

**New England Division
International Association of Fire Chiefs**

February 15, 2018
Springfield Sheraton Hotel, MA

Members Present:

President Chris Christopoulos

1st VP Tim McLaughlin

2nd VP Kenneth Richards

Secretary/Treasurer John Wood

Guest; Past Pres. Robert Spurr, Avon, MA

Past Pres. Michael Varney, 1st Net

Dr. Frank W. Maletz, Presenter

James Spellman, Presenter

International Director

Chief Steve Locke

Not Present;

Rev. Gary Blume,

Chief Steve Achilles, NH

State Directors:

Chief Michael Bucossi, VT

Chief John Duross, ME

Chief James McLaughlin, RI

Chief Peter J Starkel, CT

Chief Charlie Doody, MA

Immediate Past President

Chief Steve Locke

Meeting Called to order by President Christopoulos at 08:30.

Kenneth Richards gave invocation and pledge to the flag.

Presentation Opioid Epidemic, Shine A Light On Heroin (SALOH)

Presentation to the board by the two presenters named above. The topic was Addiction How It Happens Awareness, Prevention, and Treatment. But mostly about the opioid/narcotic/psychoactive substance abuse and war on drugs. To include the lack of commitment by our governments and leaders to address the issue proactively. Focused on these topics; normal brain, addicting brain, treatment/recovery, hope/next, prevention, stigma, rehabilitation/repatriation/support, scope/scale of the issues. Afghanistan role in the drug issues of America (see attached notes in the minutes).

Secretary Report

Minutes of the November 15, 2017 meeting minute's where approved and accepted by the board.

FRI is in Dallas, the division will be staying at the Omni, lunch will be at noon on Thursday of that week.

Treasurer Report

Motion made to accept the treasurer report and pay all bills. The board discussed the finances of the division and the need to work on getting sponsors for the annual meeting and meeting with the State Chiefs to pay for hotel rooms for one night of those attending and meals for that day.

President Report

President Christopoulos discussed a desire to contact and meet with the executive board of the NEAFC to talk about the future of both organizations. The meeting will follow this meeting today. He would like for the presidents, and vice presidents from both organizations to have an open discussion regarding a merger of both organizations.

ICC appointments by the president are; Robert Buxton, Hudson Fire Department, NH., Michael A. DeMello Bristol Fire Department, RI., Michael Laracy, Stoughton Fire Department, MA.

Fire Code Action Committee, waiting to hear if the appointment is final for Sean P. Toomey, Concord Fire Department, NH.

Names from the division have been submitted to take part in the Fire Act peer review process. The names are given to the IAFC who then submits to FEMA.

This year there is a large group of candidates for the 2nd Vice President's position (IAFC) because the previous elected chief had to resign. Chief Robert Spurr sits on the election committee explained to the board all the issues with the positions of 1st and 2nd Vice President's position as well as, the election for president.

Motion made to support Dan Eggleston for president of the IAFC, motion passed.

GPO is having a dinner at CFSI and they have invited the division officers to attend.

International Director Report

The IAFC will be moving into its new building in March 4-6, 2018. All board members received the minutes of the IAFC board meetings as they come out. If anyone has a question please feel free to call or email Chief Locke.

Committee Reports

Seminar all set.

By-law committee-there are a few changes to address because of the State Law in NY for removing officers. This will be addressed soon either in a face to face committee meeting or by conference call.

New Business

Motion made in order by Chiefs Richards and James McLaughlin to have a position paper drafted on Opioid Epidemic in America. Chief Richards will draft the position paper which would then be sent to each New England State to be put on web pages and Facebook and any other available source that would help to encourage action/awareness. Position paper would be ready for the annual meeting in April for approval. Motion passed

Old Business

Michael Varney spoke about 1st Net and AT&T build out and the new technology coming and available now. More to come about this at the April meeting.

Strategic Plan update worked through a few items during this meeting and will complete the update on April 3, 2018, at 16:00-18:00.

Meeting adjourned at noon.