

Minutes

The regular business meeting of the Bergen County Fire Prevention and Protection Association was called to order on August 11, 2010 at 7:30 P.M. by Vice-President R. Silvia at the quarters of the Woodcliff Lake Fire Department. President Simpson was absent due to vacation, Vice-President Silvia served as chairman.

An informative presentation was made by Mr. P. Elenio regarding the operations of local enforcement agencies.

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as read following a motion by Mr. Elenio, 2nd. by Mr. Rausch.

Vice-President Silvia introduced Ms. Denise De Tali, who made a brief presentation on post-fire restorations.

COMMUNICATIONS: A dues invoice to the Bergen County Juvenile Fire Prevention Association, A note of thanks from Mr. Paul Allen, and a donation request from an Eagle Scout candidate were presented.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Mr. Dansbach reported that with the last reported balance as of 6/9/10 being \$9,348.93, disbursements being \$123.00 and deposits being \$1,110.00, the current balance is \$10,333.93. \$100.00 dues to the Bergen County Juvenile Fire Prevention Association was paid following a motion made by Mr. Rausch, 2nd. by Mr. Vogelson. The report was accepted following a motion by the same.

DIVISION OF FIRE SAFETY REPORT: Mr. Elenio has posted and submitted a written report for the record.

COUNTY FIRE MARSHAL'S REPORT: Mr. Hennig reported progress.

COUNTY COORDINATOR'S REPORT: Chief Rausch reported that the fire safety trailer has been ordered. It will be lettered after arrival. A fire safety expo is being planned, this Association is welcome to attend. There are 5 openings yet for the firefighter's challenge. Awards will be issued as grants from the Bergen County 200 Club.

JUVENILE FIRE PREVENTION: Cases are reported to be less by 30% this year, the cause is unknown.

N.J. STATE FIRE PREVENTION ASSOCIATION: V.P. Silvia reported that the State will not adopt the 2009 International Building Code. Gov. Christie has also refused to approve any legislation concerning residential sprinklers. Officers of the State Association are seeking an agreement to postpone such legislation until 2014 if necessary. Chief counsel to the Governor has asked the same association to draft up a proposal by September 10, which is the cut-off date. We consider this to be crucial to the life safety of residents and firefighters the same. All agencies are urged to lobby the state to enact this legislation; literature must be undersigned by individual members, as this is not a retrofit issue. Mr. Naylis reported that such literature can often be considered junk-mail by legislators and suggests simplicity in lobbying. Due to the fact that the building market has shrunk considerably, builders are our opposition. There are vacancies in the executive board of the State Association, namely the offices of Northern Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer. Anyone interested in serving in any of these capacities should contact the Association.

COMMITTEES:

Posters- V.P. Silvia attended the State level ceremony in Springfield.

Education- The I.A.A.I. will host seminars on report writing in Passaic and Middlesex Counties.

Annual Dinner- V.P. Silvia reported that the dinner is scheduled for October 13, 2010, tickets will cost \$40.

VICE-PRESIDENT : Mr. Silvia reported on the president's meeting which he attended in Middlesex. The Division has introduced a registration incident management system, costing \$6 million. The system, similar to that used by the E.P.A. will be used by the Divisions of Fire Safety and Codes and Standards. The system is expected to be operational by October, 2012 and there is a trusted representative of the fire service on the committee. Dr. Frank Field is including the New Jersey fire service in his new program which will be introduced on October 8. The Division has appointed a private agency to collect delinquent fees greater than \$25.00, while a representative of the Division will continue to pursue collections from the hold-list. The State Fire Marshal is encouraging continuing use of the website. Mr. Silvia reported attending the most recent graduation ceremony of the Bergen County Fire Academy.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Fire Inspector/Fire Official uniform emblems are available at D&E Uniform in Closter.

NEW BUSINESS: Mr. Gerry Naylis reported that the State Fire Commission is considering amending the Fire Safety Act to exclude the required use of certified mail as the yearly statewide cost is \$750,000.00 N.F.I.R.S. compliance is currently at 94%, 29 municipalities who would have otherwise received related grants will not due to non-compliance. Chief Rausch reported that these municipalities are reported to the County on a semi-annual basis. Mr. Naylis also reported that schools have now replaced one out of the two monthly fire drills with a lock-down security drill. Fire Officials are to be notified of such drills. Mr. Jos. Greico reported on a perspective Eagle Scout project to construct a propane storage shed at camp Grey. Donations are necessary for this undertaking. Mr. Hennig reported on the excellence of this county facility and expressed the need for the propane shed. A motion to donate \$500.00 to this project, made by Mr. Naylis, with a 2nd. by Mr. Hoffman was carried. V.P. Silvia made available a report from the U.S. Product Safety Commission concerning counterfeit Square D brand circuit breakers.

The meeting was adjourned following a motion made by Mr. Connelly, 2nd. by Mr. Blankenbush.

Respectfully Submitted,

Angelo Castronovo
Sec'y, B.C.F.P.P.A.

