

AFBEA Quarterly Meeting 030609

Northwest Fire District



Call to Order – The meeting was called to order by President Janet Morlock-Ward.

Welcome – Division Chief Sean Kimbel welcomed the members to Northwest Fire. He expressed his appreciation for all that we do for our communities in Public Education.

Thanks Sean for your hospitality.

Secretary Report – Mark Genz passed out the minutes from the December quarterly meeting. There were no changes to the minutes. Larry Tunforss made a motion to accept the minutes with Bev Burns seconding. The motion carried.

Treasurer Report – Keith Tanner handed out the treasurer's report for Tanja. There were no questions or issues with the report.

Special Reports:

Membership Report – Bev Burns. AFBEA currently has 148 members. Bev passed out the membership roster for review, changes and to confirm e-mail addresses.

Publications – Bev Burns. The newsletter is on-line and an e-mail with the newsletter has been sent out. If you have anything going on within your departments please e-mail your articles to Bev by May 14th.

State Fire Marshall's Office – No Report

Merchandising – Keith Tanner. The DVD's from Bullhead turned out to be a 5 DVD set. There are 10 hours of programming in the set with the cost being \$25.00. These should be completed soon. Shirts that were left over from this year's Characterization Conference have been split up between Barbie Barrett, Veronica Rubio and Stacey Figueroa.

Committee Reports:

Characterization – Keith Tanner. Profit was approximately \$10,000.00. We had approximately 160 attendees. This conference was considered to be a success taking into account the budget issues we all are facing. There were many new attendees and some of our old friends. The new chair is Stacey Figueroa. She said that she is looking forward to next year and has already received a bunch of e-mails concerning the conference.

Desert Southwest – 2010 would be the next conference. The last conference went very well. A discussion was had on whether we want to attempt to do the 2010 conference due to budget/training issues in all agencies or do we want to wait. An option may be to have one-day conferences throughout Arizona to allow departments that cannot afford larger conferences with motel expenses to attend. Bev Burns suggested trying one-day conferences with a possibility of charging the cost of an AFBEA membership to attend. Tracey Koslowksi suggested sending out a survey to find out what the agencies want and need. Larry Tunforss suggested capitalizing on the strengths of our members to teach their specialties at these conferences

Bev Burns also reported that she had gotten an email from a Terri Jones from North Shore Fire Department, who is looking to see if it is possible to put a Northwest Fire and Life Safety Conference on. The conference would include; Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Utah, California, Arizona, Nevada and Hawaii. She will be sending out surveys to all AFBEA members to determine if there is an interest in having a the conference, so please look for it in your mailbox in the near future.

Training – A discussion was had on ensuring that our programs conform to state standards as a way to get into schools. We also need to be sure to cover the danger areas that are applicable in our particular areas. A good place to look for this is at the Arizona Child Fatality Report. Larry also suggested that if you need statistics for your particular city, check with them as they may be able to provide this also. A suggestion was made to put programs on our web site to make them accessible to members. A decision was made to send out a survey to determine what is needed for the one-day conferences, who may be interested in teaching these along with their years of experience in pub-ed. A suggestion was made to utilize “Survey Monkey” to do the survey. Larry Tunforss made a motion to cover the cost of the Survey Monkey with Deborah Trimble seconding, motion carried.

Veronica Rubio asked for suggestions for training for the next meetings. Let Veronica know if you have something you would like to train or have any suggestions.

There have been requests for JFS or Pub Ed I and II. We need to know locations that can host and dates and times. We cannot charge for the JFS class as a state grant pays for this. The grant will pay for everything including supplies. The JFS classes need a minimum of 12-15 students. Pub Ed classes do not have a minimum.

The Arizona Fire Chief’s Association and the State Fire Marshall’s Office are holding a Fire Instructor Conference on March 26th at the Mesa Public Safety Training Center. The cost for this is \$15.00 in advance and \$25.00 at the door.

