

December Minutes R.F.A.

Vice President Mould called the Dec. 3rd meeting of the R.F.A. to order at 2005 hours with 40 members present. Apparently wife Noel short leashed Butch so he couldn't make the meeting.

The floor was given to Local 36th President Dan Dugan. He discussed the contract status with the city and that the current contract expired last Oct 1st. Sgt. LaCore is still in the hospital, but hopefully will be released by Christmas. F/F Shyah was released since our last meeting. There are approximately 118 vacancies in the department. Lastly, he discussed the hiring of personnel and how the department will probably use the National CPAT standards in the future.

Deceased members: Eddie Flynn. Herbert Petschk and Leon Briggs. A moment of silence was held for them and our troops in the Armed Forces.

Applications for membership: George Kenney. None.

The minutes of the Nov 5th meeting: George Kenney. Read and approved by the membership.

The Secretary/Treasurer report: George Kenney. Read and approved by the membership.

Sick Committee: Ed Flynn reported that Merdo MacCleay was added to the previous list of Wendy Baden, Larry Beardmore, Ed Beller, Jim Bojalad, Ken Buckley, Dan Collins, Tim Connors, Fred Davis, Gus DeGeorge, Ed Dougherty, Jim McIlvaine, Tom O'Conner, George Orme, Irvin Poole, Kenny Propst, Steve Reid, Raymond Roberts, Ed Rupard, Ed Shymansky, Walter "Steamboat" Smith, Gerald Tassa, Jim Tidwell and Frank Wise Sr. Since they have improved, Ray Askins and Joe McDermott were dropped from the list. Burton Johnson's daughter contacted us and said that his family really appreciated the help we gave them at his funeral.

Vocal Alarm: Joe Healy is working close to 25 hours a day getting the next issue of the Vocal Alarm to press. Any articles, pictures or any other items of interest please send to him at RFANews@comcast.net.

Entertainment Committee: Joe Healy talked about the January <http://www.WashingtonEmeralds.org/> Emerald Society's ski trip and the upcoming Christmas party at RFD. Check the web site for pictures.

Local 36: Ben Self has decals and the 2008 work schedules. All the other good stuff that he was going to say Dan Dugan had already brought up!

Honor Guard: Joe O'Neil discussed how 10 of our members attended Herbie Petschk's funeral.

Retirement Board: Tom Tippett. No report.

Members attending their first meeting: Bill Kelly, Wilbur and Chip Chipouras.

Old business: Dan Dugan talked about the longevity problems and how Andy Quinn is still hard at work on resolving it. Bill Mould brought up how he has about 20 pages of "legalize" on the tax adjustment on health insurance premiums for our 2007 Federal tax return if anyone is interested. It is only for retired public safety employees who have the deductions taken off on the member's monthly pay statements. For obvious reasons, there should be progress by our next monthly meeting.

Fire Chief Dennis Rubin in writing said that retired members can now wear the official DCFD dress uniform. A sigh of relief was heard from Steve Lamphier. Any member needing same can contact Hanover Uniform Co. in Baltimore 800.541.9709. The sack coat costs about \$94, pants \$35 and cap \$35. www.HanoverUniform.com/Contact/. For badges, contact Commercial Emblem in Brentwood MD 301.779.7300. www.CommercialEmblem.com/.

Safety Committee: Tom Barnard. No report.

Legislative Committee: Skip Ramsey. No report.

Good & welfare: Bill Kelly brought up the information about the Dental Plans from the 2008 FEHB Open Season and wondered if anyone had looked into the 4 available plans. He also reminded everyone that we only have until Dec. 10th if we want to change to another health plan.

George Kenney talked about our membership booklet going to the printers and that he needed any changes in our address or other personal information. The membership application is now on line www.DCFD.com and will be in next year's booklet. Another reminder for the upcoming winter meetings is that our organization follows Montgomery County school system's snow schedule. If they're closed, we have no meeting.

New Business: Dues are due. Also our upcoming meeting dates are Jan 7th, Feb 4th, Mar 3rd, Apr 7th, May 5th and June 2nd.

There being no further old or new business, Vice President Mould adjourned the meeting at 20:50 hours.
Doug Wheeler