



Metropolitan Fire Chiefs Association Business Meeting Minutes
Thursday February 3, 2022 – 12:00 p.m.
Empress Banquets- 200 East Lake St., Addison, IL



1. **Call to Order** – President Christian called the meeting to order at 12:00 noon on February 3, 2022.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance** – President Christian led the attendees in the “Pledge of Allegiance.”
3. **Roll Call** – (Minimum of 20 members plus President or VP for a quorum) – Based on the attendance sheets, President Christian confirmed that a quorum was present.
4. **Introduction of Sponsor & Guests** – President Christian introduced Retired Chief Mike Falese, who was the meeting’s guest speaker.
5. **Secretary’s Report** – Secretary Wax presented the minutes of the November 4, 2021 and December 2, 2021 brief business meeting as part of the Installation Luncheon.
 - a. A motion was made to approve the November 4, 2021 meeting minutes as presented.
Motion: Beach Park FD Second: Alsip FD Voice Vote: Unanimous
 - b. A motion was made to approve the December 2, 2021 meeting minutes as presented.
Motion: Winfield FD Second: Villa Park FD Voice Vote: Unanimous
6. **Treasurer’s Report** – Treasurer Deegan presented the Treasurer’s Report, which reflected the following:
 - a. An 11/3/2021 fund balance of \$51,400.80 and listed revenues and expenditures netting a \$5,051.28 decrease, resulting in a 2/2/2022 fund balance of \$46,349.52.
 - b. 2/2/2022 account balances of \$45,479.38 in the MB Financial Bank account, \$820.14 in PayPal, and \$50.00 in Petty Cash, for a total of \$46,349.52.
 - c. A final 2021 budget report per line item. The year-end totals reflect \$18,060.73 expenditures-over-revenues, which reflects positively compared to the \$37,985.00 expenditures-over-revenues budgeted for 2021.

A motion was made to approve the Treasurer’s Report as presented.
Motion: Hoffman Estates FD Second: Beach Park FD Voice Vote: Unanimous

Treasurer Deegan also reported that the proposed 2022 Budget will be presented at the next meeting (on March 3, 2022, prior to the Symposium) after Executive Board vote. He also advised that members should have received their 2022 dues notices by email.
7. **Reading of Communications** – None
8. **President’s Report** – President Christian reported the following:
 - a. **Realignment of the Executive Board and new Member Appointments** – In response to the passing of 1st Vice President Brad Liggett and the retirement of Director Randy Deicke, President Christian is making the following Executive Board appointments:
 - i. 2nd VP Steve Evans (Winfield FPD) is appointed to 1st Vice President
 - ii. Director Steve Wascher (South Elgin & Countryside FPD) is appointed to 2nd VP
 - iii. Retiring Director Deicke is appointed as a Sergeant-at-Arms and will continue as Chairperson of the Directory/Website Committee
 - iv. Warrenville FPD Chief Andy Dina is appointed as a Director
 - v. Pleasantview FPD Chief Steve Norvilas is appointed as a Director

President Christian thanked these members for stepping-up to these new positions. He also noted that there is still a Director's position open, and he asked that anyone who may be interested in the position let him know.

- b. Chief Brad Liggett IFCA Foundation Scholarship – President Christian spoke of 1st VP Liggett's passing and his contributions to the organization and fire service. President Christian advised that the Executive Board authorized the Metropolitan Fire Chiefs Association sponsorship of a \$1,000 IAFC Foundation scholarship in Chief Liggett's memory.

