

Allegany Garrett Counties Volunteer Fire Rescue Association

October 9th, 2022, Meeting Minutes

Call to Order 2:30 pm – President Christner

Invocation & Memorial Service – Chaplain Morgan

Pledge of Allegiance – President Christner

Welcome by Host Company – Given by Jonathan Dayton, member of Baltimore Pike.

Roll Call of Departments – Secretary Dayton

Eleven companies present: Accident, Baltimore pike, Barton hose, Bowling green, Bowman's addition, Flintstone, Gorges creek ambulance, Goodwill, Midland, Orleans, and Potomac.

Recognition of Past Presidents – Vice President Jonathan Dayton

Six present: Dave Kyle, Michael Simmons, Barbara Knippenburg, Gene Kidwell, Timothy Dayton, Jonathan Dayton

Introduction of Guest – Vice President Jonathan Dayton

Eight present: Georgann Shuhart, James Shell, Janet Heavner, Heather Miltenberger, Stacy Blank, Mike McKay, Mark Bilger, and Nicole Stotelmyer

Janet Heavner, a school board candidate, campaigned and thanked us for listening to her platform.

Heather Miltenberger spoke on UPMC's new Pre-Diabetgies prevention and self-management program.

Class is done through a CDC-approved program. Mark Bilger said on the rise of covid and the flu and recommended all first responders get vaccinated or boosted. Nicole Stotelmyer Grant administration passed, so two paid positions are going up on the website. The mentorship program has a training coming up on November 5th. Please send your current credentials if your station info is not up-to-date on the website.

Officer Reports – None Given

Approval of Minutes - Motion made by Gene seconded by Dave.

Communications – Secretary Dayton (none)

Bills & Financial Report – Treasurer Shuhart

John said no bills were to be paid and went over the current financial standings motion except by Dave, seconded by Gene.

Partner Agency Reports

Maryland Fire-Rescue Institute – Jim spoke on two classes being postponed, EVO and HAZMAT coming up; the training center having a late winter opening, and all testing will now be done on Ipad.

Region One MIEMSS – Dwayne said all had been covered at this time.

Maryland State Firemen's Association

- President(s), None Present
- Volunteer Company Assistance Fund – Barb Knippenburg, PP, Barb talked about the current application period. Beginning September 1st, open October 14th, ending December 3rd, and announced the next low-interest loan for apparatus and equipment only.
- Executive Committee – Tim Dayton spoke on the name change Barb Knippenburg asked if the name change was being pushed one way. Tim said that each company could vote how they wanted.

Allegany County Fire Police – Jonathan announced meetings are now bimonthly, and the next meeting will hold nominations for officers.

Garrett County Firemen's Association- Next meeting November 30th at Eastern Garret

Maryland State Fire Marshal's Office – Designee, None Present

Allegany or Garrett Counties Department of Emergency Services – Designee, None Present
Fellowship of Christian Firefighters – Mary Carr updated on their last meeting on October 1st at the Rock of Ages, eight members were present, and Dick DeVore Spoke. The next meeting would be November 5th same location, but the time is yet to be decided.

Standing Committee Reports

Legislative – President Dayton or Delegate Mike McKay, Jonathan spoke on the increase in tax incentives and the legislative reception.

Fire Prevention – Ryan Foster, No report.

Public Relations – Jonathan Dayton, PP, No report.

Insurance & Benefits – John said he sent out a survey to stations for insurance and needs answers back ASAP.

Safety – Gene Kidwell said the new law on October 1st to move over for anything on the shoulder. If you break this law, you will get fined and points on your license. It is also fire prevention week.

Training – Austin Christner, President, See MFRI report.

Constitution & By-Laws – BY-LAWS update includes minor changes, like the number of meetings and formatting.

Ways & Means – Addy Dayton & Gary Carpenter, No report.

History & Archives – Dick DeVore, PP, No report.

Recruitment & Retention – Jonathan Dayton, PP, Jonathan touched on what was already spoken about the new positions up for hire and the mentorship program.

EMS – Vacant, No report.

Group or Special Committee Reports

Scholarship – Rod Bowser, PP, not present.

Chaplaincy – Rev. Tom Morgan, working on the memorial wall for the line of duty deaths and working on the federal benefit fight.

Smoke Alarm/LODD Project – Gary Carpenter, Not present, but Jonathan updated we are partnering with RedCross, but it's a slow process.

Five- & Ten-Year Planning – Tim Dayton, PP, No report.

New Business

No new business.

Old Business

The conversation started on needing more meetings in Garret county, Officers spoke about trying to make that happen, but only some departments want to host us. The importance of paying the dues, and secretary Dayton will send out bills again.

Good of the Association

There is a much better and more active email list; we are still working on meeting attendance but are getting more emails back. The next meeting is at 2:00 at the Orleans fire station due to the first weekend being the state association meeting. Motion to end meeting made by Gene and second by Dave.

Benediction

Adjournment

The next Meeting is December 11th at 2:00 pm at Little Orleans

