

**DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS
DIVISION OF FIRE SAFETY
NEW JERSEY FIRE SAFETY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING**

Meeting of January 15, 2014

The New Jersey Fire Safety Commission meeting was held on Wednesday, November 20, at the Atlantic City Convention Center in Atlantic City, NJ.

Commission Members Present: Mr. Pasquale Intindola, Acting-Chairman
Mr. Charles W. Schilling
Mr. Stanley Sickels
Mr. Kevin Krushinski
Mr. Lawrence D. Wood
Mr. Roger Potts
Mr. Kevin Bellew
Ms. Kathleen O’Leary
Mr. Fredrick Collender
Mr. Steve O’Gorman
Mr. Daniel DeTrollo

Commission Members Excused: Assemblyman John Wisniewski, Chairman
Mr. Arthur Londensky
Mr. John Lightbody
Mr. Richard Blohm

DCA Staff Members Present: William Kramer, Acting Director
Lou Kilmer, NJDFS
Tim Weiss, NJDFS
Glenn M. Smyth, NJDFS
Charles Lavin, NJDFS
Jerry Clark, NJDFS
James McFadden, NJDFS
Michael Whalen, Codes and Standards

Guests: David Kurasz, NJFSAB John Garton, NJ Department of Labor
Richard Silvia, NJSFPPA Vinny Corsaro, Jefferson Twp. Fire Bureau
John Caufield, NFPA Ray Lonabaugh, NFSA
Peter Hodge, BC Law/Public Safety Doris Flatley, Somerset Co. Fire Academy
Josh Lazarus, NJDFS (ret.) Donald Scher, Somerset Co. Fire Academy
Charles Augenbaugh, NJ Deputy Fire Chiefs
Ronald McGowan Jr., Wildwood Crest Fire Co.

A. Call to Order

Acting-Chairman Pat Intindola called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM and began the meeting with the “Pledge of Allegiance” and pointed out the fire exits. A moment of silence was observed for the firefighter who had recently passed away in Bergen County.

B. Approval of Minutes

With no discussion requested or necessary corrections, the minutes of the regular meeting of November 20, 2013 were approved.

C. Correspondence

Acting-Chairman Intindola noted that all correspondence for today’s meeting is contained in the Fire Safety Commission packets. With no discussion requested on any of the correspondence at this time, the meeting was moved to Public Comment I.

D. Public Comment I

Acting-Chairman Intindola opened up the meeting to any members of the public wishing to address the Fire Safety Commission.

John Caufield, the Mid-Atlantic Regional Director from the National Fire Protection Association, spoke briefly to remind everyone to keep tabs on the NFPA website (www.nfpa.org). In particular, he said a number of codes and standards are posted and ready to be commented on. They are always looking for input from the people in the field, and Mr. Caufield named a handful of standards that are currently accepting comments and suggestions. He urged all the Fire Safety Commission members to check the website periodically and mentioned that many NFPA committees are looking for new members.

Charles Aughenbaugh asked if the Division of Fire Safety has the statutory authority to enforce the incident command system for the fire service in New Jersey. He then asked what agency has the authority to enforce the incident command system for the fire service in New Jersey. He then asked if the Division of Fire Safety has responded to the Governor on Assembly Bill 2593. Acting Director Bill Kramer answered that the Division of Fire Safety has received significant correspondence both for and against Assembly Bill 2593. The Division has another couple months to gather more information and make a recommendation – and they will respond to the Governor within the 6-month time-frame. Chief Kramer said if Mr. Aughenbaugh needs additional answers, he can send a letter and he will answer them officially.

E. Division of Fire Safety Activities

Acting Director William Kramer began his report by talking about two recent line-of-duty deaths that had taken place in New Jersey – one in Hightstown, one in Cliffside Park. Both were medically-related. Chief Kramer assumed that both were heart attacks, but that is not confirmed at this point.

