

Raleigh Fire Department Historical Society Meeting Minutes, Draft

Date: January 17, 2011

Time: 7:00pm

Location: Fire Station 28

Meeting Opening: Legeros opened meeting

Minutes Approval:

1. Meeting was a work session, not business meeting. No minutes requested for approval.

Budget Report:

1. Meeting was a work session, not business meeting. No budget report requested.

Introductions:

1. FireNews Editor Jeff Harkey, who has participated in earlier meetings. He was a member of the original RFD photo unit, which was organized in 1990.

Agenda:

1. Discuss and determine actions for creating memberships and gaining members.
2. Discuss and determine actions for improving display of antiques at Station 28.

Memberships:

1. How much should a membership cost?
 - a. Objective of memberships is both raising money and gaining interest and participation in historical society.
 - b. Should we have membership levels?
 - i. Group discussed various concepts of membership levels, as well as various cost models.

- c. Group discussed what benefits should be provided to membership purchasers.
 - i. We could provide access to the museum trailer to active and retired personnel.
 - ii. We could arrange visitation days to the trailer, for non-fire department members.
 - iii. Group discussed idea of providing a t-shirt, in lieu of having such perks as free admission to a museum, or a discount to a museum store.
 - iv. Group discussed appeal of a membership card, perhaps with fancy logo and individually numbered.
 - d. Group decided on following model.
 - i. Personnel pay \$24 a year
 - 1. Receive t-shirt with a design.
 - 2. Receive letter recognizing their gift.
 - 3. Receive membership card.
 - 4. Retirees can become members at discount rate of \$18 per year.
 - 5. No membership levels.
 - 6. One-year members.
 - e. How do personnel pay for members?
 - i. We can take collect the money ourselves.
 - 1. How do we do this?
 - ii. We can update web site to include dues.
 - 1. *Legeros, post-meeting note: PayPal takes a percentage of all money collected. Thus, we will lose a small amount of dues paid in this manner.*
 - f. Membership period is one-year.
 - i. Need to select a time frame for membership.
 - ii. Group discussed possibility of partial-year memberships.
2. Membership card.
 - a. Chamblee will lead work on the card.
 - b. He'll work on completing the final design.
 - c. He'll gather information on production methods and costs.
 3. What would you get for joining?

4. T- Shirt

- a. Chamblee will lead work on the t-shirt.
- b. Design will appear on back of t-shirt.
 - i. Proposed design is a front-view of the 1926, 1950, and 1956 pumpers.
 - ii. Chamblee showed a hand-drawn design at prior meeting.
 - iii. Legeros can create digital version, once we photograph the pumpers in the desired positions.
- c. Web site address should be included on back of shirt.
- d. Color should be used, if not cost-prohibitive.
- e. Group discussed other t-shirt ideas, such as fancier and more costly version to sell at future events, such as the Fire Expo.

5. Promoting Memberships

- a. Are we ready to announce far and wide?
- b. Ron Campbell and FireWatch is a channel for messages.
- c. Tar Hell Traveller on local TV station might be interested.
- d. Need more work on communication and promotion ideas.

6. Timeframe For Membership Project

- a. Sooner than later is good.
- b. Might take as long as into early summer, group acknowledged.

Antique Displays:

1. Vehicles on display are:

- a. 1905 American LaFrance steamer
- b. 1926 American LaFrance pumper
- c. 1950 Mack pumper
- d. 1953 rescue boats
- e. 1982 Mack pumper

2. Pending equipment to be displayed:

- a. Hand-hose reel, currently housed at Station 23 and in disrepair.
 - i. Walters and Legeros have considered purchasing a wooden hand-reel from a seller in Virginia.
 - ii. Reel has been for sale on eBay, on and off.
 - iii. Last priced at \$600 or better off.

- iv. Reel did not serve in Raleigh, but comparable to those that did.
 - b. Wheeled dry-chemical extinguishers, currently housed at trailer.
 - i. One with metal wheels, believed served at shop.
 - ii. One of two with rubber wheels, used on foam truck, later haz-mat.
 - iii. Two smaller with rubber wheels, used on haz-mat?
 - c. 1961 American LaFrance pumper.
 - i. Privately owned.
 - ii. Henshaw trying to get donated to historical society.
- 3. Group discussed need to improve arrangement of vehicles, to make more museum-like.
- 4. Could add signage or other props. Turn each vehicle into an information station.
- 5. Could add props or chains, to limit physical touching or access of vehicles.
- 6. Design arrangement ideas include oldest to newest vehicles.
- 7. Harkey is willing to make scale-drawings of ideas, using CAD.
- 8. Wall and Chamblee measured each piece of apparatus for length and width and recorded by Legeros:
 - a. 1905 steamer - 16 feet 10 inches long, 7 feet 8 inches wide
 - b. 1926 LaFrance - 21 feet long, 7 feet wide
 - c. 1950 Mack - 24 feet 5 inches long, 8 feet 3 inches wide
 - d. 1953 boats - 18 feet long, 7 feet wide
 - e. 1982 Mack - 27 feet long, 8 feet 6 inches wide

Other Business:

- 1. Legeros shared examples of photo enlargements being prepared for display at the trailer. He's working to obtain highest quality at lowest cost, with possible vendors including Sam's and Ritz.
- 2. Booths were discussed at events in 2011 and 2012.
 - a. Can we have a booth at the Fair?
 - i. Who can investigate?
 - ii. Good location for selling higher-priced (non membership-level) tee-shirts.
 - b. Can we have a booth at the Fire Expo?
 - i. Legeros will contact a contact with NCSFA.

Action items next meeting:

1. Chamblee will meet with shirt printer about design and cost
2. Harkey will put engines on drawing if CAD file if one was available.
3. Henshaw will check with A. Perry to see if there is a CAD file available.
4. Barefoot will check on cost of booth at the state fair.
5. Legeros will continue to work with enlarging photos for the history trailer.

Meeting Closing:

Closed by Legeros.

In Attendance:

Harkey, Wall, Chamblee, Barefoot, Legeros, Henshaw.

Upcoming Meetings:

Next regular scheduled meeting is first Monday of February, Feb. 7.
Location TBD.