

MARYLAND STATE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING 23 JUNE 2005 AT OCEAN CITY MARYLAND

CALL TO ORDER – **Chair D. Mooney** called the meeting to order this date at 0900 hours in the Convention Center in Ocean City Maryland.

PRESIDENT SACHS welcomed the new Officers, and Executive Committee members here today.

OPENING PRAYER – given by Chief Chaplain J. Long. He then led the group in the Pledge to the Flag.

ATTENDANCE – **V.P. P. Sterling** took the Roll Call as: **PP** – R. Atkins (65-66), R. Dempsey (80-81), L. King (85-86), C. Carpenter (86-87), R. Cumberland (87-88), J. Robison (89-90), T. Mattingly (90-91), F. Cross (95-96), S. Cox (96-97), D. Davis (97-98), G. Worthington (02-03), T. Thompson (03-04). **Trustees** – S. Hales, C. Carpenter, T. Thompson, J. Means, G. Worthington. **LAMSFA** – President B. McWilliams, Sr. VP P. Deamond, Jr VP R. Pandolfini, Secretary L. Hetz, PP R. Connelly. **Fire Prevention Queen** Christy Gable, Runner Up Amber Reamy. **Fire Marshal** B. Barnard, **MSP-AV** Major J. Hoch. **NFFF** Director Ron Siarnicki.

President L. Sachs – Introduced Haskell Feldman and Leslie M. Kilchenstein of the Partners in Protection Program. He discussed the Program and how the money (\$450) is distributed for newly referred clients introduced to either of their companies. \$50 goes to the borrower, \$150 goes to MSFA, \$250 goes back to the fire station. They are asking for ways for them to contact all of the fire stations in Maryland, so they can make everyone aware of their program. He said this is a Mortgage and Title business.

President Sachs thanked PP Jacobs for his fine service last year as President of the MSFA and presented him with his Past Presidents Badge.

PRESIDENT SACHS – presented and discussed his report for the coming year. He thanked the Officers, Executive Committee members, and Committee Chairs and members, for taking on their new roles in this Association, and looks forward to working with each of them this coming year. He welcomed the newly appointed officers to their positions, and J. Seavy and PP R. Jacobs to the Executive Committee. He congratulated L. King for another great MSFA Convention. He discussed the highlights of the past year and his Goals and Objectives, and the new Committees he has formed, for the coming year. R. Siarnicki will head the Equity Initiative Committee (charged with examining issues relative to encouraging the initiative of the fire service and identifying the means to presenting equity opportunities in a fair and just manner). He said they are looking for good people to serve on the committees and encourage anyone interested, to contact him or one of the officers of their interest to serve. The Residential Sprinkler Initiative Committee will be chaired by D. Alexander. They are already involved in the work of this initiative and their objective will be education, rather than legislation, their success to date is a good predictor. There are changes in the EMS structure. C. Wills will chair this committee and W. Tome will be Senior Vice Chair, and will work

with Charlie in overseeing the efforts to the ALS and BLS Sub Committees. W. Tome will also chair the EMS (in Maryland) Initiative Committee, that will solicit the views of our EMS Providers across the state of the true feelings of our large work force in Maryland EMS and the future of that service. This work will be on the volunteer providers, not the career personnel. PP B. Smith and PP G. Worthington will undertake the MSFA Operations Manual Initiative, with the plans to have that manual printed by next June. The manual will include at least the Basic Guidelines of the Day-to-Day operations of the MSFA. This manual should be of great value for those who run for office in the MSFA, in particular the new incumbents. He has strengthened the Recruitment and Retention Committee by appointing M. Goodloe and J. Denver as co-chairs of the committee, and adding a number of new members. Hoby Howell is the new chair of the Safety Committee this year. M. Bilger has volunteered to chair the Statistical Committee. He thanked VP Balta for

Chairing this committee this past six months. He has eliminated the Rescue Committee, and is still reviewing the status of the Hazmat Committee. The Training Committee and the Standards Committee will cover the work of the Rescue Committee. He has strengthened the Publications and Bulletin Committee by adding PP R. Yinger as the Advertising Vice Chair, who will seek new revenue avenues, and Financial Secretary F. Cross will take care of the Billings. He has formed a Risk Management Committee to be chaired by C. Jewell, who will focus on our insurance needs and be available to respond to an increase of member companies, as well as to define and disseminate information of our clientele, dealing in the areas of property, liability and personal insurance, and including the possibility of health insurance. He has formed a Votec Sub-Committee under the Training Committee to recognize and coordinate the rapidly increasing counties that have the Votec in their communities, to help us recruit and train our brothers and sisters in the volunteer fire and rescue service. He said the Training Committee and the Low Interest Loan Fund Board are being reviewed and changes are being contemplated. He hopes to finalize these two committees, and have the first list of committees within the next 20 days. That copy will be sent out by the Secretary as an Email attachment. He said we should look again at membership in the National Volunteer Fire Council. He agrees we were all insulted in the past with our dealings with them, but they continue to be a spokesperson on the National level. He does not plan to send anyone to their meetings at this time, but do feel, we should renew our membership (that expired last year). Presently they are the only organized national voice for the volunteer fire service, and he is asking the Executive Committee to consider the issue. The officers will meet with the Legislative Committee before the August meeting, and develop our legislative goals for 2006. The Past President's of the MSFA have been the guize of our progress and he plans to rely heavily on them for their support, encouragement, criticism, and friendship, as a group they are the wisdom of our organization. He looks forward to serving with LAMSFA President B. McWilliams and her officers in the coming year. All of us need to work together to resolve the issues and move on to the next one. He promised his commitment to the Association this coming year and hopes to move the MSFA to an even better place in the coming year.

