

SPAAMFAA Board of Trustees Meeting

Summer Meeting
Wednesday, August 2, 2017
Hilton Garden Inn
Watertown NY

Minutes

The meeting was called to order by President Ted Elder at 1:08 p.m.

Voting members in attendance –

Ted Elder	President
Steve Heaver	Sr. Vice President
Thomas Herman	Vice President
Peter West	Executive Secretary
Andy Leider	North Eastern Trustee
Tim “Cosgrove” Jones	Central Eastern Trustee
Jim Derstine	South Eastern Trustee
Justin Birchfield	South Central Trustee
Kent Cullom	Western Trustee

Excused –

John Zangerle	North Central Trustee
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Non-voting members in attendance -

William Dundas	Immediate Past President
Scott Rollins	Editor, Engine! Engine!
Bill Blunden	Editor, Silver Trumpet
Candy Bennett	Membership Secretary
Stan Socha	Treasurer
Maureen Higgins	Recording Secretary
Bill Killen	Parliamentarian
Debbie Davis	Archives Committee Chair
Frank Tremel	Endowment Fund Committee Chair
Bill Davis	Convention Committee Chair
Anthony Buono	By-Laws Committee Chair

After the call to order and welcome by President Elder, the Pledge of Allegiance was recited and a moment of silence observed for all departed members and firefighters.

Bill Blunden, President of (host chapter) Thousand Island Hose Haulers welcomed the group to Watertown and outlined what was planned for the group for the week, including tours, the muster on Saturday, and the banquet Saturday evening.

I. Reading of the minutes from the Winter Meeting

- A. Motion was made to accept the minutes as distributed. **Motion seconded and passed.**
- II. Officer's Reports – Questions or Updates Only
 - A. Per Tommy Herman – disregard the Vice President's report included in the package and replace with report distributed at the meeting.
- III. Trustee's Reports – Questions or Updates Only
- IV. Committee Reports – Questions or Updates Only
 - A. Committee members
 - i. Discussion on the 'need' to have names of individuals on each committee as well as the chairman. Some reports included members others did not.
 - B. Fundraising
 - i. Individual who had volunteered to head up fundraising for the society has stepped down.
 - ii. Looking for someone with fundraising experience to take this on. Please contact Pete West if you know someone.
- V. Treasurer's Report – Stan Socha
 - A. New accountant has been hired in the Ohio area
 - B. Taxes for 2016 have been filed
 - C. Adjustments made to the accounting system
 - D. All 'cash' is currently held in a single checking account with Wells Fargo. This means that the monies for the endowment fund and the Lee Soderbeck Memorial Fund are co-mingled with the general operating monies of SPAAMFAA. Plans are in place to move the \$15,829.44 of endowment funds and the \$4,083.81 of the Lee Soderbeck Memorial Fund monies to individual money market accounts.
 - E. Budget
 - i. Professional fees are up due to the new accountant
 - ii. Engine!-Engine! costs are right on track
 - F. **Motion made**, seconded and passed to approve the Treasurer's report
- VI. Membership Report – Candy Bennett
 - A. As of July 9, 2017 membership was 2,167
 - B. About 300 members have not renewed; overall loss is 261 members in last 18 months,
 - C. Added 108 new members since February 1, 2017
 - i. Some of these are completely new to the Society
 - ii. Some are renewals from past years
 - D. Membership reported as of February 1 – 2,428
 - E. New database software allows expired members information to be kept in the database
- VII. Executive Secretary Report – Pete West
 - A. Discussion of non-reporting chapters (those who have not sent in annual report and insurance money)
 - i. L. I. Antique Fire Apparatus Association
 - ii. Old Pueblo Vintage Fire Brigade – Cactus (in-active for 2017)
 - iii. Panhandle Pumpers Society – West Virginia

**1. Motion was made/seconded to suspend these chapters for one year.
Motion passed**

B. Discussion of chapters dissolving

- i. Connecticut Cellar Savers – no notice given but reported as dissolved
- ii. Derby City – chapter dissolved
- iii. Central Alabama Bucket Brigade – chapter dissolved

SPAAMFAA needs something in writing from the dissolving chapters

VIII. Convention Chairman Report – Bill Davis

A. Future scheduled Events

- i. Winter 2018 – Kissimmee FL, February 7-10, 2018 Host: Florida Antique Bucket Brigade
- ii. Summer 2018 – Cherry Hill NJ, August 1-4, 2018 Host: Cradle of Liberty chapter
- iii. Winter 2019 – North Charleston SC, February 27-March 2, 2019 Host: Palmetto Lowcountry Vintage Fire Apparatus Association
- iv. Summer 2019 – Jefferson IN, July 17-20, 2019 Host: PP&P Society of Indiana
 - 1. There may be a problem with the muster site for this event. Updates will be forthcoming
- v. Winter 2020 – OPEN
- vi. Summer 2020 – June 2020 Host: Massachusetts Antique Fire Apparatus Association (Joint effort with: Berkshire Chapter and The Amoskeag Reserve Engine Company with probable help from the Maine and Rhode Island chapters as well.

