christmas. There being no further business at hand, the meeting was adjourned at 21:05. The next regular meeting is scheduled to be held at 20:00 on January 18, 2017 in Egg Harbor City. This meeting includes the annual memorial service of the association. Please submit the names of those that have passed during 2016 so that they may be included in the memorial service program and plan on attending the meeting and service in full class A dress uniform.

Attested:

Robert A. Mellon, Secretary

Fire Department/Company/Association Events

Mon. Jan. 30, 2017	19:00	Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center	Firefighter I Graduation Ceremony
Fri. Apr. 7, 2017	17:00	Hammonton VFC Sta. 2	6th Annual Firehouse Fish Fry Dinner
Sat. Apr. 8, 2017	16:00	Oceanville VFC	Baked Ham & Fried Oyster Dinner - HamAndOysterDinner.com
Sat. Nov. 11, 2017	16:00	Oceanville VFC	Baked Ham & Fried Oyster Dinner - HamAndOysterDinner.com

ACFFA Meetings

Atlantic County Firefighters' Association

Wed. Jan. 18, 2017	20:00	Egg Harbor City VFD	Hosting ACFFA Annual Reorganization Meeting and Annual Memorial Service
Wed. Feb. 15, 2017	20:00	Longport VFD	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting

Atlantic County Firefighters' Association - Executive Committee

Fri. Jan. 6, 2017	19:30	Pomona VFC	Hosting ACFFA Executive Committee Meeting (Annual Reorganization)
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Other Atlantic County Organization Meetings

Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board

Mon. Jan. 9, 2017	19:00	Anthony "Tony" Canale Training Center	Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board
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Atlantic County Fire Chiefs' Association

Wed. Jan. 11, 2017	20:00	Absecon VFD	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chief's Association
Wed. Feb. 8, 2017	20:00	Scullville VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chief's Association

Atl. Co. Firefighters' Death Benefit Fund Assoc.

Thurs. Jan. 26, 2017	19:30	Bargaintown VFC	Hosting Meeting of Atl. Co. Firefighters' Death Benefit Fund Association
Thurs. Jul. 27, 2017	19:30	Absecon VFD	Hosting Meeting of Atl. Co. Firefighters' Death Benefit Fund Association