

MARYLAND STATE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Representing the Volunteer Fire, Rescue and Emergency Medical Services Personnel

www.msfa.org



SAFETY COMMITTEE

Hobert B. "Hoby" Howell - Chair

John W. "Jack" Gouty – Vice Chair

Donald King – Vice Chair

Barbara L. Steiner – Secretary

September 16, 2007 Committee Meeting Minutes

Branchville Volunteer Fire Prince George's County. Maryland

The MSFA Safety Committee September Meeting was called to order at 10:20 a. m. on Sunday, September 16, 2007 by Chairman Hoby Howell at the Branchville Volunteer Fire Co in Prince George's MD. Bagels, donuts and orange juice and drinks were as served. 15 committee members were present representing 12 counties. Guest: MSFA Assistant Treasurer Bobbi Aaron, Training Committee Bobbi Stevens and MSFA. First Vice President Frank Underwood were also in attendance.

Member present: Chair Hoby Howell, (Fallston, Harford), Gunter Corrado, (Mt Savage, Allegany); Gerard McGann, (Mt Savage, Allegany); Alfred Britton, West Annapolis, Anne Arundell); Don King, (Boring VFC, Baltimore); Chuck Pembleton, Dan Stevens, (Waldorf, Charles); Ray Stevens, (Chesapeake City, Cecil); Gene Aaron, (Hurlock, Dorchester), Sec. Barbara Steiner, (Church Creek, Dorchester); Hugh Owens, (Glen Dale Fire Assn, Prince George's); David Kline, (Walkersville, Frederick); Peter Lott, (Kennedyville, Kent). Janet & John Fisher, (Ocean City Fire Co, Worcester);

Salute to the Flag. The meeting was opened with a salute to the Flag and Pledge of Allegiance lead Hoby.

Welcome: The committee was welcomed to Branchville and thanked for coming out today by 1st VP Frank Underwood. Hoby also thanked the members for coming out today. He also thanked the members for coming to today's meeting.

Minutes: Minutes of the July meeting were emailed, and pony mailed to the members prior to the meeting.

Reporting:

Officers:

First Vice President Frank Underwood:

Thanked all for coming

He has been meeting with the budget directors.

Hoby – Introduction of members. Janet and John Fishter of Ocean City Fire Dept were welcomed as new members to the committee. Stony called Hoby and will not be in attendance. Jack Gouty has a family emergency; Jim Decker is caring for his wife. Benny Shelton is back in the hospital for another operation on his knee. A card is being sent to him. Please let Hoby know when a member of the committee is ill so we can send a card so they know we are thinking of them.

Dan Stevens – Training

Seminars listing on MFRI website.

Bulletin on conferences has Fall Schedule

Dennis Rubin Crew Resource Management at MFRI is Conducting Safe Live Fire Burns – 6 hours – A lot of classes are failing due to non registrations. This may be sign that training is not needed.

MEMA is offering classes

MEMA Website – link from MFRI and also Maryland Fire Chief’s site

MEMA training on website – Coffeebreak – Safety topics

www.usfa.dhs.gov/hfa/coffee-break/

Also IS 300-400 – State Police will teach. 300 is 3 day, 400 is 2 days.

Go to Regional Training Center to get it on line.

MFRI – Train the Trainer – ISC 300 & 400 – 5 days.

Maryland Fire- Rescue Education and Training Commission’s Minimum Standards Committee
September 12, 2007 Recommendations regarding the use of acquired structures for burn training.

After much deliberation the committee recommends to the Commission that it move to implement the following:

That the *National Fire Protection Association’s* (NFPA “1403 Standard for Live Fire Training Evolutions” be adopted as a Code of Maryland Regulation under the Education Article of the Annotated Code.

That such regulation also require that all live fire training evolutions be conducted under the direct on-scene supervision two *Maryland Fire Service Personnel Qualifications Board* certified “Level I –Fire Officers”. That one of these officers serve as the “Training/Incident Commander” and that the other serves as the “Training /Incident Safety Officer”. Both of whom are to have successfully completed the *Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute’s* “Conducting Safe Live Fire Evolutions” course, or an equivalent course as approved by the Maryland Fire-Rescue Education and Training Commission, and

that the regulation requires that firefighters and firefighter trainees be restricted from participating in training evolutions conducted in an *Immediate Danger Life & Health* environment, at any acquired structure, until they have successfully completed a “Firefighter I” course taught to the NFPA 1001 Standard for Firefighters.