V.P. BALTA – Discussed his support for President Sachs and his plans for the coming year and thanked those responsible for the good work this past year, which was the Learning year for him. He is looking forward to this year, which is the Execution year (Analyze, Plan and Execute).

V.P. STERLING – He thanked everyone for their confidence in him, and is looking forward to the coming year and working with President Sachs and VP Balta, and is ready to serve for the betterment of the MSFA.

SECRETARY KING – congratulated the new officers and members of the Executive Committee, and looks forward to working with each of them in the coming year.

FINANCIAL SECRETARY F. CROSS and S. Schell – presented the Year To Date dollar totals (which include the Credit Card Sales and Exhibit totals), and the MSFA Convention Funds received as of 23 June 2005. He noted the Special Activities Committee took in about \$21,000 this week. Susan said the Boot Drive money is not included in this figure, and will be added to the numbers. Fred said the Golf Tournament is tomorrow and the final numbers will be figured after the tournament. R. Siarnicki gave the total collected on the Boot Drive as \$4,700. He thanked R. Snader and his group for the Credit Card operation this year. There was over \$5,000 collected in credit card sales this week.

TREASURER L. D'CAMERA – He expressed his pleasure at being here and looks forward to working with the Officers and Committee's this coming year. He said the transition from G. Curfman will take place in July.

TRUSTEES – S. HALES welcomed the new Trustees, G. Worthington and T. Thompson, and said the Trustees have met and the new Officers for this coming year are: S. Hales – Chairman, J. Means – Vice Chair, G. Worthington – Secretary. He thanked P. Hurlock for his many years of service with the Trustees and everyone appreciates the work he accomplished during that time. They are working on a claim for disability that will be reported at a later date. They have discussed the present issues and the claims received, with Attorney Powell.

On behalf of Ocean City, Steve thanked everyone for the help and cooperation with the parade yesterday.

LA-MSFA PRESIDENT McWILLIAMS – Introduced her new Officers here today. She said they are looking forward to working with the new MSFA Officers in the coming year. PP R. Connelly thanked everyone for the great cooperation given her and her officers this past year.

PRESIDENT SACHS introduced Buddy Staggeroff, President of Baltimore County Volunteer Firemen's Association.

CHAIR D. MOONEY – Welcomed the new members to the Executive Committee, and welcomed back the old members of last year.

COMMITTEES

BUDGET – S. Kesner discussed last year's Budget, and the newly proposed Budgets received and said some of them have been reduced. He said we are heading for an \$8,000 deficit over last year. He presented and discussed his written FY-2006 Budget. Once the Budget is approved, he will be talking to the Committee Chairs about their Budgets, and asked they do not spend any of their funds until he has

talked to them about it. The General Fund has a zero balance left. All of the funds was used, as they have maximized all of their resources at this time. He asked everyone to continue to use the electronic mail service, as this does keep our postage costs down. The following motion was made by C. Abrecht, and second by B. Kurtz as:

MOTION – To accept the new Budget as presented and recommended by S. Kesner.

Discussion: D. Alexander asked about the inclusion of the NVFC in the Budget, and why we would want to do that? President Sachs discussed this decision, saying it is his decision, as he feels we should relook at the situation, as it has been a year since we dropped out of the NVFC. He discussed the pro's and con's of the NVFC and their value to the MSFA. There is presently no other organization on the National level to do the bidding of the Volunteer Fire Service. We need someone, other than, and in addition to ourselves, to talk to our legislators for us. He agreed they do not always do what we ask them to do, but we still need someone at that level to talk to them for us. He is asking for \$400 for the membership. He is not asking for funds to send a representative to their meetings. W. Donaldson discussed his association with the NVFC of late, and said we are getting some input from them, and we do need someone to represent us at the National level. D. Mooney said the \$400 does not put us back into the NVFC until we approve doing so. We are now voting on the Budget that includes the \$400 in the event we do decide to rejoin the NVFC.

D. Alexander asked about the \$1000 for 17 State Circle capital improvement? Chair said years ago it was established that we would put \$1000 a year into improvements. A couple of years that money did not get put into the Budget. C. Austin said the need to replace the carpet is the only repairs that he sees in the near future.

After no further discussion, motion was approved by all.

SPECIAL ACTIVITIES – **M. Gouty** discussed the status of the sales this week at the convention. They took in \$14,525 in cash, and \$3,644 in credit card sales, for a total of \$18,169.00. She said everything they sold this week was new, as there was nothing left in the previous stock. She discussed the new items this year, and said most items have been sold out. The items sold this week ranged from \$2.00 to \$175.00.

