

Atlantic County Firefighters' Association

"In Union For The Safety Of All"

President
Amor "Skip" Portale
Vice President
Ellsworth Ott
2nd Vice President
Charles "Chuck" Kisby



Secretary
Robert A. Mellon
Treasurer
Jaime C. Mellon
Asst. Sect./Treasurer
Cindy L. Badger

October 17, 2012

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Atlantic County Firefighters' Association was called to order at 20:00 on October 17, 2012 at the Port Republic Vol. Fire Company by President Amor "Skip" Portale. The meeting was opened with a flag salute followed by an Invocation by the Chaplain of the Association, Reverend Thomas Sweeny. President Portale then pointed out the fire exits and asked that all electronic devices be silenced.

Opening Remarks

President Portale introduced Asst. Chief Jack Yochim of the Port Republic Vol. Fire Company. Asst. Chief Yochim welcomed all to Port Republic and invited all to return Saturday Oct. 20th for the biannual Roast Beef Dinner fundraiser.

In Attendance

Roll call was taken by Secretary Robert A. Mellon who reported a quorum was present.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to approve the minutes of the September 19, 2012 meeting, as sent to the member companies.

Report of Treasurer

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to accept the report of the Treasurer, totaling \$111,127.46, as read by Treasurer Jaime C. Mellon.

Bank of America	/	Bank of America	/	ING Direct	/	Parke Bank	/	Parke Bank
Checking: \$39,470.61	/	Savings: \$5,001.39	/	Savings: \$20,193.13	/	12 Month CD: \$23,125.81	/	13 Month CD: \$23,336.52
					/	1.10% - Due 10/30/2012	/	1.01% - Due 5/6/2013

Special Presentation

Mayor Nick Russo, of Longport, spoke about the "A Gift from Captain Buscio" cardio-pulmonary screening program for firefighters and police officers at Deborah Hospital. The program was started by Captain Buscio's widow, Donna Buscio, after the sudden death of her husband due to an undiagnosed cardiac issue. Mayor Russo reported that he believed he was in good shape and had no major health issues, is retired from law enforcement, and is also a firefighter with the Longport Fire Department. Mayor Russo recently participated in the screening program in March of 2012. Mayor Russo reported that he wanted to participate in the screening program to encourage fellow firefighters to also get screened. Mayor Russo reported that the screening process was well organized and that you are treated like a "rock star" with constant direction during the screening. Mayor Russo learned that a shadow found on his lung was cancerous and he ultimately had twenty-five percent of one lung removed. Due to the early diagnosis, and fact that the cancer had not got to his lymph nodes, Mayor Russo is currently cancer free with low probability of a relapse. Mayor Russo reported that he was so impressed by the whole program that he wanted to speak with Donna Buscio, whom had lobbied for the creation of the "A Gift from Captain Buscio"

Atlantic County Firefighters' Association

"In Union For The Safety Of All"

President
Amor "Skip" Portale
Vice President
Ellsworth Ott
2nd Vice President
Charles "Chick" Kisby



Secretary
Robert A. Mellon
Treasurer
Jaime C. Mellon
Asst. Sect./Treasurer
Cindy L. Badger

screening program. Mayor Russo decided that he would like to organize a fundraiser to help cover the costs of providing the program to uninsured participants. The program does accept insurance payments for participants that do have insurance. No participant has any out of pocket expenses for the program regardless of insurance status. Donna Buscio informed Mayor Russo that this would be the first fundraiser for the program. The fundraiser is scheduled for November 1, 2012 at Maynard's café in Margate. The Longport Fire Department is sponsoring the food for the fundraiser with a \$1,000 donation. Tickets, at \$25 per person, will be available and all funds raised will go directly to the "A Gift from Captain Buscio" screening program at Deborah Hospital.

Committee Reports

Executive Committee – Chairman Howard Berchtold Jr. reported the next meeting of the Executive Committee is scheduled for November 2, 2012 in South Egg Harbor at 19:30. The committee will meet at the South Egg Harbor firehouse at 17:00 or the Never There Gun Club, Hammonton, at 17:20 for the spaghetti and crab sauce dinner at the gun club. All are welcome to join the committee for dinner.

