



NEW HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION OF FIRE CHIEFS, INC.

Working Together to Make a Difference

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Meeting Minutes of the Board of Directors – December 6, 2023

Primex facility – Concord, NH

Called to order by Chief Emanuel at 0833 hours

Members present: Chiefs Emanuel, Watkins, Hunter, Chamberlain, Thomas, Fraitzl, Jones, Sitar and ED Lemire. Also present was Adam Schmidt, our Government Relations representative.

Minutes of previous meeting: Distributed and posted for meeting. A MOTION (Sitar/Fraitzl) to accept carried unanimously.

Financial Reports: Distributed via email. A MOTION (Thomas/Watkins) to approve October reports, carried unanimously.

Correspondence: n/a

Life Membership: n/a

Due to the resignation of Chief Best, the board conducted a formal vote to move remaining officers up and determine the feasibility of replacing an incumbent if they move into a board slot from the Directors list.

A MOTION (Fraitzl/Sitar) to advance the officers forward and appoint Chief David Chamberlain as Sgt. At Arms, carried unanimously.

The vacancy for Chief Chamberlain's position will be posted by the Executive Director.

Government Relations – (Schmidt)

Adam distributed a chart describing bills filed or intent to file by the legislature. He described some of them and stated that they will be monitoring closely. Discussion also ensued about hosting a Legislative Breakfast in May outside at the State House. Chiefs Fraitzl and Hunter will be looking into apparatus and ED Lemire

Report of the President (Emanuel)

CFSI 2024: On April 24-25, 2024, the Congressional Fire Services Institute (CFSI) will host the 34th Annual National Fire and Emergency Services Symposium and Dinner in Washington, DC.

Save the date and determine who should be attending. <https://www.cfsi.org/34th-annual-national-fire-and-emergency-services-symposium-and-dinner/>

NHMA Conference:

“Zap the Gap: How to Make Peace & Work Effectively in a Multigenerational World.” will be held Wednesday and Thursday, November 15-16th at the DoubleTree by Hilton Downtown Manchester Hotel, Manchester, NH.

The NHAFC presentation, **A Fire Chief's Perspective on Contemporary Leadership and Personnel Challenges**, happened on **Thursday, November 16, 2023 at 2:30 p.m. - 3:45 p.m.** in the **Webster Room**.

Fire Department Safety Officer Association:

Emanuel suggested that members look at the FDSOA conference in January. <https://www.fdssoa.org/page-18155>

NFPA Chiefs' Forum:

NFPA HQ in Quincy with representatives from most of the 50 states and each of the Canadian providences. Discussions about codes, NFPA, programs, challenges.

USFA DEI Feedback:

The IAFC is conducting a study on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) in Fire and EMS within the United States to determine:

- How critical workplace issues related to DEI - such as harassment, bullying, leadership, recruitment, and retention - impact the fire and emergency service
- How definitions of diversity, equity, and inclusion in fire and EMS vary
- Regional variance in attitudes toward DEI
- The cultural readiness for change

Data collected through this form is completely anonymous. Respondents will not be asked to provide any personal identification information and we do not collect any data that would trace responses back to any one individual or organization.

We ask that you please take the time to complete the feedback form and share the link with your colleagues. The data collected through this process will be used to generate a report on the status of DEI in the American fire and emergency service. Help us make a positive cultural impact on the fire/EMS service today!

The link: <https://survey123.arcgis.com/share/bda4d29d9527412ea38cf6e4cb954ebf>

EO/PFF Career Development - education funding group – Final meeting on December 12th. Goal to open funding applications in January.

EV State Workgroup - cancelled December meeting because there had not been any new information or recommendations presented. NHAFC should focus on sharing information from NFPA, NIST, UL.

Report of the Executive Director: (Lemire)

- The December 14 meeting will be a luncheon meeting at the Fireside in Lebanon.
- Chiefs Best, Hunter, Watkins, Lemire and Carrier attended the North Country Public Safety Awards dinner on November 10.
- Starting to work on pricing out the CFSI event to determine attendees. (Possibly 6)
- The January association meeting will be virtual.
- Working on February, possibly a ski opportunity?
- March meeting....discussion.
- Searching for a venue for the April Annual Meeting. Manchester site unavailable. Looking at the Common Man in Plymouth again, Chief Morrison is checking on space as we'd like to have the Vendor Showcase there also.

Discussion ensued as to the types of meetings to be held. It was decided to have one virtual meeting, one breakfast meeting and one luncheon or dinner meeting per quarter.

It was also decided to virtually engage the professional development committee asap to discuss opportunities for programs each quarter.

ED Lemire also mentioned that he was to contact Director Cutting to see if we could be notified when a new chief comes on board in a municipality. Chief Jones asked if they could receive the same information.

1st Vice President's Report (Watkins) – n/r

2nd Vice President's Report (Hunter) – n/r

Sgt. At Arms Report (Chamberlain) – n/r

IAFC – NED – (Jones/S. Murray) –

Chief Jones shared that he does not have any financial data yet from the conference. They are thinking of exploring EMS credentialing. They are also discussing different venues. He also thanked the group for their support as he moves forward to the Presidency of the NE Division.

New Business:

Old Business: Deputy Chief Craig Clough has been appointed to the Trauma Medical Review Board representing the NHAFC by Commissioner Quinn.

Motion to adjourn carried at 1038 hours.

Respectfully submitted,

Brent T. Lemire, MPA
Executive Director

December 6, 2023