

KVFD February 15, 2022 Membership meeting minutes

Present: John Russell, Cathe Mazza, Alan Gawel, Bonnie Donzella, Jill Scholsohn, Mary Ann VanValkenburg, Joe Agli, Wendall Soule, Matt Starr, Alexis Swagemaker, Don Kabasakalian, Eric Epstein, Tim Limbos, Jean Speck, Sean Dingee, Wendy Harvey, Ed Matson, Caralee Rochovansky, Gary Hock. Guest Barbara Herbst.

Call to order @ 19:05

Pledge of Allegiance

Public/member comment: none.

Presentation from Kent ARPA Committee: Barbara Herbst (who is also the town's treasurer) engaged the membership for about 50 minutes asking for their opinions and experiences with COVID-19. Alan and Bonnie shared their summaries from the fire and ambulance perspectives. Barbara urged anyone who has comments or questions for the ARPA Committee to contact her.

Treasurer's Report: a) Ed had a conflict with his work so John read the bills. **Bonnie Donzella made a motion, seconded by Alan Gawel, to accept the Treasurer's report as read by the President and to pay the unpaid bills.** Voting yes: Cathe Mazza, Bonnie Donzella, Mary Ann VanValkenburg, Jill Scholsohn, Wendy Harvey, Alan Gawel, Gary Hock, Wendall Soule, Tim Limbos, Matt Starr, Alexis Swagemaker, Sean Dingee, Dan Kabasakalian. Voting no: no one. Abstentions: Jean Speck. Motion carries. b) P & L report of Feb. 11th -EMS revenue is on track for budget.

President's Report: a) we have tax abatement information from the town treasurer which was shared earlier via email to the department. The President asked if we are going to use a committee to pursue asking for a raise in the tax abatement award. b) Lynn Mellis Worthington has submitted an FOI request to the department concerning EMS billing.

Correspondence: none.

January membership meeting minutes: **Bonnie Donzella made a motion, seconded by Alan Gawel, to accept the minutes of the January 3, 2022 regular membership meeting and the January 31, 2022 special membership meeting.** Voting yes: Bonnie Donzella, Cathe Mazza, Wendall Soule, Alan Gawel, Jill Scholsohn, Mary Ann VanValkenburg, Tim Limbos, Matt Starr, Jean Speck, Dan Kabasakalian. Voting no: no one. Abstentions: Wendy Harvey, Alexis Swagemaker. Motion carries.

Membership:

A) **Bonnie Donzella made a motion, seconded by Jean Speck, to accept Joan Behlings' resignation from auxiliary membership.** Voting yes: Bonnie Donzella, Alan Gawel, Wendall Soule, Wendy Harvey, Tim Limbos, Cathe Mazza, Jill Scholsohn, Mary Ann VanValkenburg, Matt Starr, Alexis Swagemaker, Jean Speck, Dan Kabasakalian. Voting no: no one. No abstentions. Motion carries.

B) **Mary Ann VanValkenburg made a motion, seconded by Jill Scholsohn, to move Ane Starr to active duty.** Voting yes: Mary Ann VanValkenburg, Wendy Harvey, Bonnie Donzella, Cathe Mazza, Wendall Soule, Alan Gawel, Jill Scholsohn, Tim Limbos, Matt Starr, Alexis Swagemaker, Jean Speck, Dan Kabasakalian. Voting no: no one. No abstentions.

C) The President again welcomed Michele Kaplan to the department.

Executive: no report.

Old Business:

1). Foundation Committee: meeting was held Feb. 6 and the committee has begun to review documents but it's slow going so an April presentation to the department is unlikely, according to Eric.

New Business:

- 1) Expenditures from capital budget: no report.
- 2) Election of Lieutenant (K8): the membership voted on the nomination of Matt Starr to be Lieutenant. 50% of those voting said yes and 50% abstained, so Matt has been elected.
- 3) COVID update: Matt said since we're no longer in a state of emergency we should develop a policy and have the membership vote on it. Alexis said we should ease our restrictions.
- 4) Training expenses: EMT exams are a separate expense {written = \$85 and practical = \$120} from the classroom course. **Alan Gawel made a motion, seconded by Bonnie Donzella, that the exam costs are to be included in medical training courses.** Voting yes: Alan Gawel, Cathe Mazza, Bonnie Donzella, Wendall Soule, Wendy Harvey, Jill Scholsohn, Ed Matson, Mary Ann VanValkenburg, Eric Epstein, Matt Starr, Alexis Swagemaker, Jean Speck, Dan Kabasakalian. Voting no: no one. No abstentions. Motion carries.
- 5) **Alan Gawel made a motion, seconded by Alexis Swagemaker, to spend up to \$75 for auto lock out kit.** Voting yes: Wendall Soule, Bonnie Donzella, Alan Gawel, Jill Scholsohn, Wendy Harvey, Cathe Mazza, Mary Ann Van Valkenburg, Ed Matson, Matt Starr, Alexis Swagemaker, Jean Speck, Dan Kabasakalian. Voting no: no one. No abstentions. Motion carries.
- 6) **Alan Gawel made a motion, seconded by Bonnie Donzella, to spend up to \$90 for a lock out tag out kit.** Voting yes: Bonnie Donzella, Wendall Soule, Alan Gawel, Cathe Mazza, Mary Ann VanValkenburg, Jill Scholsohn, Ed Matson, Matt Starr, Alexis Swagemaker, Jean Speck, Dan Kabasakalian. Voting no: no one. Abstentions: Wendy Harvey. Motion carries.
- 7) Warned Expenditures:
 - A) technology for a Wi-Fi adapter replacement
 - B) document storage: putting Zoom meetings on our web page?, creating a YouTube page? Or perhaps making a gallery within our web page.
 - C) legal costs: no update from Alan.
 - D) Defibrillators: Mary Ann said 19 new AEDs would be about \$30,000. Not ready for action yet.

Chief's Report:

- A) training on line for now but in person details are being work on for a return soon.
- B) elevator
- C) walkthrough at Highwatch soon.
- D) squad designations are being worked on.
- E) our budget requests have been submitted to the town.
- F) EMS workshop with town about our requests will be held soon.
- G) Gaylordsville and Sherman are interested in creating a water rescue team with us. There will be a swift water class soon and info about shore support to.
- H) thanks for call response this past month.

Line Officers' Report:

12 calls in January. Gear inspections on Thursday.

Ambulance Chief:

- 1) 34 calls in January.
- 2) Lifepak bracket replaced on A1 and new O2 tree on A2 thanks to John Christen.
- 3) there will be rowing regattas on Lake Waramaug this spring.
- 4) Sharon ICU is open as of today.

Committee Reports:

1) Ball: help is needed. Please volunteer at "theball@kentfire.org" for work details, grill committee (not food committee), juniors, road signs, parking, greeters (in uniform).

2) Back Building: we have an estimate from T&S Builders for \$30,844 for work to be done. Another quote is being sought.

3) Software committee: meeting on Friday.

Appointed Positions:

1) tech: our Google workspace platform is being retired by Google on July 1 so we will move to Google Non-Profit....Jean will keep us posted.

Auxiliary: no report

Juniors: Bonnie said they met on Feb. 3 and next meeting is March 3. They have one new member and one new application.

Expenditure Warnings:

- 1) radio communications
- 2) water rescue equipment
- 3) legal expense
- 4) defibrillators

Adjourned at 21:09

Respectfully submitted,

Cathe Mazza

Secretary