This committee recognizes that live burn training in a controlled environment is an essential element of firefighter training. The recommendations above are offered to help ensure that this necessary training not be conducted at the risk or peril of the trainee.

Chair of committee – Mike Fleming is laid up. Please include him in your prayers.

The minimum standards committee is working on the recommendations for 1403.

The fire death in Baltimore City drew attention to the fact that 1403 is not being used.

MFRI and MSFA are two major players in the recommendations.

The commission agreed to refine the recommendations. to Make 1403 a part of COMAR – will mean that it will become LAW. Florida now has it in the law.

Who would be in the position of control at live fire – head person and safety officer?

Dan wants someone with in depth experience and fire training level 1

Instruction I, FF I, FFII, Fire Officer and 6 hours safety. MFRI to be able to serve.

Level of training for firefighter to participate must be trained to NFPA 1000 before going into live - have first half of FF I to participate.

Recommendation – to have full FF I – 1403 – first half needed.

MFRI has changed FFI – have 10 items prior to live fire burn building – 100 % controlled.

Acquired structure- uncertainty – not controlled. – trying to make live fires safe.

“It’s easy – but the devil’s in the detail” – Steve Edwards.

Hope is that MSFA will support the recommendations

Question from Don King – Is Fire Safety class required ?– Dan says it is recommended

Putting it in writing – need balance – some have course work, but not sensible on the scene

Recommendation to be rehashed at next commission meeting

Recommend getting Training Committee and Commission together

E-Mail Dan Stevens if you have any input for this training.

There are a lot of things you can pick up at fire structures that can't at burn building.

Culture and attitude – biggest problem in acquired burns. Those in charge have wrong attitude as to what is to be learned.

Need Culture change in Fire Service – Seat Belts is one of the items – If not belted, vehicle doesn't move until they are.

Culture change – firefighters would SNAP seat belts

Consensus Standards are there but are IGNORED

Let Dan know – need MSFA on board to make it work

If the standard (1403) was followed, there would be no need to put it in COMAR.

MOSH can only tell company – you need to correct problems. It is not a law, it is only a standard.

John Fisher – 2 areas that cause problems – rollovers and people converting over to LP

Firefighters have been injured in Burn buildings – need to ventilate between crews using buildings.

Need to pace yourself (Dan)

Need to go by check list MFRI has – in an acquired burn structure. Check list must be signed by certified instructor and by person in charge.

Janet Fisher – Check list needs to be followed. Safety gets lax

Dan – Recommendation for inclusion on COMAR – to propose under the educational article in annotated code -not under MOSH. Higher Education has enforcement if it is in COMAR

Dan- wants to see MSFA partner with Training Committee, Safety Committee – come up with folks who are willing to volunteer to help with burns.

Would like to see MSFA maintain a list of those who qualify and feel comfortable to connect with people during live fire burns

Still struggling – proposal not refined yet – is a work in progress.

Health and Fitness: - Hobby

Paul wants committee to work on heart attack issue.

Need physicals – no money for them

Would like president to push for money (as a legislative item) to get money for the physicals

Unfunded mandate of physicals – still trying to get money.

Some people are against requirement – others found potential problems that were corrected as a result of having a required physical given by their county/company.

Montgomery County will send you for a physical and pay up to the first \$5,000 if something is found.

Frank – firm believer in physicals – sends out get well cards and sympathy cards weekly.

Mention to Eloise that we need money for physicals

Money is going to be tight

Hoby feels if the presidents has been pounding for the money in small amounts from the time the mandate was first proposed, for the physicals, it will add up and eventually have it.

Money is the problem – where is it coming from

Frank – County funded – Maryland municipals, If State – doesn't have money counties won't have it.

Dan – Need to keep hitting on the legislature – so they are aware – health of membership is important.

Hoby – need to start somewhere and start now

John – Respiratory protection – required to have a physical

Hoby – Don't have the money

John – Have something on the table- have another thing required if not meeting it – need to push and get it out there – is a priority.

Hugh Owens – Standard says that have to have a physical – is a requirement – is your department following it?

John – How far away will MFRI be if you don't follow requirements?

Hoby- His company got a grant for physicals for one year. Then don't get them after 1 year.

