

Fire Commission VIRTUAL Meeting

October 21th, 2020

The meeting via TELECONFERENCE was gaveled to order by Chairman Breen at 7:30 pm. A sign-up sheet was not available.

Chaplain Hamilton (Margaret Ann) - opened the meeting with a brief invocation prayer and the pledge of allegiance.

Office of the Fire Chief DFC McClelland (Jim) (Provided via email)

1. Chief Green will be scheduling a meeting in November to kick off the review of the Fire Commission MOU. The Review Committee will include:

County Representatives:

- DFC James McClelland, Sr (Volunteer Services Command)
- Battalion Chief Aaron White (DCAO Magaw's Office)

PGCVFRA Representatives:

- Jeramie Jordan (PGCVFRA 1st Vice President)
- Richard Kitchen (Vice President – Berwyn Heights Co. 14)

Fire Commission Representatives:

- J. Robert Breen (Commission Chair)
- Randy Kuenzli (Commission Vice Chair)

Office of Law: TBD

2. The Committee of the Whole will review the Fire Commission appointments on Thursday, October 29, 2020, followed by a Public Hearing on Tuesday, November 10, 2020.
3. Progress continues to be made on interviews for the Volunteer Recruiter position. The interview committee anticipates completing this process in the next few weeks.
4. The announcement for the Flu Vaccination Clinics has been distributed. I encourage everyone to get their flu shot.
5. On January 1, 2021 the Department will transition from using the American Heart Association (AHA) CPR training program to training program by the American Safety & Health Institute (ASHI). Most jurisdictions in the Council of Academies will be making this switch, as well. In the long run this will be a cost savings to Department. CPR cards will still be digital. Your current AHA CPR card is still good until it expires. We will need to purchase instructor kits for use in training new volunteer recruits and re-certifications. A request for training funds has been submitted to the Fire Commission.
6. Members are reminded that the expectation is that all members will be caught up on their fit test compliance by November 1. The October 2020 fit test report still shows 412 volunteers as not compliant. I am sure many of these are no longer active and I ask that companies clean up the list. There are lots of empty fit test slots on the schedule each day.
7. A recommendation has been submitted to Chief Green for consideration that would allow probationary members (Red Helmets) to staff apparatus. Currently, Red Helmets are not considered essential personnel due to the COVID-19 restrictions, as they do not count towards minimum staffing.
8. General Order updates:

- General Order # 05-01 Emergency Medical Services Operations – proposed revisions are currently being reviewed by the General Order Work Group, with comments due November 2.
- General Order # 04-11 Re-Entry to Emergency Operations Skills Program – proposed revisions are currently being reviewed by the Stakeholders, with comments due October 27.
- General Order 01-12 Fire / EMS Department Funeral Procedures is being prepared for final quick review by the Sharon Road SIT Recommendation Implementation Task Force before forwarding to Chief Green for consideration. The General Order Work Group and the Stakeholders have already reviewed this general order. Minor changes have been made based on their feedback.

Commissioner/ Chairman Breen (Bobby)

- Requested approval of a special COVID-19 LOSAP policy that provides 16 points this year for all administrative and auxiliary personnel – provided that they qualified for LOSAP in both of the previous two years. - **Motioned and Approved**
- The Chairman will be out of the office from 5 November until 15 November.

Commissioner Vice Chair Kuenzli (Randy)

- Requested FF1 equivalency approval for Henry Dorn of Company 27 (Morningside) - **Motioned and Approved**
- Requested expenditure approval for Company 3 (Mount Rainier) to pay \$7371.84 to replace flooring. - **Motioned and Approved**
- Requested expenditure approval for Company 1 (Hyattsville) to pay \$7,134 to replace commercial freezer and refrigerator. - **Motioned and Approved**
- November 1, 2020 is “Go Live” for VRS via Target Solutions. Details and instructions will be sent out from the Commission office via the chiefs and presidents email list.

Commissioner/ Secretary Wilson (Rick)

- Requested that the October 7th, 2020 minutes be approved. - **Motioned and Approved.**

Commissioner King (Buddy)

- Requested LOSAP approval for Ronald Walter (35) for 27 years. - **Motioned and Approved.**

Commissioner Mellits (Pete) –

- 10-8-20 Attended/assisted with Co. 7 Station Mgmt. Funds Make-Up Audit meeting.
- 10-14-20 Attended the PGCVFRA October meeting, virtually.
- 10-19-20 Attended the Recruit & Retention Workgroup meeting regarding the status of the Safer Grant progression. It was noted the Volunteer Marketing Campaign interviews were being set up to for taping to begin in a month or so, for posting in January.
- Assisting Companies with SERFs and Speed Letters for specific equipment and tools.
- Gentle reminder for Companies to research their needs to utilize/spend their tool and uniform SERF funds. The sooner in the fiscal year, the better.

Commissioner Captain Chandler (Michelle) – Excused

Commissioner McSwain (Kenny) – Excused

PGCVFRA President Whipple (Vic) –

- Provided a status of recent meetings and upcoming events.

Q&A - NSTR

Chaplain provided a brief benediction and Chairman Breen requested a motion to adjourn @ 8:15 pm

Minutes were recorded and typed by Commissioner/Secretary Wilson.

Two handwritten signatures in black ink. The signature on the left is cursive and appears to be 'April'. The signature on the right is more stylized and cursive, possibly 'Wilson'.