



WHITBY PROFESSIONAL FIRE FIGHTERS' ASSOCIATION
209 DUNDAS STREET EAST, P.O. BOX 362, WHITBY, ONTARIO L1N 5S4

Association Meeting

September 13, 2023

Virtual Meeting

Regular Meeting

President Friel presiding.

1830: Regular meeting begins.

Vice-President Girard reminds all in attendance that no electronic recording of the meeting is permitted.

Motion to waive reading of minutes is presented by President Friel

Moved by Pannunzio. Seconded by Chalk.

Carried.

Treasurers Report – Treasurer Swail

General - \$8,149.91
Charitable/Benevolent - \$16,791.64
Canteen - \$10,761.54
LDF - \$191,478.42
Memorial - \$73,765.16

Financial statement of 2022:

-Conclusion: nothing of concern from the accountant

Bills Pertaining to the Union – Secretary Anderson
none

Correspondence – Secretary Anderson

None

Labour Management—President Friel

- Management has agreed to set AC positions as when they pass the tests, so their seniority is protected in the event of amalgamation.
- PFAS: management set out best practices, but refuse to make an SOG
- Clothing Trial: In June we agreed with management to begin a clothing trial. However, management refuses to submit a MOA, so the topic will likely move to negotiations if not resolved soon. Concern is that nomex uniforms contain harmful chemicals.

Committee Reports

Grievance Committee – Friel

- 21-006 Still waiting for response.
- Arbitration in October for a personal grievance. Waiting for their proposal
- 22-006 failure to grant lieu day, Queen's funeral day, Nov 8th arbitration date set
- 23-003, benefits grievance. Heard and denied at all stages. Looking for arbitration. Bio-similar language, generic drug issues.

Negotiations – Friel

- Submissions received
- in-person submission meeting likely upcoming, likely in November

Government Relations – Swail

- Met with council in May for a meet and greet, only 2 councilors did not attend
- pushed for 7th fire truck with council
- their response was supportive
- In August Bob Brandon and Josh Girard had a hole sponsored at the mayor's tournament, to push memorial fundraising
- Bonin and Thomas attending legislative conference in November

Health and Safety – Chalk

- uniform trial not going well due to management's refusal to co-operate
- electronic exposure forms working well

Research & Development – Patterson

- New trucks being specked, more details to come

Charitable Committee – Bowers

- successful golf tournament, over \$11,000 raised for SickKids
- Movember coming up soon, other locals pushing for “Durham Fire” so together we can raise more money collectively.
- crime stoppers hockey game, Jan 21 tentative day
- Retirement social in May, reaching out to venues and gathering info

WSIB/OCC Disease – Gear

- committee been busy helping former firefighter/chief who passed. Application for memorial grant. Work in progress.

Memorial ad hoc committee

- New committee: Conboy, Bowers, Freeman, Elliot, Girard. Will be raising money for the new memorial.
- \$180,000 remaining to raise.
- Committee has been created to help Vice President Girard raise the funds.

Unfinished Business – Friel

GIS study: all the info has been provided to IAFF, heard back in August that we were 4th in line to have the study done

- Silo committee asked for an extension. If there is no report by next month the committee will be disbanded.

New Business

OPFFA convention: Friel, Swail, Anderson, Girard attended. Unanimous approval of Treasurer Swail’s resolution to research incidence of cancer in children of firefighters.

IAFF Canadian policy conference: VP Girard presented Swail’s resolution, unanimous approval again, at the national level. Next step will bring it to Boston next year at the IAFF convention.

- New Logo: Girard selling stickers. Hats, t-shirts, will be sold to raise money for the fallen firefighter’s memorial

- Anderson and Girard attended the Redmond symposium, a health and safety seminar run by the IAFF. Information brought back and shared with the health and safety committee.

- Canadian Fallen Firefighter memorial. Bicycle ride with Ed Conboy, John Harrison, Josh Girard, Kevin Grant. Successful ride again this year.

- Honor guard attended Fallen Firefighter Memorial for Bob Vessey

-This weekend Friel, Spencer, Gilchrist and Kennedy will attend Colorado Springs Fallen Firefighter Memorial for Bob Vessey

-October OPFFA Health and Safety seminar upcoming. Girard, Vardjas, Gallant, Copeland attending

-Nick Atwol is officially leaving. The executive recognises this as a retirement.

-Patterson, Kelly, Canfield, Rob Currie have joined the peer support team.

-New public education officer begins Tuesday

-No news for new training officer. Interviews have been completed by management for candidates.

New Business from the Floor:

Financial review: Valois, Elliot, bowers

-members of the review support the treasurer in his handling of the Association's finances.

-Recommendation made to continue to keep seminar spending under control while simultaneously ensuring members are being educated and the association can continue to provide the level of service it does to its membership.

Motion:

To adjourn.

Moved by Pannunzio. Seconded by Infusino.

Carried.

Minutes taken by Secretary Anderson.