

CHESTER COUNTY FIRE POLICE ASSOCIATION
Meeting Minutes
January, 2007

We were welcomed to the Ludwigs Corner Fire Company by their representative, Joel Gramling.

President Margie Espenship called the January meeting of the Chester County Fire Police Association to order at 2:15 PM on January 7, 2007. Emilia Miller gave the invocation. The President led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chief Devin Guth welcomed the Association to their fire company and extended a "thank you" to the fire police, whom he felt were underappreciated.

The Recording Secretary took roll call of Officers. All were present.

Recording Secretary, Eileen Amatrudo, read the minutes from the previous meeting. Tom Cole made a motion and Emilia Miller seconded the motion that they be approved as read. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: President Margie Espenship stated the 2006 audit had been completed and that all was in order. As of 12/31/2006 there was \$1822.01 in the checking account. All books had been turned over to the Treasurer, Stan Heist.

Margie also asked if we could change the donation in Willard's honor to go to the Oxford Fire Police instead of the Oxford Fire Company. The membership approved.

Directors' Report(s): None

Fire Police Commissioner's report: None.

Executive Board report: None

Committee(s)' reports:

Banquet Committee: appointed to this committee – Emilia Miller, Charlie Lobb and Joel Gramling. There will be a BBQ at the May meeting.

Fire Chiefs' Assn: John Neff reported there was no movement on the radio system.

Motion to pay bills: From 2006: \$100 in memory of Willard Ayers, \$47.24 – John Sciandra for refreshments, \$75.25 – postage. Motion made by John Neff, seconded by John Sciandra. Motion carried. For 2007: \$24.28 to Charlie Lobb for sodas, Motion made by Bob Massey, seconded by Emilia Miller. Motion carried.

Correspondence: Margie Espenship read a letter from Rep. Curt Schroder with answers to the questions from the November meeting. Eileen Amatrudo read a letter of thanks for help at the state parade from Clinton Wakefield from Conshohocken and a letter from Tom Kupezenski from Berks County with a schedule of classes being held in Berks.

Margie Espenship distributed her annual letter to those present since they didn't get out in the mail.

Joel Gramling introduced Chief John DeMarco of Upper Uwchlan Township Police Department. Chief DeMarco gave an informative and entertaining presentation on the working relationship between the police and the fire police. Chief DeMarco also stressed the importance of training and communication.

New Membership Applications:

James Lomartire – Thorndale
Dan Gaddis –Twin Valley
Elizabeth W. Hillaps – Twin Valley
Percy Trumbower – Martin's Corner
Michael A. Maciejewski - Martin's Corner

David Reed – Valley Forge
Margaret P. Touchton – Wagontown
Crystal Brackin – West Grove
Ashley Riley – West Grove
Chris Hocking – Avondale

Motion made by Jim Bohl, seconded by Joel Gramling to accept these new members. Motion carried.

Old business:

We did receive the PA Laws Relating to Emergency Services Organizations books from Rep. Curt Schroder's office. These were available for the taking at the January meeting.

A proposed by-law change to the duties of the Treasurer (attached) was read by Margie Espenship. There were some issues with the wording. And some discussion on whether the specifics should be removed from the by-laws and put in a Procedures document. The by-law change was tabled. Jim Ploumis offered to help the by-laws committee with the wording.

Due to the great turnout at our January meeting Ruthann Sciandra ran out of both County and State membership applications. She will get more for next meeting.

New business:

2006 President Margie Espenship passed the presidential gavel of the CCFPA to 2007 President Joel Gramling. Joel thanked Margie for all her work during the past seven years of her presidency. He presented flowers and an award to Margie which read: " Margie Espenship President of CCFPA 1999- 2006. Thank you for all your dedicated service."

Joel Gramling re-appointed John Neff to represent the Association at the Chester County Fire Chiefs' Assn. Joel communicated with the Police Chiefs Board and their contact is Jim McGowen, Downingtown Police Chief. Joel gave out his cell number so everyone can contact him with issues. He wanted to stress safety for all and communications, both on the job and amongst ourselves. Please keep us updated with email addresses. Joel Gramling and Linda Gramling attend the Delaware County Fire Police Assn. meeting.

Training was discussed.

- Thirty-seven FP officers took the advanced training programs and certification test at Westwood.
- Dan Delaney had suggested the need for inter-county training drills with your neighboring stations.
- Task force operations
 - o Need to clean up response
 - o Got to work together
 - o Traffic units are wanted on these calls
- John Neff stated the Highway Incident class will be offered at either East Brandywine or Westwood.

In the interest of time the Role Call of new officers was bypassed.

Charlie Lobb stated we needed something to pass from President to President and he provided the Orange Traffic Cone which Margie Espenship passed to Joel Gramling.

Ed Tracey, on behalf of the Coatesville Fire Company, thanked everyone for their help during the Christmas parade.

Our next meeting is March 4, 2007.

50/50 winners: Jim Lomartire, Jim Connor, and Linda Gramling.

President Joel Gramling thanked the Host Company.

A motion was made by Tom Cole to adjourn the meeting, seconded by John Sciandra. Motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 3:55 PM. One guest and 56 members representing 27 stations were present.

Respectfully submitted,
Eileen Amatrudo, Recording Secretary