9. Committee Reports

- a. Administrative Professionals Recognition Luncheon – Chairperson Kenny reported that the event date is April 7, 2022. More information will be forthcoming.
- b. Audit – Co-Chairperson Swanson reported that the committee will meet in February to conduct the audit, and will issue a report upon its completion.
- c. By-Laws – Secretary Wax reported that some proposed changes to the By-Laws will be forthcoming at a future membership meeting.
- d. Directory/Website – Chairperson Deicke reported that, with his retirement and use of his non-departmental computer and iPad, there have been some glitches that caused duplicate emails to be sent. This situation should be rectified soon.
- e. Fundraising – Treasurer Deegan reported that the annual IFCA Foundation Golf outing will be returning to St. Andrews Country Club in West Chicago on Wednesday, July 13, 2022. He also reported that there will be another fishing outing scheduled, this time with an afternoon time slot. Members should check the IFCA Hotsheet and other notices for more information.
- f. Home Day – The committee is starting to plan for the event in June.
- g. IFCA/Legislation – Chairperson Styczynski reported the following:
 - i. IFCA Foundation scholarship applications are due to be submitted by 3/15/2022.
 - ii. Company Fire Officer (CoFO) and Advanced Fire Officer (AdFO) classes are open.
 - iii. The Chief Fire Officer (CFO) program is going through a complete reconstruction in collaboration with the IFCA, OSFM, and IFSI.
 - iv. There is a new partnership with the Illinois Pipeline Emergency Response Committee that will lead to training and grant opportunities.
 - v. The Illinois Fire Chiefs Association and Illinois Association of Fire Protection Districts have reached a preliminary agreement to combine their annual conferences starting in June of 2023. Discussion and planning are continuing, and more information will be provided.
 - vi. Legislative Committee Chairman John Buckley reported the following:
 - 1. The Spring Legislative session has started, and it is a condensed session due to end in April. The deadline to submit bills has passed. Bills should be assigned to committees by February 4th, with hearings coming next month.
 - 2. The proposed Foreign Fire Insurance Board legislation (SB1571) is not good for fire chiefs, so the IFCA is intervening.
 - 3. The IFCA has proposed several bills, mostly related to volunteer fire department interests.
 - 4. There is some pension legislation proposed, but most may not move except for the proposed change of the 90% fully-funded date requirement to be changed from 2040 to 2050 for actuarial calculations.
 - 5. There is a new sponsor for re-introduced fireworks legislation that did not pass last session. The IFCA and its lobbyist is fighting the proposal.

- h. Sick & Welfare – Chairperson Kenny asked all members to let her know if they hear of news about which the committee should be aware.
- i. Symposium – Co-Chairpersons Evans and Wax distributed flyers for the March 3, 2022 Symposium. Online registration is recommended. Sign-in and breakfast is at 8:00, followed by a short business meeting to approve the 2022 Budget at 8:30, followed by the Symposium at 8:45.

10. **Association Updates** – None

11. **Unfinished Business** – None

12. **New Business** – None

13. **Open Discussion** – None

14. **Future Meetings** – President Christian noted the following upcoming meetings:

- a. Symposium – Thursday March 3, 2022
- b. Administrative Professionals Recognition Luncheon – Thursday April 7, 2022
- c. Next General Meeting – Thursday May 6, 2022 (note this meeting was added from the previously-published schedule)

15. **Adjournment**

Motion: Alsip FD Second: South Elgin & Countryside FPD Voice Vote: Unanimous

The business portion of the meeting adjourned at 12:16 p.m., at which time Chief Falese gave a presentation about the Firefighters Memorial Plaza being constructed adjacent to the Elgin Fire Museum (old fire Station 5) at 533 St. Charles St in Elgin – dedicated to memorializing all Illinois Firefighter line-of duty deaths. A two-page flyer related to the Memorial Plaza is attached to these minutes.

Respectfully submitted,



Alan Wax, Secretary

FIREFIGHTERS MEMORIAL PLAZA

A memorial that honors past, present and future firefighters



The Memorial will consist of a fountain, curved seating walls, 4x8 & 16x16 paver bricks, a Maltese cross cast in stone and an eight and a half foot tall bronze firefighter statue

The Firefighters Memorial Plaza will annually memorialize all line of duty firefighter fatalities in Illinois.

All Illinois line of duty deaths since 1857 will be engraved on bronze plaques on the base of the statue. As of 2020, this consisted of over 900 names. New line of duty deaths will be added yearly...the only memorial of its kind.

HOW IT STARTED: In 1994, ten local fire departments participated in the first "Elgin Area Firefighter Memorial Service". This annual service has been conducted every year since at the Elgin Fire Museum (old Fire Station 5) at 533 St. Charles St., in the heart of the southeast side of Elgin.

