

Columbia County Chief's Association  
General meeting November 19, 2013

Meeting was called to order by President: Mark Sheline

Members were welcomed by Lebanon valley Protective Association Fire Chief  
Bud Godfrey.

Motion by Greg Gilliland/Jim Van Deusen to accept the corrected reading of the previous General meeting minutes – Carried.

The minutes of the previous Board of Directors' meeting were read for informational purposes.

Motion by Bill Hunt/Tom Rector to accept the Treasurer's Report as read by Russ Wheeler – Carried. A copy of the report is attached to these minutes.

Coordinators report: John Howe stated: The Fire Coordinators' Office has responded to 9 incidents since the last meeting. One Battalion response for a brush fire and the office rendered 2 assists to law enforcement. One to the NYSP for a suspicious bottle and one to Hudson Police for a possible Haz-Mat incident.

The Coordinators Office attended 37 meetings since our last meeting, with two of those being Battalion meetings. The Battalion meetings were well attended with 82 Fire Officers attending, presentations from OFPC, Columbia County Emergency Management and the New York State Police were well received.

To date 25 Fire schools have been completed with 435 students attending representing 11,648 student hours.

John attended a Southern District Fire Coordinators meeting in Orange County with a number of topics discussed. Most notable is a re-vamp of the Firefighter 1 program to meet the new NFPA standards, due to take effect in June 2014.

There have been a number of incidents of suspicious activity around rescue and fire facilities recently. E-mail has been sent to all Department Chiefs to make their members aware of this and to obtain a detailed description as well as promptly notify a police agency in the event of an occurrence.

The bids for a radio shelter and site work associated with the Copake Radio Tower have been received and awarded. We are currently awaiting the completion of the site work to finish this phase of the radio project.

It is the intention of the Coordinators' Office and the 911 Director to meet with each individual Fire Company beginning in early 2014 to detail the radio project as it stands at this time.

Fire Safety: A very large group attended at Dalmatian Day and thanks to those who helped.

J-Fire: Bill Hunt reported 1 more candidate and there are 3 persons interested in joining the team. If anyone is interested please let him know.

Legislative: Bills signed by the governor: Ban on Novelty Lights, Blood Glucose Test Fee, Increase Lending Amounts for Emergency Service Revolving Loans.

Bills: A motion to pay the bills George Huston/Richard Lindmark - Carried.

Communications: A thank you note was received from Jim Briscoe with his sincere appreciation. A letter was received from Stuyvesant Fire Company in reference to purchasing an ad in the Annual Yearbook for the Convention in 2014.

A thank you card was received from the Board and Staff at the Home for help on Dalmatian Day.

Old Business: Ben Wheeler presented a possible change to the by-laws to accommodate situations such as; when a firefighter may no longer be eligible to be a member of the association under normal circumstances, but might continue to remain a member of the association.

John Howe made the motion to forward the proposal as an amendment to the by-laws for 30 days and bring it to the next general meeting for a vote. The motion 2nd by George Huston - Carried.

New Business: Motion to purchase a ½ page ad in the yearbook at a cost of \$90.00 George Huston/Jim Briscoe - Carried.

The Schedule of Meeting Locations for 2014 are as follows:

General Meetings

January 21st - Ghent

March 18th - Philmont

May 20th - Mellenville

July 15th - Claverack

September 16th - Tri-Village

November 18th - Lebanon Valley

Directors' Meetings - The Vander Built Inn, Philmont

February 18th

April 15th

June 17th

August 19th

October 21st

December 16th

Election of Officers: Ben Wheeler presented the list of nominations as:

President - Mark Sheline

1st Vice President - Tom Rector

2nd Vice President - George Huston

Directors: Mike Briscoe - Chairman

Jose Ortiz

Ben Wheeler

Wally Engel

Dick Howard

Jim Van Deusen

The Secretary cast one ballot, John Howe 2nd the motion - Carried.

Ben Wheeler made the motion to re-elect Jim Briscoe to the Fire Advisory board for a 3 year term, 2nd by Richard Lindmark - Carried

Jim Van Deusen made the motion to elect Greg Gilliland to a 3 year term on the Fire Advisory Board, 2nd by Bill Hunt - Carried.

Ben Wheeler/Bill Hunt motion to re-elect Russ Wheeler, Treasurer and Irene Huston , Secretary - Carried.

A short discussion was held concerning the order in which to fill a vacant Director's position. Russ Wheeler will write-up and present at the next general meeting a proposal to amend the by-laws to state that the directors should automatically move up.

John Howe asked the Secretary to send the names of the 2 members to the Advisory Board ASAP, in time for the meeting of Nov. 26th.

Jim Van Deusen asked the secretary to send a sympathy card to the wife of former President, H. Foster Hettesheimer.

Raffle: This year's winners were:

1st - Ted Beck, Stuyvesant Falls

2nd - Deb Brown. Germantown

3rd - Anna Doryea, Massachusetts

There was a moment of silence for Foster Hettesheimer.

For the Good of the Company: Per Dick Howard the Philmont Santa Claus Club Parade will be December 14th.

Ancram will be hosting an open house in July.

50/50: Was won by Dick Howard.

Next Board of Directors meeting will be December 17th at the Vanderbuilt in Philmont.

Next General meeting will be January 21st at the Ghent fire Station.

Motion to adjourn Richard Lindmark/John Howe - Carried.

Secretary,  
Irene Huston