Atlantic County Fire Training Advisory Board – Howard Berchtold reported that the next meeting of the board is scheduled to be held on November 12, 2012.

Fire Coordinator – Fire Coordinator Ed Vincent reported on the recent incidents where fire coordinators responded. Ed reported on a fire at the FAA Tech Center today where procedure and communication were both lacking. The fire coordinator was not even informed of the incident even though mutual aid was being dispatched. Ed spoke with Chief Conrow and is now confident that the issues have been corrected and proper protocol will be followed in the future. Ed reported on the hotel fire in Ocean City. That event also had a protocol mistake when it came to requesting resources from another county and again the Atlantic County Fire Coordinator was not notified of the incident. Ed reported that a meeting has been scheduled with Ocean City, Cape May County, and Atlantic County to work on correcting the issues involving dispatch and mutual aid. Ed reported on the TTF-A drill held on October 14 in New Gretna, Burlington County. Oscar Dutch and Chip Stockton were able to attend the drill. It was reported that Ocean and Burlington County representatives were impressed with TTF-A coordination and Atlantic County Fieldcomm 25's capability. It was reported that there were radio communication issues with units from three different counties trying to work together. Eventually portable radios were distributed from Fieldcomm 25 to alleviate the issues. Ed will be scheduling a meeting between Atlantic and Burlington Counties to discuss radio communications. Ed reported that Burlington County has plans to switch to 700 MHz but is still currently using 500 MHz due to financial hurdles preventing the conversion. Ed reported that TTF-B is planning a drill for 19:00 November 5, 2012 at the Buena Highschool. Ed reported on recent changes to both TTF-A and TTF-B. Nesco VFC has moved from TTF-A to TTF-B. West Tuckerton VFC, Ocean County, has joined TTF-A. Ed reported on funeral arrangements for two Pemberton FD (Burlington County) firefighters killed in a motor vehicle accident following a fire prevention detail. Ed reported on the current status of the Homeland Security Grants and recently received equipment including radios. Oscar Dutch reported on attending the TTF-B drill planning meeting at the East Vineland VFC. Oscar reported that the new firehouse is very nice. Oscar reported that he recently learned that there are only four tankers left in Camden County and one of those was removed from TTF-B and replaced with a Camden County engine so that at least one tanker will remain in county during task force deployments. Oscar noted that TTF-B has not really lost a tanker since Nesco VFC recently joined TTF-B with their tanker.

Fire Marshal / Public Relations – Fire Marshal Harold "Whitey" Swartz reported that several fire departments/companies have not, or are behind, with fire reports. Reminder notices will be sent out.

Atlantic County Firefighters' Association

"In Union For The Safety Of All"

President
Amor "Skip" Portale
Vice President
Ellsworth Ott
2nd Vice President
Charles "Chuck" Kisby



Secretary
Robert A. Mellon
Treasurer
Jaime C. Mellon
Asst. Sect./Treasurer
Cindy L. Badger

Training – Director of Training Mike Corbo reported on the current status of the FFI and FFII classes. Some dates will need to be made up due to weather cancellations. The fire official class just started. Mike reported that an email has been sent out about a fire ground size up class being held in Ocean City. Mike reported on the remaining classes for the fall semester at the academy. Mike reported that the Firefighter Competition rain date has not been scheduled and cannot be held this Friday. Mike reported that he has been speaking with Howard Berchtold about when to schedule the competition. Mike reported that work on setting up the Oceanville engine for use at the academy is almost complete. Some adapters will be needed and Mike will ask the secretary of the association to send out a request for donations when a list of needed parts is compiled.

Library – Ron Bird reported that if anyone needs library access, contact him at tower452002@yahoo.com.

Atl. Co. Fire Chief's Association – Chick Kisby reported that the next meeting of the Atl. Co. Fire Chief's Association will be on November 27, 2012 at the Linwood Fire Department.

