



METROPOLITAN FIRE MARSHAL'S ASSOCIATION MEETING MINUTES

DATE: MAY 14, 2008

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:
9:10 A.M.

Guest: Gerald Keys, City of Brentwood

Attendees:

Denis Drozkowski, Maryland Heights FPD
Teresa Cross, Mehlville FPD
John Bennett, Guarantee Electric
Mike Henke, Potter Electric
Michael Mahler, Sprinkler Fitters #268
Robin Tobe, Olivette FD
Steve Gettemeier, Florissant Valley FPD
Paul Richard, Pattonville FPD
Dave Nichols, Monarch FPD
John LaVenture, St. Louis Sprinkler Alliance
FPD
Paul Mercurio, Clayton FD

Tony Carlson, Tech Electronics
Dan Flynn, Firestoppers
Gerald Keys, City of Brentwood
Ken Schneider, Sprinkler Fitters #268
Marc Ulses, Frontenac FD
Dennis Woods, City of Creve Coeur
Ron Chac, Laclede Gas
Dan Abert, Yale Enforcement Services
Bill Fox, Shrewsbury FD
Gerald Ambroseccia, West Overland

Minutes:

There being no meeting in April, no minutes were approved for April. Minutes from the March meeting were motioned for approval by Dave Nichols and 2nded by Denis Drozkowski. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report:

The March beginning balance was \$6,811.99 with a deposit in March of \$100.00 bringing the March ending balance to \$6,911.99. April deposits were \$500.00 from the Jefferson County Fire Marshal's Seminar and \$25.00 for membership dues. The April ending balance was \$7,436.99. Russ Todd motioned for approval and John LaVenture 2nded and motion passed.

New Members: The following were read for new member approval. A motion was made and seconded for approval.

1st Reading: Gerald Keys, City of Brentwood
2nd Reading:

Communications:

A draft resolution was received regarding the next version of the International Residential Code requiring fire sprinklers in 1 & 2 Family Dwellings and Townhomes. Bill Fox made a motion to approve the resolution and the motion was 2nded by Mike Mahler. Motion passed unanimously.

Communication was received regarding an alarm code update class and fire sprinkler options.

A letter was received from Walter Simmons requesting this organization's endorsement and votes for Mr. Simmons bid to become a Director of the International Code Council (ICC).

Committee Reports:

Fire Chiefs: John La Venture

John indicated BJC was at the Chiefs meeting discussing health screenings.

Chief's Awards Committee: Dennis Drozkowski

Dennis called for nominations for the chief's annual award.

Professional Code Committee: John LaVenture

The next meeting will be tomorrow, May 15, 2008.

Grant Committee: Steve Gettemeier

This will be the last time this committee will be included in the minutes. The committee has been dropped.

Education Committee: Brian Leuthauser

John indicated there will be a Life Safety Seminar on July 17, 2008 at the sprinkler fitter's union hall, 1544 S. Third St, St. Louis. This seminar will be sponsored in conjunction with the following organizations: Jefferson County Fire Marshals Association, Missouri Association of Building Officials and Inspectors, St. Charles County Association of Code Officials and the St. Louis Fire Sprinkler Alliance. The presenters will be Chief Azarang (Ozzie) Mirkhah, PE, EFO, CBO of Las Vegas, Nevada Fire & Rescue, Chief Shane Ray of the Pleasant View, Tennessee Fire Department and Julius Ballanco, PE and President of JB Engineering and Code Consulting, based in Munster, Indiana.

There was discussion regarding a field trip to the hospital where directional sounders have been installed.

There was discussion regarding Fire Team USA and residential fire sprinklers.

See MABOI committee below for further comments regarding an upcoming seminar.

Fire Prevention Week:

This committee has also been dropped.

IAAI: Dave Nichols

Congratulations to Dave Nichols who has been re-elected 2nd Vice President of the organization. Dave indicated there are issues with regards to the membership system. The annual conference is scheduled for this week at the Resort at Port Arrowhead at the Lake of the Ozarks.

Web Site: Paul Mercurio

Paul discussed using the website more for meeting notifications. Paul indicated he is satisfied with the new webmaster. There is a password to be used to update building permit information. There was discussion on linking with other websites, including the AGC for information regarding building permit requirements.

State Fire Marshals: Roger Herin

Steve Gettemeier reported the annual conference will be August 7-9 at Tan-Tar-A at the Lake of the Ozarks. The next meeting will be June 6, 2008 at the Division of Fire Safety in Jefferson City. There was discussion of President Jason Webb's appearing on a news video in Kansas City regarding light weight residential construction. Tech Electronics donated \$300.00 for the conference.

MABOI: Greg Breher

Greg was not present at the meeting. Steve Gettemeier commented on the difficulty in getting items posted on the MABOI website, especially the upcoming fire alarm seminar. Steve indicated both organizations (MFMA & MABOI) are target audiences. There was general discussion on this seminar, which will be held June 24th at the St. Louis Fire Academy, 1266 Sutter Ave, St. Louis.

State Chapter: Greg Breher

ICC: Ed Berkel

Membership: Russ Todd

Russ indicated he will have a current membership number by the next meeting.

Laclede Gas: Ron Chac

Ron discussed people stealing the copper gas lines from vacant buildings and leaving the gas on, making for a dangerous situation.

Logo: John Walk

No Report

Legislative Report: Lou Hecht

No Report

JeffCO FMA: Lloyd Montgomery

No Report

St. Louis Sprinkler Alliance: Wally Miller

John LaVenture reported the organization is donating a fire sprinkler system to a Jerseyville, IL family that suffered a home fire. They are working with the Jerseyville water purveyor. There was discussion on an offer to provide a firefighter with a new home from the national organization.

AAGSL: Dan Abert

Dan spoke on the Alarm Association's annual golf tournament to be held at Pevely Farms Golf Club on October 7, 2008. The expo and training will take place on October 8, 2008 at the Holiday Inn – Viking on Watson Rd. in St. Louis. There will be a press conference to go along with fire safety week.

PIO: John LaVenture / Scott Barthelmass

John indicated Scott is getting information out to the media. There was an article in the West News Magazine regarding residential fire sprinklers.

Old Business:

None

New Business:

Dan Flynn brought up the Fire Museum at the St. Louis Mills Mall is celebrating their 4th anniversary and the museum is always looking for volunteers. He also discussed meeting with larger general contractors and the AGC regarding better communication between this organization and theirs. He indicated the

Executive Director of the AGC is interested in getting involved with this organization. There was discussion on general contractors having problems with certain Fire Marshals and if this organization could assist in that area.

Roundtable:

None

Good of the Order:

It was mentioned that George Merkel's funeral was last week. Paul Mercurio stated how George was a charter member of this organization. Steve Gettemeier spoke on the St. Louis County Fire Academy Board of Directors meeting and how this organization would like to be more involved with the Academy. John LaVenture stated that SCACCO had a speaker address special inspections at their meeting. Steve mentioned Radio Disney was asking for support from local fire districts and a representative of theirs wanted to speak to this organization.

The code change for residential sprinklers is RB #64 which would be effective 1/1/2011. There is also a resolution relating to trade offs.

Program:

None

Announcements:

Next meeting will be June 11, 2008 in at the Kirkwood Community Center

Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 10:45 am.

Respectfully Submitted:

Russell Todd, CBO
Building Official/Fire Marshal
City of Maplewood