IX. Old Business

A. Archive Committee

- i. Steve Heaver, formerly Archive Committee Chair introduced Debbie Davis as new chair
- ii. Archive Status – Debbie Davis
 - 1. On the Ramp
 - a. Book authored by member Anthony Buono
 - b. Sale proceeds to benefit Archive funds
 - c. 500 books printed
 - i. As of 8/2/17 119 books had been sold
 - ii. Books will be available for sale at the flea market Friday and at the muster on Saturday
 - iii. The Trustees extended credit to the committee to cover the cost of the printing. Sale of 250 books will cover that cost.
 - 2. Contract employee for archives
 - a. Planning to hire 1 person to work 8 hours per week / 40 hours per month
 - b. There were 6 applications, 4 interviewed, narrowed to one

- c. Committee has selected individual to be offered position

B. Elections SOP – Tim Jones

- i. Issues related to 2017 election
 - 1. Timely receipt of ballots
 - a. Snowbirds did not receive ballots as 3rd class mail is not forwarded
 - b. 3rd class mail is not received by Canadian members
 - c. Timing of the mailing of ballots
 - ii. Bill Killen, Parliamentarian commented on the state of the by-laws and conflicts with the standing rules.
 - iii. General consensus that ballots would be due 1 week before the winter meeting not by a specified ‘hard’ date. The host chapter of the winter meeting would be responsible for arranging a room for the counting of ballots as part of the winter meeting.
 - iv. Frank Tremel summarized the 3 points under discussion with the suggestion of a continuing resolution to handle the upcoming 2018 election while bylaws are reviewed/revised.
 - v. Motion/seconded was made to table the discussion until later in the meeting after other issues relating to elections were completed. Motion passed

C. Mission Statement – Steve Heaver

- i. After discussion of 3 proposed mission statements from 2016 a motion was made/seconded to adopt #3:
 - 1. *The Society for the Preservation and Appreciation of Antique Motor Fire Apparatus in America (SPAAMFAA) is an [educational] organization of people dedicated to the preservation, restoration, and operation of antique fire apparatus.*
 - a. The word ‘educational’ was added during the discussion
- ii. **Motion to adopt the new mission statement was passed with 1 (one) opposed.**

D. Vintage Fire Truck magazine – Renew MOU

- i. Proposal was made to re-sign MOU with no expiration date
- ii. **Motion made, seconded and passed**

X. New Business

A. Membership Survey Results – Ted Elder

- i. 236 responses – a little over 10%
 - 1. About one half either own or have owned apparatus
 - 2. Most have attended at least one National Winter Meeting or Summer Convention
 - 3. Like receiving Engine!-Engine! and the Silver Trumpet
 - 4. Participate for the friends and social aspects of SPAAMFAA
 - 5. President Elder will tabulate the results.

B. New Chapter – Pete West

- i. Introduced Craig Raynor and Amy Page of the Eastern Long Island Antique Fire Apparatus Association
 1. Members of ELIAFAA had been traveling about an hour to attend meetings of another Long Island chapter and had been in discussion regarding adding their group to the existing group as an eastern ‘region’
 2. They have solicited interest from neighboring departments and have 30 to 65 members with about 40 participating actively.
 3. Their paperwork is in order and they have paid the \$300 insurance fee.
- ii. **Motion made/seconded to accept ELIAFAA. Motion passed**

