

WEST DOVER FIRE OFFICER'S MEETING  
NOVEMBER 13, 2017

Officer's Present - Mickey Kersten, Rich Werner

Others Present - Recording Secretary Tim Dolan, John Abel, Dustin Washburn (Southern Vermont Sprinkler), Chris Dupuis (Dupuis Construction), Bill Shea, Glenn Beattie, Rick Judd, Brian Schmidt

Meeting Called to Order @ 5:05pm

- No drills in December
- November 29 – stuffing envelopes for the fundraiser
  - Tim will write the letter, Rich to approve, Dave to get printed/folded
- CPR class at drill this Wednesday November 15 @ 6:30pm
- Christmas Dinner will be on December 9 @ the Dover Forge, 5:30pm appetizers 7pm dinner
  - Tim will send out menu
  - Need to have orders in by December 5 – call/email Rich or email Tim back
- Mickey will bring the ladder truck up to Mount Snow on November 25 for Torchlight Parade with Santa
- Water has been drained out of Ladder 1 for the winter
- Mount Snow hosting Minus Zero festival on April 6-8
  - Will be a very busy weekend
- Carinthia Parking Garage
  - Will have updated plans for December 11 meeting
    - Dustin understands what the FD would like to see and will incorporate into the dry hydrant plan.
      - 8 hydrants total, 4 per level, have one within 100' of any point of the garage
      - Have on the fire hydrant system with a valve to pressurize the dry hydrants as needed
    - Stairwell will be on the ramp side
    - Second emergency hatch preliminarily will be opposite side as the ramp about 1/3 to 1/2 from the back. Needs to be blocked/fenced off and be able to open regardless of snow
- Invite Mount Snow in March to discuss the Carinthia Base Lodge
- Training Group - House Burn Discussion
  - During last burn of the evening
    - No accelerants were used, just lit the couch
      - Used hay and pallets with previous burns, introduced synthetics with last burn
    - The previous 4 burns were done in different areas of the house
    - Fire began to spread very quickly
    - Some FF's with minor burns

- Some FF's gear was damaged, some now unusable
- Wanted to get officers together to discuss what happened and what needs to be done in the future
- Problems:
  - Too many people inside (~18-20)
  - Only 1 means of egress
  - Boards over the windows was a no-no
  - Water was called for 3 times but never came
    - Nozzle man understandably didn't want to put water on the people coming out
  - Hose left the building
  - Reaction to "get out" wasn't taken seriously enough
  - FF's exiting didn't move out of the doorway quickly
  - Flames were on the floor by the time the last FF's were exiting
  - Accountability checkouts weren't done immediately
  - Communication – some of the officers outside thought there was another small training revolution, didn't realize we were going into the full burn
  - Jobs weren't specifically assigned for the last burn (they were for previous burns)
  - Not sure everyone understood the severity of the situation. Was a very close call. Lot of laid back attitudes after everyone was out
- Fixes
  - Assign specific duties
    - Should have a trainer on the hose
    - Backup trainer was filming, need someone as the backup trainer and someone else to film
  - Limit the number of people that are inside
  - Need to have FF's on exterior packed up and ready to react in case there is an issue
  - "Get Out" was said multiple times and no one moved – need to listen to orders and act in a controlled and orderly fashion. Waiting to move cause more chaos
    - Trainer can also radio out to truck to use air horn to alert everyone to get out
  - Need to get accountability tags immediately. Order was given to do so and people didn't react. Need to know ASAP who is still in, and only way to do that is for those who are out to get their tags
    - Not all depts use the same system for accountability. Need to be on the same page for these trainings
- The experience from a drill like that is invaluable, having gone through it FF's can recognize what is happening in a real life situation. But the biggest thing to take away is that there are areas we need to focus more on in future burns in order to provide as safe an environment as possible

- All depts.- check with the FF's that were at the training about interest in having a recap meeting January 3 @ West Dover Fire House
  - Bill can go to depts individually if they can't make it on Jan 3, important to recap this with the FF's
  - Rich – check with owner for any additional video footage to be used for recap meeting

Meeting adjourned @ 7:20pm