

P.E.I. FIREFIGHTER'S ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL MEETING NOVEMBER 7, 1999

HOSTED BY TIGNISH FIRE DEPARTMENT

President Bill Hogan called meeting to order at 9:20 with a moment of silence in respect of firefighters who have lost their lives in the last year.

Roll call, 75 people in attendance representing 21 departments.

A thank you was extended to the Tignish Fire Department for hosting this event.

The agenda was circulated and opened for additions.

Claude Dorgan welcomed other firefighters to his fire department and wished everyone well.

Amand Arsenault presented the plans for the upcoming 911 system to be introduced to PEI next year. Following his presentation he opened the floor to questions:

Existing Emergency numbers will be phased out, they will originally be answered with a voice mail directing callers to 911. Non emergency numbers can be obtained for administrative purposes.

What information appears on the screen at the PSAP and can it be faxed to the department?

How will cell phones be handled?

What is the status on signage?

Claud expressed concerns over the message centre's ability to handle 911 calls. These concerns may be addressed through a ULC certified paging company.

Questions around names of roads known by route numbers and roads that cross fire districts.

Sandy MacQuarrie from Crapaud Fire Department spoke on hosting the Fire Fighters Combat Challenge next summer (probably the 9th and 10th of September).

Department of Tourism, PEIFFA, and Crapaud FD are all sponsors.

Department of Transportation are going to do the lot for it.

If anyone is interested in going in the challenge or volunteering to help they are encouraged to contact Sandy.

Volunteers are needed to make this work.

The cost is \$47 per person, less for team.

Registration can be found at firefit.com.

Fire Marshall Dave Blacquiere spoke.

Three firefighters: Walter Trowsdale, Alfred Frizzle, and Sheldon Moore passed away in the last year.

There have been fewer calls in the past year but bigger losses. Fifty cent problems are leading to major losses.

He has seen some excellent fire fighting, both in response and in suppression.

More activity may be needed in prevention and some of us may want to focus some attention on that aspect.

He commented on the fact that some departments have some great facilities.

The contributions of the PEIFFA in the past year have been greatly appreciated, and Dave presented us with a grant of \$8,500

Bill Hogan thanked Dave Blacquiere and opened the floor to questions.

Question regarding radios for mutual aid with 911. Michael Francis is currently working on Y2K and will be back on the radio project when that is over.

Following lunch and door prizes, Dawn Mitchell spoke from Muscular Dystrophy thanking us for our past support.

Jim Peters spoke on Dave Rossiter's behalf regarding MFCA. The \$2,000 grant was approved bringing the total to \$20,500 in the past 11 years. They are going back to the car draw (with a cash option for the winner). Next year's convention will be in Wolfville NS.

Bill Hogan thanked Jim for his presentation and for the convention he hosted this past summer.

Bennie Grant informed us that the MFFA Curling will be in North Shore this year (probably March). You can borrow members from other departments this year on a 1 year trial basis.

North River will host the PEI curling January 14th - 16th.

BUSINESS OF THE ANNUAL MEETING

Presidents Report:

Attached

Roger Burke **moved**, Wally Ross **seconded** to accept the presidents report as presented, **motion carried**.

Business from Minutes:

Fred McInnis **moved**, Bill Gillis **seconded** to move the annual meeting back to the first week of November, **motion carried**.

Dave Rossiter had a report on a pension fund from CAFC/Volunteer Association. The issue is on their agenda. Dave will communicate his findings.

Training (KevinHogan):

Level I calendar extended to Wednesday evenings.

High exam marks, good turnout.

First practical this weekend, 15 eligible for the 1st, 7 for the 2nd.

Need more instructors, have 22 to date.

Pump operators in Summerside.

February Fire attack in Charlottetown.

Fire Officers training program cancelled due to lack of interest, will need to fine tune the program to make it more appealing.

ITC course June in Summerside - lack of interest so cancelled.

Will send letters out to see who will be interested in taking course.

How do we apply our \$30,000 per year to school? Have acquired \$23,000 in equipment and \$7,300 in confined space simulator.

Developed new maze, should be finished in about 2 weeks.

\$5,000 losses in theft and vandalization in the past year. Signs are up to warn people off the property.

Should break even this year, if not we will next and be caught up.

Suggested the Financial year be changed to the calendar year.

Summerside has offered its facilities to train if we get instructors to do it. It now takes 22 instructors - will take the same number to do it somewhere else.

Is the new Level I open to firefighters who are illiterate? Yes.

Sports (Garth O'Brien):

Not getting reports back from host departments. If you want to host an event put it in writing and put results in writing too.

Montague hosted the hockey Mach 26/27.

New London hosted the golf in September.

North Rustico asked to host the bowling.

Crapaud will be hosting the Fire Fighters Combat Challenge September 2nd and 3rd.