Legislative – John Wagner reported that he has been speaking with legislative members about LOSAP issues. It is unlikely that any LOSAP contribution limit changes will be introduced for consideration due to the potential impact on current municipal budgets. John reported on a possible college credit program for firefighters. Rob Winkler reported on the college program that some municipalities have adopted that allows firefighters into county college classes if there is an open seat after all paying students are accepted. John requested that anyone with a legislative idea, or question, to contact him. John reported that he is currently a sales representative for Rhyno Windshield Cutter (wecuttheglass.com).

NJ Firemen's Home – Oscar Dutch reported that the Board of Managers held their reorganization meeting last Saturday. Oscar has been reelected as Chairman for the sixth time. Oscar reported that the home is doing great and that renovations will soon start on Dorm C and all major renovations will be complete after this one.

County Radio Communications / Central Dispatch – Oscar Dutch reported that he recently attended a county freeholder meeting. Oscar reported that he has heard several times that some freeholders are against central dispatch. Oscar reported that he tracked down the freeholders in question and learned that they do not directly oppose central dispatch but they are concerned on the fiscal impact on the municipalities. Butch Kienzle reported on attending a county freeholder meeting in Atlantic City and that there was poor attendance from the fire service and public safety agencies. Oscar reported that there may be a need to turn out in force at a county freeholder meeting in order to keep central dispatch on track.

NJ Firemen's Assn. – Henry Schoenstein reported that convention expense reports are due by November 1, 2012.

Communications

There were no communications to report.

Deferred Business

There was no deferred business to act on.

New Business

There was no new business to act on.

Atlantic County Firefighters' Association

"In Union For The Safety Of All"

President
Amor "Skip" Portale
Vice President
Ellsworth Ott
2nd Vice President
Charles "Chick" Kisby



Secretary
Robert A. Mellon
Treasurer
Jaime C. Mellon
Asst. Sect./Treasurer
Cindy L. Badger

Bills

The bills, totaling \$2,328.33, were read by Treasurer Jaime C. Mellon. A motion was made, seconded, and carried to pay the bills from the proper funds.

Bills --- Walt's Primo Pizza - \$208.00 (food for training) / Staples - \$138.15 (office supplies) / Lowes - \$23.68 (hardware) / Butterhof's Farm - \$937.50 (straw) / Thomas Sweeny - \$248.00 (trophies) / Hughes Farms - \$716.00 (straw) / Mike Corbo - \$57.00 (engine hose bed cover repair)

Nomination of Officers

The first of two rounds of nominations was held. Those nominated are as follows:

President (1)	Amor "Skip" Portale
1 st Vice President (1)	Ellsworth Ott
2 nd Vice President (1)	Charles "Chick" Kisby
Secretary (1)	Robert A. Mellon
Treasurer (1)	Jaime C. Mellon
Asst. Sec./Trea. (1)	Cindy L. Badger
Chaplain (1)	Rev. Thomas Sweeny
Sgt.-at-Arms (3)	Charles Harlan, William Thomas Hand, Wayne Dilks
Executive Comm. (9)	Howard Berchtold Jr., Ronald Bird Jr., David G. Buzby, Levon "Lefty" Clayton*, Rick Coraluzzo Sr.*, Don DaGrossa, Oscar Dutch Jr., James Garth Sr., Charles J. Guenther, R. Thomas Hunter Jr., John V. Wagner, C. Robert Winkler III

*have not yet formally accepted nomination and must do so before elections.

Applications for Membership

Matthew Atallah, Gary Patrick Hand, Ivan E. Hood, Joshua S. Kirby, Chuck Mackintosh, Brian Pruchnicki, and Robert J. Pruchnicki III of the Bayview Vol. Fire Company were accepted into membership.

Good of the Order

Thank you to the Port Republic Vol. Fire Company for hosting the evening and providing the refreshments.

