

## **DVFA Officers Meeting**

February 28, 2011

Brandywine Hundred Fire Company

President William F. Tobin welcomed the attendees and Pastor Robert Hudson offered the invocation.

Attendance: President Tobin, Vice Pres. Frampton, Vice Pres. Boyer, Treasurer Metheny, Directors:, Toulson, McCourt, Zeroles, County Presidents; Sutton, Gillespie, Mitchell, Council John Brady, DSFPA President Tull, DSEMSA President Jones, Pastor Bob Hudson, Warren Jones, Ron Marvel, and Conference Committee Co-Chair Mike McMichael

- LADVFA      President Janice Marvel was not in attendance do to a previous commitment
- DSFCA        2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Gillespie reported that their next meeting was March 24, at Station 87, Seaford.
- DSEMSA      President Jones reported the same date as the Chief's association for their meeting.
- DSFPC        No one was in attendance from the Fire Prevention Commission
- DSFPA        President Tull thanked the President for the invitation and reported about upcoming conference plans.

President Tobin thanked the BH Ladies Auxiliary for the meal and reported on or discussed the following:

1. The Training Standards and the tabled motion on the DVFA floor.
2. The 700/800 megahertz radio frequency and how he was informed that the fire service and the State Police would stay on 800 and DeIDOT and other agencies would be switched to 700.
3. The trip to Washington to support Governor Markel in his testimony before the Senate hearing on the FCC D-Block distribution for public safety. He thanked the five people who attended the hearing and transmitted the Governor's appreciation as well.
4. A proposal from the Blood Bank for a Fire Heroes blood drive.
5. The Bylaws change regarding the Corporate Secretary and temporally appointing Treasurer Allen Metheny as Corporate Secretary until the bylaws change is resolved.

6. A letter from the Sussex County Firefighter's Association supporting the Sussex County Fire Chief's Association in their letter to the commission.
7. The new shadow boxes for the Memorial Association Wreaths at the conference. The Conference Executive Committee approved the new shadow box wreaths.
8. CFSI dinner and sending invitations to Governor Markel, Governor Markel's Washington DC Representative, Melissa Weir and inviting the three elected DVFA Directors.

Motion Vice President Frampton, Second by Vice President Boyer to pay for the tickets for the three elected directors, Motion passed unanimously.

9. Discussed the DVFA Office in Dover. The office next to ours is becoming vacant and for \$105.00 additional per month, we could acquire this section. It would substantially increase the size of our current office and give us a place to hold director's meetings as well as other meetings. The additional cost would fit in our budget.

Motion by Vice President Frampton, Second Director McCourt to approve the office.  
Motion passed, unanimously.

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Charles Frampton:

Appointed the 2011/12 Life Safety and Scholarship Committees.

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Charles Boyer:

No specific issues to discuss at this time but thanked everyone for their work and their support.

Conference Update: Co-Chair Mike McMichael

Seminar planning going well. Hot training will be as last year; Thursday and Friday. No show police is in effect for all events. Next meeting May 16, 2011.

Federal Issues and DVFA Foundation: Allen Metheny

Federal Issues are, Funding for SAFER and AFG, and support of D-Block

Foundation: Next meeting is this month.

Allen Metheny also discussed the following:

Resource Management and Asset Tracking and how the fire companies will need to record their equipment based on NIMS Categorization. More on that will follow as the requirements move along.

DEMSOC Meeting: DIMES is moving along. There were 49 companies not turning in their funding reports to DEMSOC.

Delegates and Alternates not receiving notification of Executive Meetings

New Ambulance Standards, particular concerning Federal Background checks for Ambulance Drivers.

Fire Corp: There will be a Fire Corp promotion seminar at the Fire School on May 22, 2011. This will be a 3 hours seminar.

Warren Jones

Informed the members that he will officially start as Executive Secretary on March 1, 2011. He thanked everyone for their support and looked forward to the job and taking it to the next level.

Legislative issues: While the goal for this fiscal year is to maintain our funding at last year's levels. He requested permission to start having conversations with legislators for next year and beyond with these specific topics: Increasing Grant in Aid to FY09 levels, Increasing GIA for Aerial Apparatus and Rescue Trucks, looking into increasing the insurance health care tax, and asking the legislators help with retention of our members by giving some state perks to our membership, like free access to state parks, etc.

501c4: Discussed looking in to changing our tax status to 501c4. We need to be legal when we participate in some lobbying events.

Meeting with Chiefs and Presidents: Discussed his goal of meeting with every Fire Chief and President to discuss what the DVFA does, how we can serve the fire companies and how to improve communications, as well as talking about issues to promote the Delaware Fire Service. These meetings would not take place until after legislative agenda is progressing.

Centralized Purchasing: Discussed investigating a Centralized Purchasing system to lower the cost of items to the fire companies.

Communications: Discussed the desire to improve communications between the DVFA Office and the Fire Companies as well as all fire service communications.

New Phone Number for Executive Secretary is 302-535-4566 and the new email address is wjones@dvfassn.com

Other Motions and Issues:

Motion by Treasurer Metheny, Second by Director Mitchell, that the President's rings will be acquired at the beginning of their term and not the end. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Director Toulson, Second by Director Zeroles, to mail out notifications to all Alternates and Delegates. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Director Toulson, Second by Director Sutton, for discussion and if necessary purchasing, any furniture available from the people who are vacating the office space next to our present office. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Director Gillespie, Second by Director Toulson to go back to monthly director's meetings. Motion passed unanimously.

Directors only moved into executive session to discuss personnel issues.

Next Monthly Meeting is Monday, March 28, 2011, Dover Station 1

Next pre-executive committee meeting is Tuesday, May 31<sup>st</sup>; 6:00 p.m. at Kirby and Holloway on route 13 for dinner then adjourn to Dover Station 1 for the meeting.

Minutes prepared by:

Warren F. Jones  
Executive Secretary