Fire department physicals came up with health issue that could be fixed.
Don King – we need physicals to be a priority. Gary McGinnis and Don are in charge of getting this done for president's request
Janet – Heart –Lung Bill – need to have a physical on file to qualify. Without one it would stop an individual from qualifying for this benefit.
Hoby – Baseline physical run around \$50.
Dan – Jinks was president when this standard was adopted. A disservice was done to the fire service by the exemption of the physical until it was funded.
Safety Committee transmit info to President at Executive Committee meeting.
Need to keep item on the top of the list – Now 8 years behind.
Cost of full blown physical could be around \$1,000. if use NFPA standard
John – Around \$300 in Ocean City and it has blood work. Ocean City works with Peninsula Regional Medical Center (PRMC)(-Salisbury) Health Occupational Section.
Ocean City- SCBA – physical needed to be active
Berlin – any driver needs physical for DOT – Non Com CDL
Have seen benefits of physical
We area leaving ourselves open – is a standard there – not encouraging our people to get it
Maybe sued – We need to fight for it
Hoby-How much of a physical –
John – Need stress test for SCBA – If person has heart attack what happens?
Work with PRMC - Occupational and Health Doctor
Hugh – need to put standard in publication
John – More fighting for money - wheel will get attention
Dan – Physical for instructors in required
Hugh – Can get physical on own health insurance – because we have been doing this for so long we have survived.
John- Through Heart and Lung Bill – need physical on file – are eligible for heart and lung problems for the rest of your life if have the physical on file in the fire station – if firefighter/police/DNR Career with entrance physicals area covered.
Is part of COMAR – Section 9 pays for medications.
(Committee Secretary will try to get a copy of this to put in the minutes)
John – how many Presidents and Chiefs have thought of their liability. As an organization, we need to make awareness of these things to come in.
Ray Stevens – young need to pace self as well as older firefighters.
Hugh – put in publication – Heart/Lung Bill information
Don – working on putting it in the next issue of the Trumpet
Hoby –best bet is to go with the publication- do a tri-fold for the convention
Don- if any committee members have any ideas- give them to Don

Hugh Owens – Fire Chief –One of sponsors of Life Safety Conference – with State, Fire Marshall and MFRI – if interested still room. Will be September 25 at Johns Hopkins. Contact Hugh – Conference is getting better every year.

Hugh is Chair of training committee for chiefs. He is working on seminar for next year.

He has 1-2 day regional seminars in the works.

Fire Corps – 21 department in Maryland have registered to have Fire Corp in their departments
The job is to help department get started. It is civilians coming into the department to help with some items such as putting data in at right time to get funds and helping with clerical items

Citizen helping – grass roots – talk to politicians, community support to help fire service get what we need. It is a national program. Emmitsburg and Montgomery County are using FireCorp. They have folks with expertise to help with paper work.

Hugh assist editor of Trumpet – gets ads –known as the “Ad Man” Functions to put in Trumpet- get ahold of Amber- she is looking for vendors to put ads in Trumpet.

Chuck Pemberton Chuck has a video. He has made contact with the Safety Ambulance for a presentation at the Convention in Ocean City. It will be a one-half day presentation. Hobby will ask Pinoak to set it up for Sunday, June 15th, 2008 from 12:30-4:30. Chuck asked to contact the doctor (Nadine Nerick) to lock her in for the date.

Calendar for the coming year:

October 21, 2007 at Hurlock, Dorchester Co. – Eastern Shore Gene Aaron will host meeting
November 18, 2007 at Sudlersville in Queen Anne’s County – Eastern Shore – Benny Shelton will host.
if Benny is unable to host meeting it will be at Kennedyville with Pete Lott as host.

No meeting in December

Looking for a possible meeting in January

February 10 – date change due to Exec Com mtg the weekend of 16-17 in New Windsor – tentatively – Sykesville, with Gary McGinnis as host. – More on this as the date gets closer

The dates for the rest of the year are:

March 16, 2008 - Waldorf with Dan Stevens

April 20, 2008 – Chesapeake City with Ray Stevens – It will be at the new station on Rt 213.

May 18, 2008 – Glen Dale with Hugh Owens

Get-together – Don suggested that we have some type of get together. Picnic/Party/
Perhaps in August – covered dish on a Saturday or Sunday afternoon
Think about it for next summer.

Round the Room:

Gene – Incident in area – fireman driving fire company SUV collided with woman who pulled out in front
She was killed.

John – She pulled out into the path of the fire vehicle

Gerard – Wall collapsed 4 building went; fellow fell off a 50 ft ledge. Bomb threat at Mall – came at 3:15pm
was going to blow up mall. Waited until the K-9 bomb sniffing dogs got there at 6:30 pm to close
Wal*Mart – caught the guy. No time was given for the blow-up so they took 3 hours to close the mall.
LaVale – 2 engines – electric fire – bird’s nest inside sign caused fire.

