



Marco Island Fire Rescue Foundation
Board Meeting, Thursday, December 8, 2016, Minutes

Present: Roy Birkeland, Gene Burson, John Coff, Jim Curran, Dianna Dohm, Cheryl Ferrara, Darcie Guerin, Jennifer Kreidler, Barbara Murphy, Tina Nash, Jack Patterson, Marty Roddy, Mike Stapleton, Steve Stefanides, Fire Chief Mike Murphy and Assistant Chief Dave Batiato.

Absent: Pete Guerin and Valerie Simon. Lou Prigge is on leave of absence.

Guests Present: Ken Alford.

The meeting was called to order by Dianna Dohm at 12:05 pm.

Approval of October Minutes

Minutes for November 10, 2016, were unanimously approved. Dianna Dohm explained Cheryl Ferrara would be transitioning to webmaster.

Dianna Dohm will be working with Darcy Guerin in January to review ways to get higher interest rates on Foundation investments. The board discussed the need to have cash available and on hand for future grant requests.

Cheryl Ferrara requested the term "Events" be changed to "Scholarships" on the Financial Report. The financial report was unanimously accepted.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer John Coff presented the Foundation's current financials as of November 2016. The Foundation had a total cash balance of \$126,162. Payments will continue for a firefighter's family to cover expenses while dealing with a son's recovery. Dianna Dohm clarified that the December payment to this family will be lower than the payment in November because neighborhood association fees were paid in November and do not need to be paid in December.

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Membership Committee Update

Jim Curran reported current membership at 180 members. Four more 50th Anniversary books have been sold.

Dianna Dohm reported she and Chief Murphy had been soliciting the "F" Troop, and all members have joined the Foundation. The group is very interested in playing a role in the Foundation.

Barb Murphy suggested offering the 50th Anniversary book at a discounted rate of \$20 for Fire Department personnel. Assistant Chief Dave Batiato said he would let the department know.

UPDATES

Christmas Island Style Parade

Barb Murphy gave an update on the Christmas Parade. The Foundation plans a train and coach entry in the parade on Saturday, Dec. 17, 2016. The theme is Harry Potter's Hogwarts Express. It was suggested people look online for ideas for Harry Potter themed dress styles for riding on the float. Barb asked for volunteers to help decorate the float on Saturday, Dec. 17; and then ride and walk with the float that evening. Walkers will distribute lollipops to the crowd. The number of seats available could not be confirmed at this time. All who want to participate need to email Barb Murphy. The float will be the combined effort of the Fire Rescue Foundation and the Police Foundation. Sunshine Stitchers will be making the banner.

Dianna Dohm will send a volunteer request through Constant Contact and post it on the website.

Christmas Dinners

Dianna Dohm said the Foundation has given \$200 per shift to firefighters in past years to provide a holiday dinner at Christmas. She asked the board to approve the gift this year. The board approved.

Scholarship Committee

Marty Roddy presented wording for changes approved to the scholarship document. The board unanimously approved the wording.

Cheryl Ferrara asked how many students are entering college this upcoming year. Assistant Chief Dave Batiato thought there were two, but will check.

Cruise Raffle

Dianna Dohm encouraged Cruise Raffle ticket sales. She reminded the board only 250 tickets will be sold. The winner will be picked at the March 3, 2017, Annual Meeting. Proceeds will go to the Scholarship Fund.

Dianna Dohm gave an update on the board's grant application to the Island Country Club. Gary Landis indicated there should be no problem with it going through approval. The amount requested is \$6,000.

50/50 at Stan's

Jack Patterson said, in preparation for the January 22 event, volunteers are needed for shifts from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. and 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. Dianna Dohm will send an email to ask for volunteers. She mentioned it is helpful to have a firefighter at this event for PR and photos.

Website

Cheryl Ferrara reported she completed training with Darren Pledger on the website and has already added such things as Dianna 's Citizen of the Year and a recap of the City Council meeting. Also to be included: a parade flyer, November minutes, and a merchandise (photos are in process) page.

Chief Mike Murphy suggested listing board members and corporate members on the website. He also suggested considering featuring changing photos every two weeks to increase recognition. Cheryl Ferrara said possibly this could be done every month as it is quite labor-intensive.

Nominating Committee

Gene Burson reported that he reached out to all members whose terms are expiring and all agreed to serve again. Several members questioned their fellow members' lack of attendance. Barb Murphy said that people should attend if they accept the commitment to be board member.

Cheryl Ferrara reminded the board the bylaws state elections should take place in February on the slate of officers /members. The board should receive the slate one month before the vote, so in January the slate should be presented.

Fire Chief's Comments

Chief Mike Murphy discussed the most recent City Council meeting. He encouraged people to go to the website and view the COCPN report and accompanying video. It can be located under - meetings, agenda. He encouraged people to form their own opinion and share their support with City Council members to "do something" rather than just talk about it. He also encouraged people to attend the January 9 City Council meeting. Dianna Dohm promised to share the invite with people via Constant Contact.

Chief Murphy reported that Chris Crossan just celebrated his 25th Anniversary as a firefighter.

On behalf of all the firefighters, Chief Murphy thanked the Fire Rescue Foundation for all their support.

Board Comments

Barb Murphy used this time to recognize Dianna Dohm for being awarded the Citizen of the Year. A card from the board and a gift were presented. Dianna thanked all, and said her success was a result of the hard work of everyone.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:12 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for January 12, 2017, at the Fire Station.

Respectfully submitted,
Cheryl Ferrara, Secretary