

January 2009 Minutes R.F.A.

President Oliff called the January 5th meeting of the R.F.A. to order at 1945 hours with 43 members present.

Deceased members - Ed Flynn: Eddie reported that there were 3 deceased members since last month's meeting; Robert Speedling, James Stewart and Raymond Robinson. A moment of silence was held for them and our troops in the Armed Forces.

The minutes of the Nov 3rd meeting – Doug Wheeler for George Kenney: Read and approved.

Applications for membership – None.

The Secretary/Treasurer report – Ben Self for George Kenney: Read and approved.

Sick Committee - Ed Flynn: Ed added Kenneth R Stevens, Keith Grimes, Doug Dillard, Tom Francella and Bill Mark to our list of William (Andy) Anderson, Hugh Barnes, Ed Beller, Jim Bojalad, Charlie Burger, Dan Collins, Tim Connors, William Coughlin, Ralph Creel, Homer Davison, Fred Davis, Ed Dougherty, Leo Endler, Mike Greene, Bill Kelly, Ralph Kennedy, Joe McDermott, Jim McIlvaine, Dan Norman, George Orme, Gary Palmer, Wayne Ramsey, Pete Schlosser and Walter “Steamboat” Smith.

Vocal Alarm - Ben Self for Joe Healy: The Ski Trip to Seven Springs has been canceled due to the Presidential Inauguration.

Entertainment Committee – Butch Oliff for Bill Wolf: Support the DCFD Polar Bear Plunge, which is a fundraiser for the Special Olympics. It will be held Sat. Jan 24th at Sandy Point State Park (next to the Bay Bridge). www.dcfid.com/Forms/PolarBearPlungeFlier09.pdf

Safety Committee - Tom Barnard: Not present.

Honor Guard - Joe O'Neil: Our members and Honor Guard attended James Stewart's funeral last month.

Members attending their first meeting – Rich Flynn and John Hall.

Local 36 - Ben Self: Ben has different styles of window decals and 2009 work schedules. Ben also talked about the last L-36 general membership meeting. Local 36's contract status: mediation. They have picked their arbitrator and are waiting for the city to pick theirs. The Locals' website is www.IAFFLocal36.com for up to date details.

Retirement Board - Tom Tippet: Not present.

Old business – Longevity problem is still stalled. Butch is still working on it. Check web sites www.DCFD.com and www.WashingtonEmeralds.org for updates. Don't forget that you can purchase the Official DCFD 2009 Presidential Badge or Lapel Pin set only if you are an active or retired member! Details at <http://dcfid.com/Forms/BadgeOrder.pdf>.

The FEP's Annual Open Season has been extended for the Health Benefit review and selection. BC/BS should be sending out info for their plans.

A/FC-Ops requested Bill Mould to coordinate getting some RFA members to help out with the upcoming Inauguration. About 20 members have volunteered so far. Bill talked about those members “working” Sunday Jan. 18 from 0800 until 1500 hours. Those working Tuesday Jan. 20th would work until approximately 1700

hours for station security for E-2, E-3, E-13, E-16 and E-23. Several RFA member volunteers will be at E-24 and the Training Academy to assist out of town personnel and their apparatus. Some will keep track of fire and EMS Inauguration related calls. The department will cover their parking, meals and transportation details.

New Business – Reminder from Butch to pay your L-36 and RFA annual dues. Also phone calls to the Retirement Board are taking up to 12 days to be returned. He is trying to resolve that plus he stated that there are still problems with the Ford/Reagan checks. Jack Fletcher brought up that he had heard about IRS Pub 575, Pension and Annuity Income for Retired Public Safety Officers (PSOs). Last year *Turbo Tax* had it included in their program. See www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/p575.pdf pages 1 and 6 for further instructions and details.

Good & welfare – 2009 dues of \$40 are due. Please send George Kenney any changes of information so he can make the changes in our 2009 address/information booklet. It was brought up that the monthly luncheon will be held at the Big Bats Café off Rt. 8 in Stevensville MD (just past the Bay Bridge). It will be on Jan 7th at 12 noon. There are usually 15 to 20 that attend. All are invited to attend. Let Bob Gilbert know that you're coming RPGilbert1@mchsi.com Check for the menu and directions <http://www.BigBats.com/> Butch Oliff said that our next COLA (for members who retired after February 1980) should be out in February. It will be effective on March 1st and will show in your April 1st pay. Check www.dcrb.dc.gov/ or www.DCFD.com for the % increase.

Snow policy: If Montgomery County schools are closed, there will be no meeting that evening.

The remaining RFA meeting dates for 2009 are:

Feb 2	Mar 2	Apr 6	May 4	Jun 1	Oct 5	Nov 2	Dec 7
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There being no further old or new business, President Butch adjourned the meeting at 20:15 hours.