

New England Division
International Association of Fire Chiefs
November 15, 2017
Board of Directors Meeting, Portsmouth Sheraton, NH

Members Present:

President Chris Christopoulos

1st VP Tim McLaughlin

2nd VP Kenneth Richards

Secretary/Treasurer John Wood

Guest; Bruce Moeller, Consultant AT&T
Donald Bliss, Vice President NFPA

International Director
Chief Steve Locke

Rev. Gary Blume

State Directors:

Chief Michael Bucossi, VT

Chief John Duross, ME

Chief Steve Achilles, NH

Chief James McLaughlin, RI

Chief Peter J Starkel, CT

Chief Charlie Doody, MA

Immediate Past President

Chief Steve Locke

Meeting Called to order by President Christopoulos at 08:30.

Rev. Gary Blume gave invocation and pledge to the flag.

Introduction of Guest

Pres. Christopoulos introduced Donald Bliss who spoke about NFPA supporting the Division and how NFPA wants to work closely with the fire service to enhance the ability of protecting life and property. They are working to change the membership category to include department memberships in addition to individual memberships. They are working to bring together the information from the different fire service organizations and compiling the information for firefighter safety.

Bruce Moeller is a consultant who represented AT&T for this meeting. He reported that 1st Net is driving the program not AT&T. There was a discussion about each State's ability to opt in or opt out of using 1st Net and AT&T. At this time many of the States

have chosen to opt in. There are a couple of New England States that have not made a choice as of this date. The federal government has developed an RFP using AT&T to work with the States. The IAFC has sent a letter out supporting and recommending the use of AT&T as the provider for the States. The States have until December 28, 2017 to decide. Issues will be coverage area, cost, reliability of the system and devices. The benefit of using AT&T is that they already have an infrastructure up, where others would have to build one.

Secretary Report

Minutes of the previous annual meeting minute's where approved and accepted by the board.

The board set the date for the annual meeting and seminars for April 4-5, 2018, at the Harborside Sheraton Portsmouth, NH. The cost to attend the seminars with meals will be \$75.00 for one day. The first day will be a meeting with State Fire Chiefs Associations Executive Board members about 18. Invited will be the president, 1st vice president, and 2nd vice president from each State Chiefs organization. Also invited is the President from the IAFC and Mark Light, CEO of the IAFC. Michael Varney from 1st Net, and a representative from AT&T.

Sponsors for the event will need to be contacted by board members. The board agreed that any State Fire Chiefs Association that took a gold sponsorship would be allowed to send 3 of their members free with the idea the executive officers would stay.

President would like to review the Division's Strategic Plan send it out to the board.

FRI will be in Dallas, we'll be staying at the Omni.

Treasurer Report

Motion made to accept the treasurer report and pay all bills. The board discussed the finances of the division and the need to work on getting sponsors for the annual meeting and meeting with the State Chiefs to pay for hotel rooms for one night of those attending and meals for that day.

President Report

President Christopoulos discussed a desire to contact and meet with the executive board of the NEAFC to talk about the future of both organizations. He would make the contact. He would like for the presidents, and vice presidents from both organizations to have an open discussion regarding a merger.

There is an IAFC strategic planning and board meeting with divisions on March 14-15, 2018, the IAFC board will meet the day after the strategic planning meeting. President

Christopoulos will not be attending this meeting and would like 1st Vice President McLaughlin to attend with the secretary. All expenses will be paid for by the division.

International Director Report

The IAFC will be moving into it's new building in February 2018.

GPO report Chief Chris Christopoulos spoke about the trucks that can now be purchased through this process, which have already met the competitive bid process. He appointed Chief Ken Richards 2nd Vice President to be the division's representative to GPO.

Committee Reports

Seminar

Motion made and passed to charge \$75.00 for the one-day seminar with meals.

Motion made and passed that a donation from a State Chiefs Association of \$500.00 would allow that organization to send 3 chiefs at no charge. Motions made and seconded by Chief Locke and Achilles.

New Business

Motion made and passed to pay expenses for two officers to attend the IAFC Strategic Planning meeting in March. Motion made and seconded in order Chief Locke and Chief James McLaughlin.

Old Business

RI Fire Chiefs sent a letter to the Governor recommending to opt in for 1st Net.

Meeting adjourned at 11:45