Atlantic County Firefighters' Association

"In Union For The Safety Of All"

President
Amor "Skip" Portale
Vice President
Ellsworth Ott
2nd Vice President
Charles "Chick" Kisby



Secretary
Robert A. Mellon
Treasurer
Jaime C. Mellon
Asst. Sect./Treasurer
Cindy L. Badger

Adjournment

There being no further business at hand, the meeting was adjourned at 21:25. The next regular meeting is scheduled to be held at 20:00 on Nov. 21, 2012 at the Somers Point Vol. Fire Company Sta. 1.

Attested:

Robert A. Mellon, Secretary

Atlantic County Firefighters' Association

"In Union For The Safety Of All"

President
Amor "Skip" Portale
Vice President
Ellsworth Ott
2nd Vice President
Charles "Chick" Kisby



Secretary
Robert A. Mellon
Treasurer
Jaime C. Mellon
Asst. Sect./Treasurer
Cindy L. Badger

Date Clearing

http://www.atlanticcountyfireassoc.org/ACFFA_Date_Clearing.htm

October 2012 - Fri. & Sat.	19:00	Nesco VFC	Haunted House and Hayride
October 2012 - Fri., Sat., & Sun.	19:00	Scullville VFC	Terror in the Junkyard 2012 Hayride and Maze at Flemings Junkyard
Sat. Oct. 20, 2012	10:00	Bargaintown VFC	Annual Craft Show and "Heroes Helping Heroes" Collection
Sat. Oct. 20, 2012	15:30	Port Republic VFC	Roast Beef Dinner
Sun. Oct. 21, 2012	08:00	Weymouth VFC	All You Can Eat Breakfast
Fri. Oct. 26, 2012	19:00	Oceanville VFC	Beef and Beer at JD's Pub, Smithville
Sat. Oct. 27, 2012	09:00	South Egg Harbor VFC	Ladies Auxiliary Fall/Christmas Craft and Home Show
Sat. Oct. 27, 2012	12:00	East Vineland VFC	Building Dedication, Housing, and Parade (08:30-11:00 registration & judging)
Sat. Nov. 3, 2012	15:00	Mays Landing VFC	All You Can Eat Rigatoni Dinner
Sat. Nov. 10, 2012	11:00	Minotola VFC	Hot Roast Beef Sandwich Sale - 11:00 till 17:00 - \$8 for two sandwiches and chips
Sat. Nov. 10, 2012	16:00	Oceanville VFC	Baked Ham & Fried Oyster Dinner
Sat. Nov. 17, 2012	16:00	Somers Point VFC Sta. 2	All You Can Eat Spaghetti Dinner
Wed. Nov. 21, 2012	19:00	Gourmet Italian Cuisine, Galloway	Bayview VFC - Firefighter's Night Out
Wed. Nov. 21, 2012	20:00	Somers Point VFC Sta. 1	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Tues. Nov. 27, 2012	20:00	Linwood VFD	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chiefs Assoc.
Sat. Dec. 8, 2012	19:00	Hammonton FD	14 th Annual Hammonton FD Christmas Parade
Wed. Dec. 19, 2012	20:00	Farmington VFC	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
-----	-----	-----	-----
Wed. Jan. 16, 2013	20:00	Egg Harbor City VFD	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Thurs. Jan. 24, 2013	20:00	Somers Point VFC Sta. 1	Hosting Meeting of Atl. Co. Firefighters' Death Benefit Fund Assoc.
Tues. Jan 29, 2013	20:00	Absecon VFD	Hosting Meeting of Atlantic County Fire Chiefs Assoc.
Wed. Feb. 20, 2013	20:00	Longport VFD	Hosting ACFFA Monthly Meeting
Sat. Apr. 13, 2013	16:00	Oceanville VFC	Baked Ham & Fried Oyster Dinner
Sat. May 4, 2013	16:00	Germania VFC	Turkey Dinner
sat. May 11, 2012		Absecon VFD	100 th Anniversary
Sat. Oct. 5, 2013	16:00	Germania VFC	Turkey Dinner
Sat. Nov. 9, 2013	16:00	Oceanville VFC	Baked Ham & Fried Oyster Dinner