

West Dover Fire Department  
OFFICERS MEETING  
Minutes  
Monday- April 25, 2016

Officers Present: Mickey Kersten, John Snow, Gary Carruthers, Mike Hescocock, Rick Fletcher, Rich Werner

Also present: Recording secretary, Jeannette Eckert

Called to order at 5:05 PM

**Old Business-**

-Questions on previous minutes- 03/28/16 Minutes--**none**

-Numbers on the ladders—more came in  
**Order more AAA batteries**

-Pike pole for Ladder 1-  
**Brackets for pole—New England Fire—should be in this week**  
**Plates for top of rail with U bolts**

-Inventory of trucks- **Rescue bags inventory is next**

-Permission to get chainsaw—**Mike will purchase**  
Carbide chains for chain saws- Mike H—**going to double check to see if it fits in compartment**

-SCBA / Medical form (in C1's hands)—**forms have been dropped off at health center**

-Recruitment and Retention- (defer until after meeting with Mt. Snow in early May)

-Winch on Four Wheeler- Mike H—**permission granted to purchase**  
**Also chains on tires**

-E-mail sheet to all firemen- officers were assigned to finish the list—sheets distributed for those missing—**still working on getting this completed**

-Furnace proposal- **Rich went to SB with recommendations—Board suggested getting one furnace first and use current one while it lasts**

-Mt. Snow request (will attend second Monday in May with an update)

-2006 Letter to Andy at Greensprings  
**Met with John Densmore—starting stand pipes—going to check depth**

## **New Business-**

-Volunteer Incentive Program at Hermitage Club (Renee Mulkey, Human Resources Director)

- Specific to W Dover Fire, Wilmington Fire and DVR
- All full time year round workers and part time year round workers are eligible
- Incentive shared via email and also posted in common departmental areas
- Will be part of all employee meetings prior to winter season
- Extends invitation for WDFD rep. to come to speak about organization
- Encourages employees to give back to community, support community involvement
- \$1000 stipend for each year after successful completion of one year of service
- Permitted to leave work & be paid to respond to calls

Officers comments:

- Criteria should be setup for requirements
- Good idea
- Volunteers from Mt Snow and Hermitage—what about seeking volunteers from other businesses?
- Increase in public buildings are creating a burden

-March payroll was processed

-Vermont Rural Fire Protection Task Force grant program for dry hydrants

**Consider Tom's Cabin Rd**

-Air leak in Engine two—needs to be locked in

-Application for Firefighter One—**Tim Dolan is interested; Mickey spoke with him, needs to get paperwork completed; May 1<sup>st</sup> deadline for FF1 application**

## **Training-**

-Deerfield Valley Fire Association meeting

**Jon Abel & Bart Howes splitting duties**

-Kevin Worden—**RIT training once a month on third Tuesdays from 6:30 to 9:30pm—**

**([kaworden@yahoo.com](mailto:kaworden@yahoo.com))**

- Need bodies; not vehicles
- Only get paid when requested to attend fire

-Stratton Fire Chief-- **LP gas class on May 19<sup>th</sup> at 6pm at Stratton Station—head count my May 16**

**([strattonmtnfire@comcast.net](mailto:strattonmtnfire@comcast.net))**

-Hosting Training Classes of interest

- Water Supply Officer
- Command for Company Officers
- Incident Commander
- Leading Volunteer Emergency Services in the 21<sup>st</sup> century
- The Coordinated Attack

- Fireground Operations with Light Staffing
- Truck Company Operations
- Engine Company Operations
- Engine Company Operations with Light Staffing
- Rural Water Movement: Tenders, Tankers and LDH

-Burning

- Rick responded to a local address where a couch, mattresses, trash etc. was burning
- Mike saw burn taking place last weekend—should let Rick know if you see anything
- No burn permits to be issued at present
- \$500 municipal ticket—call Police Dept. to issue
- Let get on top of this
- Repeated offenses are occurring

-Gated Y—there is one in each pack

-Set up ladder operations—Fall 2016

-Hermitage—need to go through building

-Blueberry Festival—July 30<sup>th</sup> parade

**No open house this year**

-Update on Antique truck—none yet

-Greg Gosselin—testing dry hydrants—difficult to connect to standpipe at Partridge Run due to trees on either side—will be corrected by maintenance man

-Tough Mudder letter submitted for public assembly permit

Holiday weekends and Tough Mudder—staff the station? **Decided against doing so**

-Backdraft Magazine Article: Lack of awareness in communities about volunteer departments

- 40% indicated interest—best way to recruit was by personal invitation
- Obtain a voter list—go through it and send out notices about volunteering
- Effective training sessions are key
- Leadership of Chief and Officers
- Examine community—determine demand & call volume—try to recruit weekend visitors—winter visitors would be good as calls are higher then

Next drills:

May--Charging standpipes at Grand Summit

-Drills

- Rescue drills—good turn out so far
- Invested in Bill Shea for better training
- Currently do three drills a month—consider going back to two drills a month?
  - Bill & Drew
- Guys have been complaining—doing the same things over again
- Suggest practicing what happens at an actual fire

- Howe Farmhouse—can it be used?
- Repetition gives the opportunity to learn it and retain it—becomes second nature
- Keep everybody busy
- Try going to two drills and see how it goes—cut back in the winter time
- Need more drills for at least six months out of the year
- Some people can make more drills in winter than summer
- Some are not into rescue drills; some are only into fire drills
- It is extra income for many
- Suggest May to Oct-- two fire drills a month / 1 rescue
  - Nov to April—one fire and 1 rescue
- May need to have a work detail to make up for those who can't make a drill
- 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesdays—3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday work detail
- Need to come up with some more realistic experiences; something different
- Have firefighters plan the next drill?
- Follow up on Bill's drill for the third session

-Recent rescue drill—was way above us—Mickey tried to call Drew about it but did not hear back

- Need to teach them the responsibility of team leaders
- Familiarity of equipment
- Break up drill into parts
- Classroom instruction
- Not comfortable sending people out in the dark

-June 22-25 New England Association of Fire Chiefs Conference

-Fire Rescue Magazine article on 1 3/4" hose

-State Fire Fighters Association—lieutenants and captains can join now

Adjourned at 6:55pm

Next Meeting- May 23rd at 5pm

Respectfully submitted by Jeannette Eckert

Minutes are posted on the Dover, Vermont website: [www.doververmont.com](http://www.doververmont.com)