Metro Chiefs Executive Board Meeting Minutes

Saturday, April 6, 2013

Executive Board Members Present

Steve Dean, President
Keith Bryant, Vice President
Larry Few, Secretary
Ken Block, Treasurer
Rhoda Mae Kerr, Board Member
Bill Stewart, Senior Board Member
Mike Grant, Alternate Board Member
Ned Pettus, Jr., Immediate Past President

Staff Support Members Present

Luther Fincher, IAFC/NFPA Board Representative
Vicki Lee, IAFC Liaison
Russ Sanders, Executive Secretary

Phoenix & Baltimore Staff Members

Bob Khan, Chief, Phoenix Fire Department
Todd Harms, Assistant Chief, Phoenix Fire Department
Kevin Roche, Assistant to the Chief, Phoenix Fire Department
Katie Harms, Conference Coordinator, Phoenix Fire Department
Jim Clack, Chief, Baltimore City Fire Department

Agenda

Call to Order – Dean

Welcome everyone to the meeting and introduce Host Chiefs and Conference Coordinators – Dean

Overview of the Conference – Host Chiefs & Conference Coordinators (Chiefs Khan & Harms will present the overview)

- 109 chief officers and 65 partners registered.
- 170 sponsors.
- Drawings will be held during the Sponsor Appreciation event.
- Sponsor feedback meeting – Wednesday at 8 am.
- $525,000 total sponsorships.

- Sponsor gifts this year will be donations to the charity of the sponsor's choice.
- Senior Metro Chiefs members who are still active in the fire service will be using their current position titles.
- Sponsor recognition will occur at start of the sessions after coming back from a break (they have been asked to tell the group three things about the company that the chiefs may not know about).
- Recommendation for the Metro Chiefs to take over the development of the website and pass it on to each host city, and to expand the capabilities for name badge printing, attendee list, adding flight information after registering, separating chiefs and sponsor registration, etc. (Dean will appoint a Metro Chiefs task group to study this issue and report back to the Board.)
- Sponsorships currently run from $1,500 – $25,000 – recommendation to raise the minimums for the low and high ends of this range. Dean will appoint a Metro Chiefs task group (Kerr, as treasurer, will be the chair) to review this issue and advise the sponsors that it will be addressed.
- The alcohol line item is very expensive with open bars at all events. Many hotels have restrictions on bringing in alcohol – may need to negotiate this.

Overview of the Speakers' Program – Bryant

- Review of speaking schedule – Dr. Greg Mears will be speaking instead of Dr. Lori Moore-Merrell.
- Invited the economist from last year's FRI Metro Chiefs Track but his speaking fee was more than allowed by Metro Chiefs policy, and the schedule was already mostly full.
- Possible addition of presentation on the Affordable Care Act (Jeff Clark from Chandler Fire Department).

2014 Baltimore Conference Update – Clack

- Marriott Camden Yards (2 blocks from Camden Yards/5 blocks from the Inner Harbor).
- Dates are May 31 – June 5, 2014.
- Next year Baltimore also has a sailing regatta and the Preakness.
- The golf outing will be at Renditions golf course.
- The conference staff is encouraged to call Russ with any questions and to keep him updated regularly on all planning activities (Deputy Chief Mark Wagner is lead; he helps coordinate the IAFC HazMat Conference each year).

Review of Business Meeting Agendas Days 1-3 – All Members

- Day 1 – Pettus will provide the nominating committee report (Brooks) and issue a call for the 2016 conference nominations (DuRee – Long Beach; maybe McKearney – Vancouver).

- Day 2 – Conduct voting. All officer and board member reports. Actions/resolutions from the floor (NFFF, HFSC are currently submitted).
- Day 3 – Program reports. Possible addition of a presentation on the Affordable Health Care Act by Jeff Clark from the Chandler (AZ) Fire Department.

Old Business

Home Fire Sprinkler Coalition – Fincher has submitted all required paperwork to the E-Board for the Metro to continue as an affiliate member and pay 2013-2014 dues of $2,000.

NFFF – Ron Siarnicki has submitted all required paperwork to the E-Board for the Metro to continue its long-standing tradition of supporting the National Fallen Fire Fighters Foundation at $5,500.

