

Westport Volunteer Emergency Medical Service

General Membership Meeting

March 28, 2016

Yves called the General Membership Meeting to order at 1935hrs.

Attendance: Nancy Sengstacken, William Min, Leah Foodman, Aliza Gross, Charles Krawiec, Alex Galvao, Larry Kleinman, Nancy Surace, Brian Crane, Rob Pocius, Annikz Morgan, Emma Boxley, Sarah Acselrod, Vrinda Kareddy, Jenna Doran, Nicole Arellano, Russ Blair, James Bairaktaris, Yves Cantin, Martin Iselin, Andrea Harman, Dorrie Harris, Jay Paretzky, Kevin Doherty. Guest: Marc Hartog.

Secretary's Report: Jaime made a motion to accept the Minutes for the January 26, 2016 General Membership Meeting be accepted as posted. Kathy seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: Jay presented the current budget performance report.

Committee Reports:

Finance: The finance committee met with Tom Hofstetter, who has been our adviser at Morgan Stanley. He has moved to Wells Fargo. We plan to move our investments to Wells Fargo so that we can continue to use Tom as our investment adviser. However, we will not do this until our line of credit, which we currently have at Morgan Stanley, has been put in place at Wells Fargo.

Yves explained that projections show that after the upcoming final new ambulances payments, the organization will continue to stand in compliance with the Investment Policy provision requiring a cash operating reserve within the \$120,000 - \$150,000 range. The Operating Reserve would, however, at that point be comprised of funds in the checking account, Major Equipment Fund and investments. Negative cash flow is expected between now and the next fundraiser in November/December. Questions and answers followed.

Fundraiser: Russ reported the fundraiser is \$97,764 to date. The second fundraiser brought in \$25,000.

Member Relations: EMS Week is in May, if anyone has ideas let Yves know.

Training: Brian reported all the EMT's in the last refresher passed. The next refresher will start April 21 for the rest of the members whose certifications expire this year.

Reminder that PPDs are to be done in the birth month of members at the request of the Health District due to a limited supply of testing solution.

We are hosting an EMS/PD bike class April 2, 3, 9, and 10.

CT EMS Expo coming up June 1 – 4.

We will be having a summer EMT program. Pat is still finalizing the dates.

CPR: The new AHA BLS Instructor program has started. The Basic Life Support (BLS) has replaced the HCP. The AHA BLS-Instructor program has Norwalk EMS staff in it, since they are going to start teaching classes in the area of the public. They have funding and manikins from a big grant for this program. The AHA BLS-I is open to our members also.

Ambulance: One ambulance has arrived the other is on the way by end of week or next.

Scholarship: Ed Audley Scholarships are now available both in the Scholarship mail box in the Crew Chief Office or by e-mailing Jay at ctem80@sbcglobal.net

Counsel/State: A new Commissioner of Health – Dr. Pino was promoted from Deputy Commissioner.

CT OEMS – New manager, Ralf Coler who has been the Education and Training Coordinator for Hartford Hospital and Chair of the CT Education and Training Committee of the CT EMS Advisory Board for many years. The office of EMS can't refill the Education and Training manager position due to budget issues and the Department has been advised layoffs will be happening shortly due to the cut backs in the State.

Public Relations: 10,000 visitors are expected at the upcoming "Mini Maker Faire" on April 30th, held at the Library and adjacent Green. We were invited to be an exhibitor. We plan on having an ambulance and motorcycle on site for tours as well as a table for hands on activity and interaction with volunteers. We will also assist in the Norwalk Hospital tent with Hands-Only CPR/AED.

New Business: WVEMS and Westport CERT are holding an Open House here on Sunday, April 24 from 12 to 3 PM. All are invited to attend.

The Nominating Committee needs to be made up of 2 Board of Directors and 3 from the General Membership. The 2 BOD members have already been appointed, Brian Crane, and Erin Finch. Jaime made a motion to accept Larry Kleinman, Leah Foodman, and Robert Pocius from the General Membership. The motion seconded by Martin. Motion passed unanimously.

Bill Min made a motion to spend up to \$600 to purchase a new grill. Martin seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

WPD Chief Dale Call is retiring after 33 years of service to the town, and our WVEMS Director Chief Foti Koskinas, is being promoted to Chief. The swearing-in ceremony is being held this Thursday, March 31, at 5pm at Town Hall. As WEMS Director, DC Koskinas has always been incredibly supportive of our service, and as a division of WPD, it would be nice to have a good turnout of WEMS members in uniform to show our support of him as well.

A motion to adjourn was made by Yves, and seconded by Rob. The meeting was adjourned at 2015hrs.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Sandi MacPherson, Secretary