

**New England Division  
International Association of Fire Chiefs  
February 13, 2015  
Board of Directors Meeting**

Members Present:

President William Saint Michel  
1<sup>st</sup> VP Robert Spurr  
2<sup>nd</sup> VP Steve Locke  
Secretary/Treasurer John Wood

Exhibitors; Tom Simonelli

Not Present; Chris Christopoulos  
Tim McLaughlin  
Rev. Gary Blume

International Director  
Gerard Dio

State Directors:  
Michael Bucossi, VT  
John Duross, ME  
Kenneth Richards, CT  
Charlie Doody, MA

Immediate Past President  
Michael Varney

President opened meeting at 08:30.

Pledge to the flag and invocation by Ken Richards

Secretary/Treasurer Report  
Minutes from the previous meeting were approved.

Atlanta FRI – the Division hotel is the Omni and is the IAFC headquarters' hotel as well. The luncheon meeting will be Thursday from 12:00 - 13:30.

May annual meeting and seminars – meeting and seminars space at the hotel is set with hotel staff coming in at 10:00 to take the board on a tour. The board toured the hotel space to determine if the space available would meet the needs. There was discussion about changing the seminar room in case we exceeded the 150 capacity of the room. We were shown larger rooms that were not available to us. The hotel would contact the other group who had booked the space to see if they would swap room with us. If that was not a possibility the board agreed to cap the registrations at 150.

Vendor space is limited with 6-8 booth spaces available in the entry way and hallway. The board would like the secretary to discuss other hotel room options for vendor space. The board would like to include breaks and lunch in the same room to provide additional activity in the vendor's space by attendees. If there is no hotel space available for vendors we'll only allow 6-8 vendors, using a 6 foot table as a booth. We are not selling booth space but Gold and Platinum sponsors will be allowed to set a booth up if space is available.

Setting up a Pay Pal account on the web page for credit card use for those attendees that might want to register on line and pay with credit card was presented and discussed. Board felt it was a good thing to have

available. They did not think it would be used a lot, there is no cost associated with it, other than the fee for a transaction; secretary will move forward with setting up the account.

Golf Shirts-Tom Simonelli offered to provide golf shirts for the board in exchange for a booth in May. The board agreed and appointed Chief Locke to work with Tom Simonelli to develop and select shirts for the board. This same shirt will be sold at the May event by Tom Simonelli and a 20% royalty would be paid to the division.

Board expenses at the annual meeting and seminar were discussed. Because of budget concerns and the loss of revenue from the previous joint conference the board decided to pay the expenses of board members as we have done in the past; hotel room, conference registration, and meals, but, if board members have funding in their budgets to pay these expenses the board would encourage a board member pay the expenses. It would be left up to each individual board member to decide which method of payment would be used. The general feeling was; this is a good approach to reduce expenses, but wants a board member to feel comfortable with the Division paying expenses for those with their own budget restraints.

#### Treasurer's Report

Pay all bills and accept the financial report as presented.

#### President Report

President spoke about appointments for committees and was involved in the many executive board discussion. He appointed Joe Bernard, Assistant Fire Marshal from Vermont to the ICC committee to replace Robert Patterson.

Reported that the letter to the NEAFC was sent regarding the Division exercising the 90 day clause of the contract.

He would like to thank those officers that participated in the Fire Service Leadership conference call and for taking time from their busy schedule.

Bruce Phillips and I attended the peer review program for the Fire Act Grant.

The Portland Fire Chief and his Administrative Assistant attended the meeting to show support and discuss the activities they are planning during the May annual meeting. There will be a bus shuttle to Old Port in downtown to tour the museum and fire boat. The shuttle will start 17:30 and will continue until 22:00.

Discussion took place about a fund raiser for the Portland Fire Museum. The board decided to have a 50/50 raffle during the seminar and provide a tip jar on the vans for the fund raiser all earnings would go to the Fire Museum fund. We would also allow book signing and sale of books by one of the Portland Firefighters.

#### International Director

Chief Gerard Dio reviewed the IAFC Board minutes with the group.

#### Vice President Reports

Chief Robert Spurr announced he and Chief Charles Doody would be contacting and doing site visits at hotels in MA to determine city locations for next years annual meeting and seminars.

#### State Director Reports

See attached written reports

## Committee Reports

Seminar-Chief Ken Richards reported that certificates for the seminars will be available to the attendee during lunch.

GPO/Bookstore-Chief Chris Christopoulos would like to find a new committee officer for this task. No volunteers at this time.

Constitution and By-laws Chief Locke will be attending a meeting next month.

Elections committee- Chief Robert Spurr announced there are two candidates for second vice president of the IAFC, but nothing else is going on at this time.

## New Business

### Old Business

Mike Varney reported he attended the MA Fire Chiefs Professional Development program with the division booth. Recruited four new members and has 10 good leads. He will be going to Maine in March with the booth for the Maine Fire Chiefs annual meeting and seminars.

### Exhibitors

Tom Simonelli spoke about the vendors recognize that the fire service in New England is fractured. Vendors can only do so many shows in a year.

He also reported that the Exhibitors Association Board of Directors voted to disband the organization. He thinks the Division moving to a different State each year will be good for vendors in the regional area. This will be the last meeting Tom will attend for the exhibitors, and he will no longer be attending the Association's meeting after next week.

President St. Michel thanked Tom for his help, information, and attending our meeting over the years. He asked Tom if he would be willing to attend our meeting to provide feedback on exhibitor's issues. Tom agreed.

### Other

Meeting adjourned 13:30