Endorsing Candidates

- Discussion about including IAFC 2nd Vice President and IAFC Treasurer Metro Chiefs endorsement information in the January email that goes out to all members soliciting interest in running in the election and for hosting the conference. Sanders to develop a policy for review by the board.
    - Include language that endorsements are only offered to approved IAFC candidates.
    - Current practice is that if there are two members running, the Metro Chiefs doesn't endorse and support either. It was emphasized that this is a past practice and not a policy and that the membership is free to endorse a Metro Chief when more than one member is running for office.

New Business

Metro Conference Website – Sanders has been asked to create a permanent Metro Conference website. He contacted Pulse Network, which does the registration section of the NFPA conference website, to get an idea of costs. They provided an estimate of $2,000 upfront to take the Phoenix site and make it the permanent template with an additional $1,500 to $2,000 annual fee to update it each year. IAFC is not able to take this project on so Dean will stand up a committee to explore the options and then engage a sponsor to provide the service or bid it out.

Pins, Chain of Office, Banner and Challenge Coins

- New pins have been ordered will be in next month.
- Symbol Arts design team is working on a design for the chain of office.
- Fincher is still reviewing proposals for the Past Presidents banner.
- MOTION: To order a Metro Chiefs President challenge coin. Fincher to work on the design and a price quote to bring back to the board for review

(first- Stewart; second - Kerr). Motion carried.

Presidents Rings

- Dean offered to be the point of contact to order rings for Bob Hendricks and Greg Frederick; still missing their ring sizes but Symbol Arts will be here in Phoenix so they can get their orders placed onsite at the conference.

Senior Metro Billing

- Lee discussed a memo regarding Senior members whose dues have expired, which includes a new process that will begin this month to ensure these members are billed on time (via paper and electronic invoices) and receive follow up calls and emails.

Metro Chiefs Logo

- MOTION: To explore trademarking all versions of the Metro Chiefs logos so that they cannot be copied or used without authorization. Fincher to work with IAFC staff on this project (first - Kerr, second - Few). Motion carried.

National Fire Heritage Center (Coleman, Killen)

- Few is meeting with Coleman on Tuesday to discuss this project.
- Kerr reported that it is a non-profit organization with a mission to create a central repository for fire service history.

Active Shooter Meeting

- Meeting of public safety officials (IAFC, IAFF, IACP, FOP, DHS, FBI) regarding how the fire service should integrate with law enforcement during response to active shooter incidents.
- There was discussion about retaining the ICS and NIMS structure during response, terminology, etc.
- Arlington County (VA) has policies and procedures in place currently.
- The FBI Director has mandated that all FBI field offices meet with local/regional police and fire representatives in the next few months.

Presumptive Cancer Conference in Australia

- Block and Dean attended on behalf of the Metro Chiefs.
- Discussions about technology and fire safety issues.
- Currently there aren’t any presumptive laws in the EU or Scandinavia; only Australian federal fire service personnel are covered under these laws.

Possible topic for the 2014 Metro Chiefs Conference - fire as a terroristic threat.

Boise Fire Department

- Recommendation from the chief to change the bylaws to allow the largest fire department in a state to join the Metro Chiefs if there are no other (declined)

Future Meetings

Metro-IAFF Annual Board/Senior Staff Meeting – May 9, 2013 (noon to 3 pm), Washington, DC at IAFF Headquarters. This is the same day as the CFSI dinner. Lori Moore-Merrell is working on a draft agenda, which she will send to Bryson and Sanders.

Metro-FRI Annual Business Meeting – August 16, 2013 (1-4 pm), Chicago, IL. The location and additional details (evening event, etc.) will be announced in the near future.

Urban Fire Forum – September 12 – 15, 2013, Quincy, MA (NFPA Headquarters). Arrival on Thursday, September 12 in time for a reception/dinner and departure on Sunday, September 15.

- Mental illness (Khan, Gist, Cummings)
- Active shooter incidents (Dean, Schwartz, Mitchell?)
- High rise (Stewart, Moore-Merrell)

Winter Board Meeting – January 10 – 12, 2014, Salt Lake City, UT (Marriott Hotel). Arrival on January 10 in time for our annual dinner meeting. We will meet on Saturday, January 11. For those not staying over to ski/sightsee, you can schedule your departure anytime after 4 pm on January 11.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:15 pm.