AVG Grant – Bev Burns. The grant was submitted on 030409 in the amount of \$76,000.00. Thanks to many sponsors who wrote letters of support for this grant. This grant is to build and put on-line a web based game. This is the first of its kind and this first game will cover home evacuation. There will be 5 levels to the game including a 1 story 3 bedroom house, a 2 story 3 bedroom house, a 3 bedroom upstairs apartment, a manufactured home and a multi-story Hotel. You will be given “lives” and if you lose them you have to start over. You will be able to pick a male or female character. When the smoke alarm goes off you have to choose the behavior that you take. If it is wrong, you will see a video that explains what went wrong and how you do it right. These videos will be real people such as Fire Chiefs etc. The characters/instructors that pop up to give the lessons change throughout the game. A good thing about this game is that we will be able to pull up our students that play and find out how they are scoring and learning. If there are major problem areas then these issues could be addressed through other means. Himalaya Studios is going to build the game. They are showing their willingness to take an active role in the safety of our communities by charging \$20.00 per hour for their services versus the normal \$45 to \$75 an hour that they charge. Parents and guardians will also be able to sign on to play and see what the game is all about. If 115,000 students get involved in playing this game the resulting cost will be approximately .34 cents per student. A great value. Thanks to the committee for a great job on getting this going.

Old Business:

Training – Get training suggestions to Veronica as covered earlier.

NFA Classes for Arizona – Bev Burns. The application periods for classes have been changed. They are now open for 2 months. Application is from 15 April to 15 Jun for October-March classes and 15 October to 15 December for April-September classes. There are less Pub Ed classes being offered because of the difficulty in filling them. Sign up to keep these classes going. Also, VIP (volunteer programs) is suffering due to the low

attendance. Encourage attendance at these to keep the programs going. The only expense to you is food. Lodging, airfare and course costs are paid by the government.

Promotion of AFBEA – Veronica Rubio and Larry Tunfors – We purchase tablecloths with the AFBEA logo. They are very professional looking. A discussion was had on purchasing display boards to be put up at events that we attend. These boards would display the AFBEA Mission Statement and also pictures of events/education. Veronica and Larry will research the cost of these boards. We also need to have some type of giveaways/literature for these events that will promote AFBEA. If anybody has any info on upcoming events that we should try to attend, contact Veronica.

Educator of the Year – Tracey Koslowski – Any educator in the state is eligible for this award. Information is going out to the fire chiefs and Fire Districts for the year 2008 nominees. Nominations have to be submitted by 30 June, 2009. The award will be presented again at the State Fire School. Tracey asked for help/suggestions for a prize package for the winner. Any thoughts or if you can get some help with coming up with a nice gift package contact Tracey.

New Business:

Elections - Bev Burns was appointed by Janet Morlock to be the chair of the elections committee. Larry Tunfors and Tracey Koslowski volunteered their help on this committee.

President and Treasurer are the two positions that are opening as of 1 July. Nominations were opened.

Bev Burns nominated Janet Morlock for re-election as President.

Bev Burns nominated Mark Genz for the position of Treasurer.

Deborah Trimble nominated Keith Tanner for the position of Treasurer.

Bev will send out e-mails to the membership for any other nominations for these positions.

New Information for the Good of the Group: Members shared their projects and programs going on in their communities.

Pat Mieszala, NFPA West Coast Representative asked for each state to have a representative at a 1 day State Representative's Workshop. Bev will be going to this. She asked that anyone that has any input to contact her so she can pass it on.

The USAA Foundation has free brochures that are available for the asking. Take a look in the internet to see what they have and contact them if you need something.

The next state PIO meeting will be March 20th at the ASU Walter Cronkite School of Communications. There will also be a State Coyote Crisis Exercise on Tuesday, March 10th. Additional PIO's are needed to participate in this exercise.

Training – Stacey Figueroa of Pine Strawberry Fire District gave training on "Using Fire/EMS as Everyday Educators. This training gave tips on how to get your line firefighters/EMS responders to use the time they have on their calls to assist the public with educational tips. This is a good way to continue to get the life safety messages out in times of diminishing budgets and program cuts. Doing this involves continuous training for the crews in safety messages. Thanks Stacey for the great ideas on getting our messages out.

Next meeting is 4 June 2009 at Verde Valley.

Prepared by Secretary Mark P. Genz