

Connecticut State Firefighters Association

Education Committee

Meeting minutes

January 26, 2008 – 14:50

Enfield Fire Company #1

Phoenix Avenue

The meeting was called to order at 19:08 with the following representatives present:

Connecticut State Firefighters Association – Charles Stankye, Jr., Ted Schroll

Burrville Fire School – Rich Winn, John Field

Eastern Connecticut Fire School – Al Hawkins, Les Shull, Bill Eyberse

Fairfield Regional Fire School – Christopher Tracy

Hartford Fire School - Chet Haber, Mike Jepeal, Jim Baldis

Valley Fire Chief's Regional Fire School – Peter Wols, Jr.

Stamford Regional Fire School - Tony Conte, Trevor Roach

Commission on Fire Prevention and Control – Jim Wilkinson

Connecticut Fire Academy - Jeff Morrisette

Guest: Ct. Department of Public Works - Don Ouillette

No one was present from the Middlesex County Fire School, New Haven Regional Fire Academy, or the Wolcott State Fire School.

The minutes of the September and December meetings were presented. Motion made by Jepeal, second by Wols to accept the September minutes as presented. Motion carried. Motion made by Jepeal, second by Tracy to accept the December minutes as presented. Motion Carried.

1. Status of properties acquisitions

Willimantic site - Don Ouillette reported that Shane Mallory from DPW property acquisitions has heard from Rogers Corp. this past week. He is planning to attempt to finalize a purchase agreement for the property soon.

Burrville - Rich Winn reported that Representative Minor arranged a meeting with staff from D.E.P. and D.P.W. to try to move the negotiations ahead for an agreement for continued use of the existing site. D.E.P. wants to perform a site analysis prior to design. (Representative Minor is on the State Bond Commission). D.E.P. staff wants to know if the current site is the best place for the fire school. They have offered that if the current site is not deemed appropriate that they may have another parcel that would better suit the need. D.P.W. staff has forwarded the same “boiler plate” agreement that has been executed in order to begin the design for the Hartford County School for consideration by D.E.P. The attorney for D.P.W. has circulated a letter confirming the points of agreements reached at the meeting.

The D.P.W. commissioner has agreed to fund preliminary study and programming in the amount of \$30 to \$40 k each in order to facilitate the projects. The necessary funding could be replaced when final design finds or design/build bond funding is appropriated.

Middlesex site - Still nothing happening.

Valley Fire School - January 18th the D.P.W. received proposals on three properties. One site is in Naugatuck, one in Beacon Falls and one in Oxford (the same site that was investigated previously). There is another site being investigated in Seymour. That site is near Haines Construction on a dead end road in an industrial park complex. The Valley school has now gone from no site for consideration to as many as six potential locations. After preliminary review the D.P.W. will appoint a site selection committee. After evaluation by the committee one or more sites will be approved for further consideration.

2. New Haven Renovation - Design

The New Haven design is progressing but progress seems to have slowed. Revised schematics are due next week for review. The New Haven city council has not approved the M.O.U. The project will not progress beyond design without that agreement in place.

3. Hartford County – Design

D.P.W. environmental staff analyst will review the site to determine the best layout for use of the parcel. The site sketch will be revised accordingly. The layout could end up using a dog-legged design that would situate the burn building back from Perimeter Road. The new site may not be tied to the existing site. Wetlands recharge requirements may dictate the site layout. Porous surfaces will bring credit towards LEEDS certification.

4. Bonding Commission update

Jim Wilkinson reported that the Bonding Commission passed the release of \$422,660 for the Hartford County design yesterday.

5. Mobile burn buildings

There was a discussion about options for burn facilities. Questions were raised about possible lease options. The general feeling was that additional information was needed relative to pricing, specifications and maintenance issues. There was also a suggestion that we investigate the possibility of application for a fire act grant. The grant would probably need to be filed on behalf of a fire department or a municipality.

6. Other items from membership

The Joint Council plans to push to get additional funding committed to the training bill this session. The objective is to see the 2.5 million in the original bill restored.

Don reported that he met someone last Saturday in Old Saybrook who works for Dexter Masonry. They have reportedly developed a new product for thermal linings that is more resistant to heat and water than other products currently in use for burn building protection.

7. Next meeting date

The next meeting will be on February 28, 2008 at the Wethersfield Company #3

Meeting was adjourned at 16:15 (motion by Conte, second by Tracy)

Submitted by:
Al Hawkins, chairman