As the memorial service has grown over the years, its purpose has reached deep into many communities and their local fire departments. During this time, an unexpected benefit from the memorial service arose. Each year, grieving families share their loss and love with the larger fire service community. In turn, this support has encouraged many families to return year after year to comfort other families who are experiencing the same loss. That is the spirit and soul of this memorial plaza. It will be a site worthy of the annual firefighter memorial service; a place to recognize public servants and the selfless dedication they provided to their communities.

HOW IT'S GOING: Groundbreaking took place on June 26, 2021. Estimated costs of the memorial plaza are projected to be \$250,000. To date, \$207,000 has been raised since May 2019. Design of the plaza is 99% complete and fundraising continues to support the final design. With material costs rising, the fundraising goal is within site. Please help to make this 30 year idea a reality!

The fundraising has been provided by individuals, private sources and businesses. The donation amounts have ranged from \$25 to \$20,000. We have worked very hard to secure in-kind donations. To date, architectural, excavation and electrical services have been donated as well as many other contractors' services.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

MEMORIAL SPONSOR

WE CAN'T DO IT WITHOUT YOUR GENEROSITY.

\$5 OR \$1999, EVERY DOLLAR HELPS!

YOU ARE ELIGIBLE FOR A 4x6 BRICK FOR EVERY \$200 DONATED

DONOR BOARD

DONATIONS OVER \$2,000 GETS YOUR NAME ON AN ENGRAVED BRONZE DONOR BOARD AT THE ENTRANCE TO THE MEMORIAL.

SPONSOR LEVELS LISTED. YOU WILL ALSO RECEIVE A COMPLIMENTARY BRICK

INDIVIDUAL/HONOR BRICK SPONSOR \$200:

MEMORIAL BRICKS WILL BE PLACED ON THE GROUND WITHIN THE COURTYARD OF THE PLAZA

EACH BRICK HOLDS UP TO 3 LINES & EACH LINE CAN HOLD 13 CHARACTERS

SEE BRICK ORDER FORM ON BACK

CORPORATE BRICK SPONSOR \$400:

CORPORATE SPONSORS MAY PURCHASE A BRICK WITH THEIR COMPANY NAME ENGRAVED

PROCEEDS OF BRICK SALES WILL BE DIRECTED TOWARD CONSTRUCTION & MAINTENANCE COSTS OF THE PLAZA

For more information, please visit www.elginfiremuseum.com. Donations can be made via cash, check or PayPal. Checks should be made out to the **Elgin Fire Barn No. 5 Museum, with 'FF Memorial' in the memo line.**

FIREFIGHTERS MEMORIAL PLAZA

BRICK ENGRAVING FORM

THANK YOU for your support and donation to the Firefighters Memorial Plaza. We sincerely appreciate your assistance in making this Firefighter Memorial a reality.

You are eligible to have an engraved brick for every \$200 that you have donated (for example, if you donated \$200, you are eligible for 1 brick, if you donated \$400, you are eligible for 2, etc.)

- All engraving will be in capital letters and all characters will be centered.
- Each brick holds up to 3 lines of engraving and a maximum of 13 characters per line.
- Spaces, periods, commas and hyphens count towards the 13 character limit.

Individual Bricks can honor a firefighter or a family name

Businesses can purchase a brick to show their support and highlight their business

Please print your desired information for your 4x8 brick:

Line 1 _____

Line 2 _____

Line 3 _____

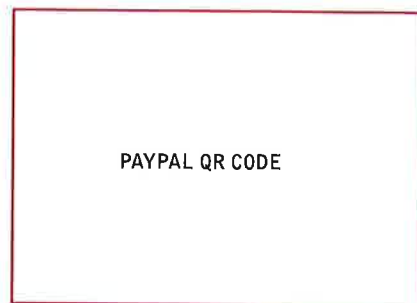
Name/Organization: _____ Phone # _____

Address/City/State/Zip _____

Email: _____

Send this form and payment to committee member:

Mike Falese
1915 Salem Rd.
Elgin, IL 60123



Donations can be made via cash, check or PayPal.

Make your checks payable to: Elgin Fire Barn No. 5 Museum NFP

Any questions, please contact Mike at 224-242-6310 or mwfalese@gmail.com