

Approved

Westport Volunteer Emergency Medical Service

General Membership Meeting

Tuesday, September 27, 2016

Yves called the General Membership Meeting to order at 1835hrs.

Attendance: Yves Cantin, Nancy Sengstacken, Larry Kleinman, Steve Cappiello, Jay Paretzky, Isabel Blair, Russ Blair, Jaime Bairaktaris, Annika Morgan, Emma Baxley, Brian Crane, Andrea Harman, Ben Frimmer, Martin Iselin, Yashasvi Jhangiani, Dorrie Harris, Robert Pocius, Kathy Smith, Kenneth Blount, Audrone Tarnok, Conor Ward. Guests: Deputy Director Marc Hartog, Chief of Police Foti Koskinas, First Selectman Jim Marpe, Deputy Chief Vincent Penna.

Secretary's Report: Isabel made a motion to accept the General Membership Meeting minutes for June, 26, 2016. Martin seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Yves suspended the regular meeting agenda to introduce First Selectman Jim Marpe. The First Selectman praised WVEMS for our service to the Town of Westport. Mr. Marpe handed out the abatement checks to the out of town members. The names of the town members who received a tax abatement were read. Yves continued the regular meeting after the presentation.

Treasurer's Report: Larry handed out the current budget performance report. We are on target so far at this point. Audit is going on and looks good. Also at this point we will not have to use our line of credit.

Committee Reports:

Finance: Yves reported the Finance Committee meets about 4 times a year. As of now our funds are tracking well.

Fundraiser: Russ reported he is working on the fundraiser letter. He asked for help from the membership when the fundraiser donation start to come in with

documenting and sending the thank you letters out promptly. Dorrie, Jaime and Jay volunteered to help.

Training: Brian reported for members who did not attend the mandatory Narcan training, the next scheduled sessions will be in November and December during school breaks.

Mandatory CPAP training is scheduled for October. Mike is looking at a date change due to the Jewish holidays.

Online EMT refresher has 6 students ending in November. The next refresher is not scheduled until June 2017. If you are due prior to July 2017, and are not in the current refresher email Mike, you still have time to do the online work.

Per the Westport Health District mandatory PPD testing will again be once a year at HQ. They are scheduled for either December or January.

Pat Salvo's EMT class will have 16 EMR students and 16 EMT students. If you want to help out when it comes time to do skill stations please contact Pat Salvo.

Sessions will be held on Saturdays and those assisting with teaching will be paid.

If any crew chiefs know of any interns ready to be cleared you MUST email Mike a note stating they are ready to be cleared. Please assist interns with their progress (practice with them, more patient contacts, etc.) to minimize delays in getting clearance.

New statewide protocols will be rolling out soon. Everyone will be notified of the roll out date and another mandatory training class.

CPR: Jay reported on Wednesday we will be teaching the EMR/EMT class, and on Thursday another class for the traffic agents and CERT. Classes are on-going.

State/Counsel: State protocols all depend on sponsor hospitals. The new State protocols have been approved and everyone must complete the training and testing by December 31, 2016

PR: We will once again put up our banner on Main Street in December. We have the Touch a Truck event coming up.

New Business: Our new sample shirts are in the conference room, try on and record your size on the sheet.

Centrelearn is up for renewal at this time. Mike has looked into other sources and feels Centrelearn is the best option at this time. Martin made a motion to pay for 109 members. Jay seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Yves presented the proposed amendment to our by-laws. The amendment will actually be put up for a vote at the next General Membership meeting, November, 29. Essentially, the by-laws terminology would be changed to eliminate references to "Explorer Post," and "explorer member." We are not eliminating the youth group, just changing its name as these words are proprietary terms or often used in conjunction with the Boy Scouts of American organization. The Town and EMS insurance program has been studied and there is no longer a need to have our youth or junior group be part of the Scouts for insurance purposes.

Article VI: Membership Section 1.

Currently reads:

In order to be eligible for membership a person shall be at least fourteen years of age for explorer members and eighteen years of age for senior members. Applicants shall provide information as requested by the WVEMS Board of Directors.

This would be replaced and would read as follows:

In order to be eligible for membership a person shall be at least fourteen years of age. Applicants shall provide information as requested by the WVEMS Board of Directors.

Article VI: Membership Section 1.1 WEMS Explorer Post Members would be deleted.

We will need to find a new name for our youth group. Please submit your suggestions.

Jay mentioned the Westport Fire Department has sent out a survey to the residents of Westport. This survey is asking residents in how we feel about the performance of the Fire Department and what improvements residents recommend. Two issues with the survey was it just stated the department was

only a paid staff and did not mention the Fire Volunteers and it stated the Fire Department responds to all EMS calls. Both these items are not correct.

Robert made a motion to adjourn the meeting, and seconded by Sandi. The meeting was adjourned at 1940hrs. Following the meeting the Pizza Truck Dinner was dished out by the Colony Grill Pizza Truck.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Sandi MacPherson, Secretary