

West Dover Fire Department
Officer's Meeting
February 23, 2015

Officers Present: Richard Werner, Gary Carruthers, John Snow, Mike Hescocock, Mickey Kersten, Rick Fletcher
Also present: recording secretary Jeannette Eckert, Laurie Newton, Heidi Taylor, Ken March, Randy Johnson, Dave Moulton, Dick Deutsch, and Joseph Cincotta

The meeting was called to order at 5:06pm

Mount Snow Act 250 Progress Review—(please see attached overall site plan)

- Almost three years ago, 2012-- did an Act 250 review and an MIQ
- Not a full review again—just making a few changes
 - Building A: going from 12 units down to 4 units
 - Building location hasn't changed much—basically the same footprint
 - Going from 3 floors over a garage to two floors over a roof
 - Smaller building
 - No underground garage—will be residential parking garages—townhomes
 - Blue * indicate hydrants—locations have not changed
 - One has been added for new H & I buildings—location to be determined
 - Two new buildings (H & I) with guest check-in house
 - Copy of G & F buildings
 - Access to new buildings: One 4 story and one 3 story—much more coverage for whole length of building and back side coverage
 - May also include an office space and guest check in within the building
 - Created some landing egresses
 - Fire ladders built into outer walls—pull down to operate
- Parking, hallways, elevators—were resolved previously and implementing in new buildings—same plan
 - Took advantage of better site
- Distance from building to road—20-40 feet
 - Road width is 20 feet
- Stand pipe placement—one 4 inch storage connector rather and two 2.5 inch
 - Others were laid out close to fire hydrants

Mt Snow changed alarm procedures since the last review

- False fire alarms—many at Mt Snow properties
- Need to address this issue; Huge concern
- Alarm does not ring through to Mutual Aid every time; to give Mt Snow time to respond
 - Can cancel that service

Manpower issues also a huge concern—current members are getting burned out

- Up 50 fire calls over last year
- Asking for help with marketing for personnel
- Encourage Mt Snow employees to join
- Hermitage has also been approached on this topic
- Wonder what other ski towns are doing to help draw in folks
- There needs to be some sort of plan—perhaps develop a paid staff

- Try to stimulate membership
- Surrounding towns are low on staff—domino affect
- Demographics are changing; generation's values are changing—different dynamic
- 40 units in new buildings—how many when fully occupied?
 - 2-3 bedroom units in each—potential of 360 people
 - These buildings require full time professional firefighters
 - Whole different ball game
- Sprinklers don't put the fire out and don't help with the spread of smoke
- Heritage fire vs Modern day fire—did not have same components inside of a room
 - Fires are much more noxious now—petroleum based products
 - Heat element has changed dramatically
 - Couch manufactured 30 years ago—might get 1200 BTU's out of it—20 minutes to ignite
 - Couch manufactured today—4000 BTU's—2 minutes to ignite
- Not saying we don't want you to build these but these concerns need to be discussed
- Mt Snow had options—chose a better class of building
 - We can try to help on these aspects moving forward
- Most loss of life occurs with larger buildings
- What to do with all these people if a fire does occur
- Mt Snow has always been a great neighbor but it is a big burden for the community

24 hour security—on premises? Or going from property to property

- With the extra buildings going up, how is security going to be handled
- Laurie will meet with Randy Johnson on Police Dept. concerns

All volunteer organizations are suffering for members

- Orientations—need details to present to employees
- Ski passes are great but there is no incentive for Mt Snow employees who already get these
- Need input—will discuss
- Perhaps survey employees
- Ski patrol folks could be reached out to—here weekends and busy periods; already have rescue experience
- Weekenders who are firefighters elsewhere helping out?—possible—could do certification training on a weekend
- Wilmington has a large staffing problem during the day, during the week

Availability for training at Grand Summit?

- Mt Snow is willing to make that happen
- Initially these new units will be a hotel
- Buildings to burn? Those being demolished—will look into it
- Carinthia base lodge—donate to fire dept. for burn training?
- Huge training opportunity

Takeover of Carinthia Road—will that change your plans?

