



NEW HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION OF FIRE CHIEFS, INC.

Working Together to Make a Difference

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Minutes of a Meeting of the Board of Directors – October 6, 2021

Centennial Hotel, Concord, NH

Called to order by Chief Sitar at 0903 hours

Present: Chiefs Sitar, Beattie, Emanuel, Best, Rhodes, Thomas, Jones, Toomey and Executive Director Lemire.

Minutes of previous meeting: Motion (Best/Beattie) to approve the minutes from the September 1 meeting carried unanimously.

Financial Reports: Discussion ensued on the lack of the financial reports and the differences in Audit Committee reconciliation. Chief Thomas will speak to the Treasurer as the board was very concerned over the difference in balances.

Our lobbyist joined the meeting and distributed a preliminary list of bills and discussed the plans going forward. He asked chiefs to survey the list and flag any bills of importance. Of particular importance is LSR 2657 on changing the average compensation for retirement

Correspondence: Corey Clark needs the names of Chiefs willing to undergo clearance for the Secret Security Meetings. We will wait for a report from Marshal Toomey next meeting.

President's Report: (Sitar)

- He spoke at the Firefighters' Memorial ceremony. There were over 400 attendees.
- He attended the Governor's proclamation for Fire Prevention Week.
- The Crisis and Standard of Care Committee started up again. He is not sure of the content as of yet.

Chief Rhodes positively commented on Mary McCaffrie's presentation and asked about the non-profit status. Paperwork filled out as of late.

Report of the Executive Director: (Lemire)

- The Vendor Showcase was a success. Although we only had 18 vendors, we had 44 attendees which was positive. I was able to procure sponsorships to cover all of our expenses and my tally shows that we made \$2,466.00 on the event.
- Not sure if Chris and Steve have been able to have a financial report on the Golf Tournament yet.
- This meeting of the BOD is great but now we must pay for a minimum of 10 people. We only have 8 today. Also, if we can't meet in the dining room, we are charged a room rental for downstairs. I'd like to propose that we alternate months from virtual to in-person for board meetings as our budget will not sustain the 12 month rentals. (Checking bill vs. budget for next meeting)
- October 14 meeting will be a breakfast meeting at the NHFA.
- The notice and sign-up info for the November weekend will be going out shortly. Remember we need 25 couples to make this work. Also the costs are all-inclusive of rooms and meals for Saturday and Sunday. They are also giving us the house for our networking.
- Doug Aiken sent a boilerplate letter to be sent to Senator Shaheen requesting funding for certain key areas. Board members agreed to send the letter.
- Letters of recommendation for re-appointment have been sent for Chiefs Buxton and Clarke for FST and the thank you notes for the supplemental funding for NHFA courses have been sent to the principals involved.

1st Vice President's Report (Beattie)

- He spoke in front of the House Commerce committee last week about HB 343 on Balance Billing of Ambulance fees. No one supported the legislation submitted.
- He will be speaking at the NHMA Conference in Manchester on issues relating to the fire service, such as recruitment and retention.
- He met with the 5 families again and recruitment and retention was the main discussion. Director Cutting will be heading the old Recruitment and Retention Committee from NHAFC.
- He spoke with Fallon the other day about vaccination efforts and new vaccination sites.
- He will be attending the North Country Public Safety Awards banquet on October 29, as well as the Primex Collaborative seminar on October 27.

2nd Vice President's Report (Emanuel)

- He is keeping updated on legislation with support from Adam Schmidt.

Sgt. At Arms Report (Best) –

- He is watching on the proposal for nurse-triaging E-911 calls.

Marshal Toomey –

- He reported on the study committee on the Fire Code that is meeting this afternoon.

Chief Thomas reported that the Drug Overdose Committee met recently. He is concerned that they will not be able to report out on time. They have a contract approval pending from UNH to do a study.

New Business:

Old Business:

IAFC – (Christopoulos) – n/a

NED AFC – IAFC – (Jones) – n/a

Good and Welfare:

Capt. Jeff Whitcomb from Wilton has passed. Details online. Being looked at by FMO as he had been teaching at the Academy prior.

Upcoming Events: The monthly meeting will be held Thursday, October 14 at the NH Fire Academy at 0900 hours.

Meeting adjourned at 1014 hours.

Respectfully submitted,

Brent T. Lemire, MPA
Executive Director
NH Association of Fire Chiefs

October 6, 2021