



## **Nor Cal Fire Prevention Officers Association**

**Angela Giuliani, President  
October 27, 2006**

### **Minutes – Monthly Membership Meeting Sacramento, CA**

**President Giuliani called the October 27, 2006 meeting to order at 0930 hours.**

**Past President Tonya Hoover conducted the pledge of allegiance and Vernon Brown was appointed Sergeant of Arms.**

**President Giuliani asked for a moment of in observation of the four U.S.F.S. firefighters who lost their lives in the Southern California wild land fire.**

**President Giuliani then introduced host Fire Marshal Mike Dobson from Sacramento Metropolitan Fire Department. Fire Marshal Dobson welcomed everyone to Sacramento and asked for a moment of silence for the Sacramento County Sheriff's Deputy who had been shot. F/M Dobson also introduced his Chief, Don Mette, who thanked everyone for coming and recognized the group's efforts in fire prevention.**

**The organization recognized the visiting Fire Chiefs, Building Officials and guests.**

**President Giuliani asked Past President Dennis Mathisen to declare a quorum, so declared. Self-introductions were made.**

**The September meeting minutes were approved by motion and second.**

### **SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS**

**President Giuliani presented Fire Marshal Dobson with a proclamation honoring his service in the fire prevention field and recognizing his impending retirement. We wish him a long and happy retirement!**

President Giuliani also presented proclamations to those co-chairs who attended the code adoption hearings in Florida in September. Those honored include Rick Terry, Lorin Neyer, Ed Tubbs, Forrest Craig, Ethan Foote, Dan Najera, Ron Keefer and Rocque Yballa. Thank you to all of these people who have given so much of their time and energy to the code adoption process – and who continue to prepare for the hearings in New York in May! Rocque Yballa was also given a separate proclamation for his excellent work on the Incident Action Plan to organize our group into an effective voice at the hearings.

#### **STATE FIRE MARSHAL REPORT**

None.

#### **LEGISLATIVE REPORT**

None.

#### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

President Giuliani called for a vote to approve the amendments to the NORCAL FPO Bylaws to become a chapter of the International Fire Marshal's Association. Group voted to approve the amendments.

Committee co-chairs have been asked to submit their summaries for the Annual Report to their respective Vice President by November 17<sup>th</sup> for editing. The report will be produced in January and presented at the Cal Chiefs planning sessions in Dixon.

Nominations for the Charlie Gray award will be solicited from the group in November. Please encourage all eligible individuals to apply!

Due to Theresa Johnson's retirement, there will be two positions opening on the board next March, Treasurer and Secretary. The nominating committee is comprised of Dennis Mathisen, Wes Arvin and Mike Stewart. Please contact one of these committee members if you or someone you know is interested in being on the board.

President Giuliani reviewed some of the conditions of our contract with our association management firm, PattersonWheeler. PW will be assuming some duties from both the Secretary and the Treasurer positions. They will be managing our financial records, membership database, member roster and annual report. In addition, they will

handle the registration and administration of 12 classes annually. We just need to choose the instructor and location they will do the rest! So, if you have ideas for a class or a facility to host a class, please drop either Danielle Stefani or Rick Carpenter an e-mail so that they can coordinate the information and forward it to PW for action!

President Giuliani advised that Assistant State Fire Marshal Kate Dargan had formed a work group comprised of both public and private parties to study the height and area sections in the IBC and try to make unified recommendations on the approximately 27 proposed amendments to these sections. Laura Blaul was asked to represent the FPO's on this group and Lorin Neyer advised later in the meeting that Laura has posted her notes from their first meeting on the L.A.F.M. website.

President Giuliani asked Rocque Yballa to do brief hot wash of the code hearings in Florida for the group. Rocque gave an overview of the command structure and asked the code committees to use their meeting time today to create a list of positive items and things we can change for the next hearings. These lists were reviewed later in the meeting, Rocque will compile the information and it will be sent out via the list serve for the members' information.

## **EXCHANGE OF IDEAS**

Vernon Brown is the FPO representative to OSHPD. Vern advised that he recently attended the oversight meeting and is very pleased with the internal changes occurring at OSHPD. He believes that these changes are very positive and will result in an improved working relationship between the locals and OSHPD.

Ethan Foote advised that the fire severity hazard zone maps have been updated and are being BETA tested now. They will be distributed to the local CDF units soon and he will be doing a presentation on them at the November meeting in Dublin.

Steve Hart advised that Hugh Council's retirement dinner went very well and the FPO's were well represented. Morgana Chan, Gene Gantt and Dennis Mathisen presented Hugh with a proclamation on behalf of the organization. Wes Arvin was also there on behalf of the UC Fire Marshals.

Vern Canon advised that CCAI has changed the dates for their spring meeting. They will now meet March 26<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup>, 2007. Thank to Vern for being our representative there and asking for the change!

**Bill Greene advised the group to not overlook State Fire Training in our planning for next year. Tonya Hoover advised that S.T.E.A.C. is actively working on assimilation of training for the I-Codes in their strategic plan.**

**Ethan Foote advised that he would be attending the FireWise conference next week in Denver. He requests that anyone else attending the conference contact him for networking purposes and possible preparation for the code hearings in May.**

**Kent Miller recommends that Lorin Neyer and the investigations committee consider putting together a class on terrorism in hospitals. He also advised that he now has 8 separate proposals for biodiesel plants in Stockton. He has put together a packet of applicable code requirements and is happy to share with anyone else who may need them.**

**Danielle Stefani advised she recently found a well-known pest control company storing toxic pesticides in an outdoor storage container to avoid constructing an H-3 storage room. She experienced similar problems with them at the port. Kent Miller advised that he had the same experience at the Port of Stockton. Danielle requested that any jurisdiction with similar problems with pest control companies please contact her for follow-up.**

**Theresa Johnson advised that they recently responded to a fire alarm at a hotel in her jurisdiction and were told by employees that it was a false alarm. Upon further investigation, it was verified that there was a fire in a guest room and that several previous “false alarms” were also real fires.**

**Tonya Hoover advised that they recently had a structure fire in a single family home where the 7 yr old boy advised his family members to “go to the meeting place.” When asked where he learned this, he stated that the firefighters taught him that at school recently. Just another example – children are always listening!**

**Lorin Neyer advised that Laura Blaul has posted her notes from the first meeting of the height and area work group on the LAFM website. Lorin encouraged everyone to read them – they are a good look at the process. Lorin also advised that it appears that the reason that height and area sections in the IBC are so lenient is that it was an attempt in combining the three codes to take the least restrictive. This would result in the least number of buildings nationwide being out of compliance. Lorin also advised that Laura is looking for examples of fire history in large buildings that will strengthen our**

**position on restrictions. Fire history is very helpful and so are any other valid reasons why your department cannot handle a fire in a very large building, i.e. manpower, water supply, access, geography,.... Please contact Laura with any info. that may help.**

#### **AFTERNOON PROGRAM**

**Our thanks to Nestor Iwankiw, P.E. with Hughes and Associates for his presentation on structural Fire Protection Engineering.**

**President Giuliani advised that board had met with PW and reviewed several proposals concerning the ICC training for next year. There will be another meeting dealing specifically with the training issues on November 16<sup>th</sup> in San Ramon. Any interested member is welcome to attend the meeting, please contact a board member for further details on time and location.**

**Thank you to Sac Metro Fire for an excellent meeting and raffle.**

**The meeting was adjourned at about 1400 hours. Next meeting will be in Dublin on November 17, 2006.**

**Respectfully submitted,  
Morgana Chan, Secretary**