- Would not change plans—just have to go back to Select Board
- On the old plans—road would go through the new building

Follow up:

- Laurie will let Rich know about scheduling MIQ with Select Board
 - Will get building plans to Rich also
- Pipeline being built this year—T valves for Fire Dept.—construction starts in June—will send set of plans
 - Meet with Dave Moulton on this—hydrant placement
 - Hydrants on it—no changes
 - Reduction on existing hydrants
 - Pressure may have gone down but not by much

Regular Officers Meeting called to order at 6:10pm:

Drills:

- March 2—Officer’s Meeting at 5pm with Larry Dingee
- March 4 --Air packs
 - Fit masks etc.
- Billy Shea doing 2nd drill in March
- April 1—Airplane drill with Wilmington here at W. Dover-- 3-4 hours—from 6 to 10pm—**Remind people at next drill!**
 - Following Sat morning, April 4, at West Dover; afternoon at the airport
- April—Grand Summit—high rise packs
 - Get what we need together
- May-ladders drill
- ❖ Discussed changing drill meeting nights to Mondays
- ❖ Trying to do a drill twice a year with all depts.
- ❖ Tanker trucks coming in with 11,000 pounds of aluminum sulfate—liquid that has fire reactivity
- ❖ Need to schedule a **drill at the Fire District** to go through the plan

January Fire Calls: 23 calls

- January 1—Mutual Aid to Jamaica
- January 5—power lines down--Spruce Haven Rd
- January 6—false fire alarm—Trailside Village Way
- January 7—false fire alarm--Trailside Village Way
- January 8—false fire alarm—Trailside Village Way
 - False fire alarm—Route 100
 - Fire alarm—smoke in a building
 - Sprinkler activation—Slalom Lane
- January 9—false fire alarm—Peaks
- January 10—false fire alarm—Route 100
 - False sprinkler activation—Slalom Lane
- January 14—false fire alarm—Work Rd
- January 16—false fire alarm—Seasons Drive
 - False fire alarm—Handle Rd
- January 17—assist DVR—Country Club Rd
 - False fire alarm—Maple Hill Loop
- January 18—assist DVR—Country Club Rd
 - False fire alarm—Mount Snow Rd
- January 19—CO call—North Access Rd

- January 28—assist DVR—Country Club Rd
- January 29—cover assignment—Jacksonville station
- January 31—car accident—Route 100
 - False fire alarm—Maple Hill Loop

Purchases:

- Separate WW account for W. Dover Fire Dept.—don't use Town of Dover
- Napa also has separate account for Fire Dept.

Firehouse Use:

- Use of firehouse for functions??
- Restrict to membership and those member must be responsible?
- Who going to monitor this?

Fire Call Reports:

- Call reports—some don't make any sense
 - Need to all be on the same page
 - Only officers to fill out reports
- Radio sign on—if you 'can't respond, don't sign on'
- What does 'waiting on a crew' mean?
 - Someone who can drive?
 - Someone who can ride with you?
- It has been said that a "truck doesn't leave without a full crew"
- Need to know that an officer is on the way
- Until truck is ready to go out, no one signs on unless you can drive
 - "Engine 1 is on the air"
- With this kind of sub-freezing weather, don't want to take a truck out unless it's needed
- ***Discuss at next drill!***

Equipment:

- Broken lock on the tanker—side compartments
- Whitingham has one of Dover's 25 foot length of 4" hose
- Need a better system for how to report a repair need
 - Spiral bound notebook to record needs
 - Highlight when it has been fixed
- On one of the March drills—go through inventory and make notes on what is needed
- Need to be better on inventory tracking when returning from a call
- Not aware of 50 ft. 3" hose
- Air bottles on utility trucks—pullout trays? How many?
- New police radios coming in—will switch out with fire radios

The meeting was adjourned at 7:22pm

❖ **Next meeting on March 2 for Officers to meet with Larry Dingee at 5pm**

Respectfully submitted by Jeannette Eckert, Recording Secretary

Minutes are posted on the Dover, Vermont website: www.doververmont.com