

February 2008 Minutes R.F.A.

President Oliff called the Feb. 4th meeting of the R.F.A. to order at 1955 hours with 42 members present.

Deceased members - Ed Flynn: Eddie reported Jim Tidwell, Welborne Smith, Kenneth Buckley and Paul Hanley. Active member Lawrence Borders. A moment of silence was held for them and our troops in the Armed Forces.

The minutes of the Jan 7th meeting – George Kenney: Read and approved.

Applications for membership – George Kenney: John Burger, Ike Iacangelo (Ralph to his close friends!), Eddie Simms, AJ Winterwerp, Ronald Murphy and Mike Connors. Voted on and approved.

The Secretary/Treasurer report - George Kenney: Read and approved.

Sick Committee - Ed Flynn: Ed has added Hugh Barnes, Melvin Carroll and John Schellenberg to our sick list of Wendy Baden, Larry Beardmore, Ed Beller, Jim Bojalad, Dan Collins, Tim Connors, William Coughlin, Fred Davis, Ed Dougherty, Jim McIlvaine, Tom O’Conner, George Orme, Irvin Poole, Kenny Propst, Raymond Roberts, Walter “Steamboat” Smith, Gerald Tassa and Frank Wise Sr.

Vocal Alarm - Joe Healy: Not present. Any articles, pictures or any other items of interest please send to him at RFANews@comcast.net.

Entertainment Committee – Ed Flynn: Eddie talked about the upcoming DCFD Emerald Society’s Pipe and Drum Band performing Feb. 10th at the Northern Virginia Comm. College – Annandale Campus for the *Ireland on Parade* Show. For details see <http://IrelandOnParade.com/> or <http://www.DCFDPipesAndDrums.org/>. Also on Thursday Feb. 21st the DC Firefighters Burn Foundation Bowling Tournament will be held at Strike Bethesda. On Saturday March 1st, the Pipe and Drum Band will be marching in Alexandria Virginia’s St. Patrick’s Day Parade. <http://www.ballyshaners.org/>. On Sunday March 16th the St. Patrick’s Day Parade in D.C. Details see <http://www.DCStPatsParade.com/> and the party at the Hyatt Hotel again this year. Also the Emerald Society’s Fishing Tournament is Thursday May 1st. Check WashingtonEmeralds.org/ or DCFD.com.

Safety Committee - Tom Barnard: No report.

Honor Guard - Joe O’Neil: Joe discussed where we had 34 members at the last 4 funerals. We need more members to act as pall bearers. A thank you letter from Thomas Herlihy’s son was read.

Members attending their first meeting: AJ Winterwerp and Mike Connors.

Local 36 - Ben Self: Ben has decals and passed out 2008 work schedules (what’s a work schedule?).

Retirement Board - Tom Tippet: Not present.

Old business: Follow up discussion on Section 845, “Health Enhancement for Local Public Safety Officers” (HELPS). See IRS publication 575 (pages 1, 5 and 6) which explains how to report the total distributions. Go to www.IRS.gov and link over to Publication 575 for further details. *TurboTax* already has it on their software. Longevity was then brought up. Mayor Fenty has pulled his support. Butch will schedule a meeting with the Mayor’s representative whenever they return to work.

Fire Chief Dennis Rubin is working to get all (active and retired) members ID’s. The “Retired” rocker patch is now in, which will be used by RFA members when they wear the Official DCFD Uniform. Rubin stated that retired members can now wear the official DCFD dress uniform. Butch said any member needing same can contact Muscatellos, 900 Rhode Island Ave NE. 202.393.7547/48. Their sack coat is \$178 to \$198. Pants are \$55 and cap is \$36. This is where DCFD gets their dress uniforms. For badges, contact Commercial Emblem in

Brentwood MD 301.779.7300. www.CommercialEmblem.com/. Butch brought in and showed us Hanover Uniform Co.'s (of Baltimore) dress blues and it is quite a bit different from DCFD's dress uniform.

New Business: Butch brought up that Wally Adkinson had talked about having the Florida Reunion at the same place probably in the fall. The fire department's entrance exam is tentatively set for being given sometime this fall.

Good & welfare: Ben Self said that our COLA percentage will be out next month and will be in our April check. It will be posted on this web site when Butch gets it. Butch also reminded members that when they pay their L-36's dues, to please make an extra contribution for the COPA fund.

There being no further old or new business, President Butch adjourned the meeting at 20:25 hours.
Doug Wheeler