Under the leadership of Bureau Chief Lou Kilmer, the Division of Fire Safety was able to complete 100% of its required life hazard use inspections. This includes over 13,000 inspections in over 100 municipalities and all State owned and operated buildings. The Division of Fire Safety is continuing to deal with issues with RIMS. The next hurdle will be the 2013 Annual Reports, and Chief Kilmer will be sending out documents very soon as far as submitted those reports. It looks like the reports will be allowed to be sent in between January 31st and February 28th. The document from Chief Kilmer will also include some additional instructions for a supplemental document – which will not be unfamiliar to local fire officials. Also, the Division of Fire Safety has recently added two full-time inspectors, and additional vacancies are in the process of being filled.

Preparations for Super Bowl XLVIII at MetLife Stadium are ongoing and have (as expected) become all-encompassing. The Division of Fire Safety has gone through a whole credentialing process for the events and will begin conducting field inspections next week. Multiple venues will be in use on game-day, as well as several tents and temporary structures that the Division of Fire Safety is responsible for. This includes rehearsals each day, with pyrotechnics, etc., etc. The Division of Fire Safety seems to find out about more and more events on an almost daily basis, and the Division of Codes and Standards is equally busy with Super Bowl-related issues.

Chief Kramer and Chief Rick Farletta were at a meeting recently with the New Jersey Highway Incident Management Team, and the **10:15**

Chief Kramer reported that the WABC-7 Operation Save-a-Life Kickoff Breakfast would be taking place on January 22nd in New York City. The Division of Fire Safety has invited the entire Fire Safety Commission this year, and Chief Kramer encouraged all

Commission members to RSVP and attend the event. It will be held at the Pierre Hotel starting at 8 am.

F. Advisory Council Reports:

1. Codes Advisory Council

Commissioner Charles Schilling reported that the Codes Advisory Council meeting was

2. Training and Education Advisory Council

Commissioner Lawrence Wood reported the Training and Education Advisory Council met on

The next meeting of the Training and Education Advisory Council is scheduled for

3. Statistics and Information Advisory Council

Commissioner Gerard Naylis reported

The next meeting of the Statistics and Information Advisory Council is scheduled for

4. Master Planning and Research Advisory Council

In the absence of Commissioner John Lightbody, no report was given. The January meeting had been cancelled due to coinciding events in Trenton regarding the Residential Fire Sprinkler bill.

The next meeting of the Master Planning and Research Advisory Council is scheduled for March 3rd at the Toms River Fire Academy.

5. Public Education Advisory Council

Commissioner Daniel DeTrollo reported that the January meeting had been cancelled due to a scheduling conflict. Charles Lavin did inform the Commission that the New Jersey FIRE Bowl would have its largest participation ever with three new school districts getting involved.

Commissioner Stanley Sickels suggested that a ‘Teacher of the Year’ award be added to the Fire Safety Poster Contest. He noted that some art teachers around the state do a tremendous job each year and have had several State Winners – and felt they should be recognized. Commissioner Sickels added that this could also give participation a boost. The Fire Safety Commission agreed and Commissioner DeTrollo said the Council would discuss this at their next meeting.

The next meeting of the Public Education Advisory Council is scheduled for Wednesday, March 5th at the Middlesex County Fire Academy in Sayreville.

6. Firefighter Safety and Health Advisory Council

7. Juvenile Firesetter Prevention Advisory Council

Commissioner Kathleen O’Leary reported

G. Committee Reports

1. Residential Sprinkler Committee

Commissioner Gerard Naylis

H. Old Business

I. New Business

J. Public Comment II

K. Adjournment

Acting-Chairman Intindola asked if anyone had any additional business they would like to bring before the Commission. There being none, the meeting adjourned at 10:58 am.

*** The next meeting of the Fire Safety Commission will be held on Wednesday, March 19, 2014 at 10am. It will be held at the Middlesex County Fire Academy in Sayreville, NJ***