Motorcycle went 168 mph through area

Gunter – Brush fire – 2 folks were burning logs- neighbor called fire dept – person had permit.

Dan – Anything on 1403- get to him

Ray – Motorcycle deaths. 3 folks were killed, 2 on the same cycle. One doing roly-poly and hit a tree.

Rt 40 on Elkton and North East – on back wheel – backed into a dump truck.

Ray was on his mower when 5 bikes went past FAST

Hugh – Fire Corp – several companies have signed up – need names and phone of contact

e-mail Hugh for info – email address - achief54@aol.com

Butch – Anne Arundel Co elected new Association officers. Jack Gouty is new president.

Hugh says he will need a mirror so he can see which hat he has on so he’ll know who he is talking to.

John – Bikers locked a bike lock around the neck of one of their own. They told him that they threw the key in the ocean. He had someone use a Hurst tool to cut off the bike lock. The bikers produced the key and were upset that the lock had been cut. The pictures are on the OC website.

Hobby – Need to apologize to group – he’s been tied up with getting his mom moved into the addition that he and Diane have put on their home for his mom to live in. They are now putting her stuff up for auction.

The process took up his vacation and then some. He has been overwhelmed.

Hugh – Family first

Hobby – It’s been a long drawn out process – bear with him.

Ray – Hobby to be President of the Hartford/Cecil Association – Ray has finished his term.

Don – on August 23rd Don took group of youngsters (with his sons) to NYC to tour Rescue I. Saw tributes to 911 victims. Was very impressed.

Also saw funeral for Deucah Bank. Folks were very cordial. Tour was arranged through Don's company and NYC company.

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be on October 21, 2007 at Hurlock. Gene Aaron will be host

Adjournment:

Motion for adjournment – 12:25 pm.

The lunch of fried chicken, potato salad and pie was great. Thanks, Diane.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Steiner, Sec.

Directions to follow:

DIRECTIONS HURLOCK VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY
Phone 410-943-3110 on School Street,

From North:

Coming over Bay Bridge:

Take Rt 301/50 to the SPLIT – take Rt 50

Take Rt 50 toward Ocean City – It says East, but you are traveling South

In EASTON Rt 331 East – It will be a Left turn

Follow Rt 331 through Preston DO NOT GO OVER THE SPEED LIMIT IN PRESTON
THE OFFICER SITS AT THE EDGE OF TOWN TO NAB YOU.

On the other side of Preston – be sure to go on Rt 331 – it goes to the RIGHT (do not stay to the left – It becomes Rt 318.

Follow Rt 331 to Wadell Corner – Watch for sign to Hurlock . Rt 331 goes to the left. If you stay straight you will be on Rt 16 and land up in Cambridge.

On Rt 331 go straight to Hurlock, turn Right on School Street, next to Library.(DO NOT PASS Blinker Light). Fire house is on Left. Corner of Charles St and School Street
Phone is 410-943-3110

From South – Salisbury, Ocean City

Cross over Nanicoke River Bridge

Take first Exit off Bridge – turn LEFT off ramp. Take Rt 331 North (Rhodesdale-Vienna Road) to Rhodesdale where it meets Rt 14. Bear Left . Follow Rt 331/14 to Shiloh Church –Hurlock Rd – Right turn into Hurlock (North Dorchester High School will be on the Left. Follow Rt 331 through the blinker light.to School Street on the Left.

Fire House will be on next block – corner of Charles St and School Street.

From Upper Eastern Shore Take 301/50 to Rt 213. Take Rt 213 Toward Easton – Left turn off the exit Ramp at top of the hill. Take Rt 213 to Rt 50 at Wye Mills. Left turn on to Rt 50. Follow above directions from EASTON

OR

Take RT 301 to Rt 313 in just after RT 291 crosses Rt 301 – Go to the LEFT. Follow RT 313 South through Goldsboro, Greensboro and Denton to Federalburg.

Take Rt 307 South through Williamburg to Hurlock. At STOP Sign in Hurlock 9 Rt 331 and Rt 307 Turn LEFT Follow Rt 331 to School Street. DO NOT GO THROUGH THE BLINKER LIGHT
Fire house will be on the LEFT on the Corner of SCHOOL St and CHARLES St.