C. Endowment Fund Proposal – Frank Tremel

- i. \$100,000 less expenses has been invested per the appropriation/resolution passed at the 2017 Annual (Winter) meeting of \$100,000 to establish the Endowment Fund.
- ii. Resolution to be updated with the changes
 1. Deleting - “No distributions shall be made from the Endowment Fund for 5 years and/or until the fund reaches a balance of \$10,000. Thereafter, a maximum annual distribution to be taken from the Endowment Fund shall not exceed 15% of the balance of the fund under investment in the prior fiscal year”
 2. Adding - At the Annual Meeting 2017, \$100,000 was appropriated to establish the Endowment Fund
 3. **Motion made/seconded to pass resolution with changes. Motion passed**
- iii. Standing Rule 9-4-3 SPAAMFAA Endowment Fund
 1. Changes to be made
 - a. 9.4.3.2
 - i. Delete “The funds cannot be accessed until the fund reaches \$10,000 in assets and then
 - ii. Add – The Fund will only be used for special needs as defined in the Endowment Fund Resolution
 - iii. **Motion made/seconded to approve with changes. Motion passed**
 - b. 9.4.3.5 – to be added
 - i. No monies will be withdrawn from the invested funds for a 12 month period until after 7/1/18, except in the case of an emergency as declared by the Board of Directors
 - ii. **Motion made/seconded to approve addition. Motion passed**
 - c. 9.4.3.6 – to be added
 - i. Proposed - During any 12 month period no more than 3% of the Fund’s total value as established on July 1 of that year be withdrawn

- ii. After discussion – During any 12 month period the distribution shall not exceed 3% and in no case shall the distribution reduce the Endowment Fund balance below \$100,000

iii. Motion made/seconded for (ii). Motion passed

- 2. Motion made/seconded to transfer \$10,300 of the remaining non-invested endowment funds of \$15,529.44 into the SPAAMFAA general fund to pay expenses in moving archive to Kansas City.
Motion was passed.

D. Future Planning – Ted Elder

- i. Add to standing rules to devote a portion of the winter meeting to discuss 5 year plan
- ii. Motion made/seconded to discuss 5 year plan every 5 years or on change of president. **Motion passed**

E. SPAAMFAA Regions Revision – Anthony Buono

- i. This is to address the membership vote for a ‘Southeastern Region’ Trustee voted on by the membership in the December 2016 election
- ii. Proposal made that the membership be represented by 9 districts rather than 3 regions.
 - 1. This proposal would add 3 trustees
 - 2. The membership representation would be more geographically arranged
- iii. The Board can add/delete trustees without a by-law amendment
- iv. **Motion made/seconded to make a standing rule to adopt 9 regions. Motion passed.**
- v. **Motion made/seconded to increase 3 trustee positions. Motion passed**

F. Promotional items – Ted Elder

- i. At some point SPAAMFAA will need to restock badges and banners
- ii. Ted has priced banners at a place near him
 - 1. \$75 for the art work
 - 2. \$80/each to print 4 to 11 banners
- iii. Looking for a quartermaster to take responsibility for the inventory
 - 1. This would be a good chapter project

G. Facebook Page – Ted Elder/Maureen Higgins

- i. **Motion made/seconded to create a Facebook page separate from the Facebook existing group for SPAAMFAA.** The page would include calendar and other newsworthy events to promote SPAAMFAA national and member chapters. Motion passed

H. Fire Apparatus Preservation Certificates – Bill Killen

- i. This would recognize fire departments, not individuals, that are restoring and/or maintaining their fire apparatus.
 - ii. **Motion made/seconded to create a fire apparatus preservation certificate program. Motion passed.**

- I. Proposal to expand SPAAMFAA membership categories to include Patron and Endowment memberships – Bill Killen
 - i. **Motion made/seconded to add the following categories to membership**
 - 1. **\$500 – Patron**
 - 2. **\$1000 - Endowment**
 - ii. Motion passed

- J. Chapter Guidance Booklet – Pete West
 - i. Distributed draft of the “Chapter President’s Guidance Book”. This book has been sent to the Board and Chapter Presidents for review.

- K. Nominating committee
 - i. There is a conflict in the by-laws regarding the appointment of nominating committee:
 - 1. Prior to 2014 nominating committee headed by Immediate Past President
 - 2. Subsequent change that the President names the committee
 - 3. **Determination by Parliamentarian that the President names the nominating committee.**
 - 4. Jim Kurycki, Warren Lun, and one other person are on the selection committee.

- L. Election process for 2018 year previously tabled:
 - i. **Motion made/seconded/passed for a continuing resolution**
 - 1. Ballots will be mailed by December 15
 - 2. Ballots are due no later than one week prior to the Winter Meeting
 - 3. Ballots will be mailed 1st class

- M. Good and welfare
 - i. Motion made/seconded to remove member Chad Lilly from page in package distributed listing Interested Persons to Help SPAAMFAA. Motion passed
 - ii. Recognition of a 100 year old SPAAMFAA member still active

- XI. Motion to adjourn at 5:35 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
 Maureen Higgins
 Recording Secretary