

COMMUNITY FIREFIGHTERS FUNERAL BENEFIT FUND, INC
1755 ASHLAND AVENUE
HOMWOOD, IL 60430

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 22, 2016

TOTAL DEPARTMENTS ATTENDING	12
MEMBER DEPARTMENTS ATTENDING	8
ATTENDING MEMBER DEPARTMENTS IN GOOD STANDING	5
(See last page for attendance detail)	

Today's meeting was held at the Brian Carey Training Center in Homewood, IL. Our thanks go to Homewood Chief Bob Grabowski for the use of this facility.

Meeting was called to order at 0900 hours by President Battistella, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

Secretary Johnson conducted the first roll call. It was noted that due to the MABAS Training Summit being held this week in Bloomington-Normal, many departments are not represented here today.

President Battistella announced that, since some of the business presented at today's meeting must be voted upon at a subsequent meeting, our next general membership meeting will be held as follows:

- Thursday, March 31, 2016
- 0930 hours
- The Brian Carey Training Center, 1023 W 191st St, Homewood, IL

President Battistella noted that the minutes of our last membership meeting – held on 03-10-2015 – would be voted on for approval at our next meeting.

Treasurer Knoll gave a treasurer's report

- The February newsletter contained Fund account balance information
- He reviewed Fund expenses for the past year
- He reviewed the Fund's financial status as of 12-31-2015
- (Not reported today, but notable, is that the Fund has re-established our corporate identity. We are once again registered with the Secretary of State as a corporation, and are known as the Community Firefighters Funeral Benefit Fund, Inc.)
- He advised that our accounting firm – Hawtree & Associates – recommends not incurring the expense of becoming a 501(c)(3) organization, unless we conduct fundraising events, which we do not. The Board agrees – we are registering as a 501(c)(7) not-for-profit organization
- Annual accounting and corporate fees are estimated to be approximately \$400
- President Battistella noted that the Fund is solvent

Secretary Johnson gave a secretary's report

- All 79 fire departments within the 6 eligible MABAS divisions – Divisions 7, 19, 21, 22, 24, 27 – were contacted either via email or USPS mail and were invited to today's meeting

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- We currently have 32 member departments, and 3 Individual members, for a total of 1,372 active members
- It is important that all members pay assessments when invoiced, so that we are able to maintain sufficient funds to provide death benefits
- The CFFBF Executive Board has met 5 times since last year's general membership meeting, reviewing, researching & organizing Fund records
- MABAS 24 graciously provides office space and utilities for CFFBF business in their new headquarters building on Ashland Ave in Homewood
- MABAS 24 also provides the Fund with an internet-based source for CFFBF information and materials. Our by-laws, forms, meeting minutes, newsletters, etc, are available from the CFFBF link on the www.mabas24.org website home page.

President Battistella noted that a nominating committee must be established to nominate Fund officers for this year's election. As prescribed in Article V our by-laws, a nominating committee comprised of one person from each member MABAS division shall be appointed to select and present a slate of candidates to be voted upon. President Battistella appointed the Division presidents of each member MABAS division to this committee, and charged them with presenting a slate at our next meeting. Secretary Johnson will notify each eligible division president.

President Battistella noted also that each of the current Fund officers are interested in continuing to serve in their positions, if elected:

- President – Tom Battistella
- Vice-President – Richard (Sparky) Holdefer
- Secretary – Clint Johnson
- Treasurer – Greg Knoll

Secretary Johnson reviewed a collection of 13 proposed by-laws amendments for discussion and subsequent voting. This is the first reading of these amendments. He will email the marked-up by-laws document containing the proposed amendments to all member departments for review and for voting at the March 31, 2016 meeting.

Treasurer Knoll thanked all those in attendance for being patient and for working with the Fund board over the past year as we organize our records and as we continue to be responsive to your requests and needs.

Secretary Johnson conducted a second roll call.

President Battistella adjourned the meeting at 0950 hours.

(See following page for attendance detail)

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MEETING ATTENDANCE

DEPARTMENT	MEMBER?	GOOD STANDING?	REPRESENTATIVE ATTENDING
Alsip			
Aroma			
Bedford Park			
Blue Island	Y	Y	
Bourbonnais			
Bradley			
Burbank	Y		
Burnham	Y		Clayton Stevenson
Cabery			
Calumet City			
Calumet Park	Y		Thomas Battistella
Central Stickney			
Chebanse Township			
Chicago Heights			
Chicago Ridge	Y	Y	
Country Club Hills	Y		
Crestwood	Y	Y	
Crete	Y		Jon Sloop
Dolton			
East Hazel Crest	Y	Y	
East Joliet			
Elwood			
Essex			
Evergreen Park	Y	Y	John Woodland
Flossmoor	Y	Y	
Ford Heights			
Frankfort			
Garden Homes			
Glenwood			Kevin Welsh Jr
Grant Park			
Harvey			Willie Buie
Hazel Crest	Y		
Homer Township			
Hometown			
Homewood	Y	Y	Clint Johnson; Greg Knoll; Bob Grabowski
Joe Schmitt	Y	Y (no vote)	
Kankakee			
Kankakee Township			
Lansing	Y	Y	Scott Krygsheld
Limestone Township			

DEPARTMENT	MEMBER?	GOOD STANDING?	REPRESENTATIVE ATTENDING
Lockport Township			
Lynwood	Y	Y	
Manhattan	Y		
Manteno			
Markham			
Matteson	Y	Y	Chris Schwalbe
Max Kinast	Y	Y (no vote)	Max Kinast
Merrionette Park			
Midlothian	Y	Y	
Momence			
Monee			
New Lenox			
North Palos			
Oak Forest	Y		
Oak Lawn	Y	Y	
Otto Township			
Palos FPD	Y	Y	
Papineau			
Park Forest			
Pembroke			
Peotone	Y	Y	
Phillip Schafer	Y	Y (Hon.)	
Phoenix	Y		
Pilot Township			
Posen	Y	Y	
Reddick Community			
Richton Park			Craig Solick
Riverdale	Y	Y	James Muirhead
Robbins	Y		
Roberts Park			
Salina Township			
Sauk Village	Y		
South Chicago Heights	Y	Y	
South Holland	Y	Y	
St Anne			
Steger Estates	Y		
Summit			
Thornton	Y	Y	
Tinley Park	Y		
University Park			



Clint Johnson – Secretary
Community Firefighters Funeral Benefit Fund

Minutes approved at 03-31-2016 membership meeting.