



Washington PUBLIC FIRE EDUCATORS

"Teaching for a Safer Tomorrow"

Washington Public Fire Educators General Meeting Minutes December 7, 2007 Snohomish County Fire District #1 Headquarters

Attendees:

Michèle Laboda, North Kitsap Fire & Rescue
Kirsti Weaver, South King Fire & Rescue
Nanette Tatom, Gig Harbor Fire
Dan Bickel, Central Pierce Fire & Rescue
Jenny Sharp, Dupont Fire

Kim Schroeder, Snohomish County Fire District #1
Marybeth O'Leary, Lynnwood Fire
Dina Sutherland, East Pierce Fire & Rescue
Kendra Kay, South King Fire & Rescue
Stephanie Glass, Central Pierce Fire & Rescue

The meeting was opened by the Acting Chair, Jenny Sharp, at 3:05pm.

Attendees introduced themselves.

Elections

- Michele Laboda, chair of the Elections Committee, presented the slate of officers for the WPFE Board: Kendra Kay for Chair, Kim Schroeder for Vice-Chair, Nanette Tatom for Secretary and Dina Sutherland for Information Coordinator. After those in attendance expressed their unanimous and enthusiastic gratitude for Jenny Sharp's service as Acting Chair, the motion was made by Stephanie Glass to approve the slate as presented by acclamation. Dan Bickel seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Website

- Kim Schroeder presented the results of the work she and Jenny have accomplished with the assistance of Linda Berner at the State Chiefs' office. The WPFE section's site went "live" at www.wpfesection.org on December 7, and includes a wide range of information about WPFE. Look for sections where members can share their work on publications and articles as well as links to other websites of interest to those in the public education field. In the near future, the site will also feature a members-only section with a bulletin-board where members can post thoughts and questions.

Position Papers

- Michele Laboda, chair of the Position Papers Committee, expressed thanks for input from the other members of the committee. Unfortunately, there wasn't enough input on the papers to warrant editing at this time. There was discussion on the earlier proposal to put the catalog of Safe Kids position papers on WPFE letterhead and officially adopt them. Michele proposed that this wasn't necessary since most of us have access to these papers through our associations with Safe Kids; the group seemed to agree. In an effort to make progress on updating WPFE's existing position papers, the group decided that the current ones should be posted on the website with an invitation to members for comment.

The group discussed the I-Chiefs endorsement of dual-sensor (photoelectric and ionization) smoke alarms. The IAFC position paper can be found at http://www.iafc.org/associations/4685/files/FLSS_Position_Paper_smoke_alarms.pdf. Members of the group related their difficulties in finding reasonably-priced, dual-sensor units.

- Barbara Gagner (Program manager for Fire Service Standards, Accreditation and Certification) from WSP/State Fire Marshal's Office had planned to attend and provide WPFE with an update on the Public Fire & Life Safety Educator certification process in Washington State. She was unable to attend due to the week's weather issues.

Risk Watch

- Thank you to Mary Borges and the Washington State Department of Health for providing today's delicious lunches! Mary had planned on attending today's meeting to provide in person an update on the statewide program. There are significant changes coming. See attached file.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00pm.

Good of the Order

- Safeco Insurance is once again making their Superstar Activity Books available. There are three different booklets: water safety, fire safety and bike safety. Several Pierce County fire departments have ordered these booklets in the past, adding their individual logos to the publications. Nanette Tatom (ntatom@piercefire.org) is preparing another order, and invites any other interested parties to contact her and be added to the order.

Respectfully Submitted By:
Michèle Laboda, Secretary