WAYS & MEANS – **L. Jonske** reported on the Raffle Tickets sales this year. He said the Tickets for 2006 have already been printed and are available here today. He recognized and thanked those persons that were most helpful with ticket sales this past year. He discussed the many events attended to sell our MSFA Raffle Tickets. For the first time ever, the committee came to Ocean City with \$30,600 in total sales. This is an increase of \$9,200 over the previous year. The men out sold the Ladies this year with 60% of the sales, and the Ladies 40%. Counter sales at Ocean City produced \$6,709 and tickets returned with cash total of \$21,195. This gives us a total ticket sales for 2004-2005, of \$59,504. Harford County Volunteers were the highest Sales Group with sales totaling \$20,319. The highest sales person was Betty

Pilkerton who sold over 1,000 tickets. He thanked his committee (M. Vocke, Laurie Vocke, B. Balta, D. Cox, C. Cornes, B. Pilkerton, B. Lay, K. Ford, J. and Byne, J. Williams, H. Howell, and the late C. Riley) and his wife Anna for the great job they did this year. President L. Sachs bought the first ticket for 2006. He discussed their schedule of events they plan to attend to sell the tickets. After all costs, the final profit made this year was \$43,854.00.

FIRE PREVENTION QUEENS – Christy Gable and Amber Reamy expressed their gratitude and look forward to working with the MSFA. They have already started their schedule of events they plan to attend in the coming months. If any of our organizations or departments have an upcoming event they could attend, please let them know.

MEMORIAL – D. Mooney thanked L. King, W. Donaldson and those who have been a great help this past year with the project. He discussed upcoming fund raising events, especially the Bay Sox game on 10 July and the Gala on 30 July 2005. The ground breaking is scheduled for 11 September 2005, at 2:00 pm in Annapolis. G. Worthington said the Line of Duty Survey is due back by 1 July 2005. He said to be sure the forms are sent back, and all names are spelled correctly. They also need the Firefighter's picture and information, if possible.

DATA SYSTEMS AND CONVENTION– R. Snader discussed the technology changes this year at the convention, with a major change that the person running the show changed. Carlos did an excellent job this year and was recognized for it at this time by everyone. He also thanked R. Watkins and others for the pictures, and all of the committee for the great job done this week. He gave dvd's of the convention to PP Jacobs and the Installation to President Sachs (with the rest of convention to come later). The use of credit cards this year was a great help and enabled people to spend where they might not have. The convention was broadcast live this year. L. King thanked W. Donaldson for his committee's work, and Wylie said they grossed \$176,000 this year. The best year yet to his knowledge. L. King discussed the different Programs this year, and said all compliments go to him and the complaints go to W. Donaldson and R. Siarnicki. The Johnson Sausage Company was great and will be back again next year. The HubCaps event went well. He reminded everyone to be sure to thank the exhibitors, as they are a great asset to the convention. He thanked all of the many people and organizations involved with the convention this week. This year they also had High School students community service work done with us. He will hold a critique of the convention within the next 30 days, and everyone is welcome to attend.

MSP-AV – Major Hoch congratulated and thanked T. Thompson, B. Jacobs and R. Connelly for their help work, and support to the MSP-AV this past year. He presented a MSP-AV framed photo to them in appreciation. He also thanked the MSFA for their help and support of the MSP-AV this past year and looks forward to working with the new officers in 2006.

FIRE MARSHAL – B. Bernard thanked the MSFA for their continued help and support this past year, and looks forward to working with the new officers in the coming year.

AUDIT – J. Robison said the Audit Committee will meet in August to do the books for the new Treasurer and new year.

FFFF – R. Sairnicki said the Memorial Weekend this year will be October 6, 7, 8, and 9, 2005.

BALTIMORE VOL. FIREMEN’S ASSOCIATION – President Staggeroff discussed the importance of County Associations and the need for the NVFC to represent us on the National level. He expressed Baltimore’s pride in having their own L. Sachs as the MSFA President for 2005/2006. He wishes Lee and the MSFA their support and a good and successful year.

PRESIDENT SACHS – Thanked Chair Mooney and the Executive Committee for this meeting and looks forward to working with them in the coming year. He handed out to the Executive Committee a list of the elected and appointed Officers and Committees for 2005-2006.

NEXT EXECUTIVE MEETING – will be in Pikesville on 20 – 21 August, with Motel arrangements at the Days Inn in Townsend, priced at \$75 per night.

MSFA FOUNDATION – President Sachs said Attorney Powell has filed the Charter and the 501c3 Tax status form has been sent, and is being processed now by the IRS.

CLOSING PRAYER – Chaplain Hetz gave the closing prayer.

ADJOURNMENT – 1035 hours on motion by D. Cox, 2nd by C. Abrecht, and approved by all.

Respectfully submitted

Leonard T. King Sr, PP, Secretary
Joseph A. Cooper
Ronald E. Watkins
Jacqueline M. Olson
Frank J. Underwood

