

RFA April 2, 2019 Meeting Minutes

President Scherer called the meeting to order at 11:05 with 18 members present.

President Scherer read the names of the members who passed away since our last meeting.

Veniizelos "Jello" Lagos
Leonard Johnson
Francis Gray
Robert Harrington

Sick list update/additions

Bill Dawson Hospice Care
Harry Twigger Dementia

Joe Healy gave the Treasurer's report and it was approved

Jimmy Partridge was absent. No Secretary's report or minutes from last meeting.

Stefan Ventura gave the membership report.

2 new members

Samuel Darden Ret. Oct. 1976 RS-2

Walter "Roddy" Butts Ret. 8-1992 E-29 WD

One member attending his first meeting David Cole

Bill Mould gave an update on the on going battle with the members who's pensions were audited and "adjusted"

Recap. Jan 2015 136 retired Firefighters received letters stating they had been overpaid. Each case was different. Some were ordered to repay the amount of overpayment. All had their pensions reduced by what the Federal Govt. said they had been over paid. Some were told they had to pay taxes on the over payment. The RFA, L-36, The FOP, and The Assoc. of Retired MPD Officers have been working together to get all of these issues resolved.

So far all of the effective members have been forgiven and not required to Payback any over payment. All but one member has been told they do not have to pay taxes on the overpayment. The last one should be resolved soon.

A retired MPD officer has gone to court on his own to get relief from the audit and reduction of his benefits. The court ruled in his favor, but the Govt. has appealed. Bill Mould requested \$10,000.00 to be used to hire an attorney to look into the merits of his case and see what he would recommend our next course of action should be. This money might not be necessary if the International Fire Fighters Assoc. attorney takes the case for us.

The RFA has been dealing with 63 of our members. They were all audited for different reasons. The three reasons were The look back COLA, miscalculated Sick Leave, or the 80% rule. (the member was over 80% of their pay}

L-36 Report by Charlie Hottinger

Members who retired but were owed money from the last contract still have not received their money. The Local is aware of the situation, and staying on top of it.

Fireman's Memorial Days May 29 and 30

May 29 will be a Fire Box dedicated at 14th and H Sts. N.W. for "Big" John Williams with a reception afterwards at Hilton Gardens Inn

May 30th will be the 20th anniversary of the Cherry Rd. Fire. A Fire Box will be dedicated at the site, with a luncheon afterwards at the restaurant in the building with Local 36

More info will be posted once it becomes available.

There is now a Washington DC Fire Fighters Memorial Foundation this is a 501c non profit. They are collecting money to put up a permanent memorial to the Fallen DC Firefighters. They are looking for sites, getting permits, hiring an artist to design the memorial. It is all in the early stages, but money is needed to get things moving. A link to their website will be posted on our website.

Local 36 is negotiating a new Dental and Vision contract. RFA members should be able to join in on the contract once it is finalized.

New Business

Austin Smith was voted in as an Honorary Member. Austin worked for the VA and has helped many of our members. He is also related to the many Smith's on the DCFD (Bouncer, JR, Steamboat, and Red to name a few)

The DC Firefighters Burn Foundation is hold a "Night at the Market" as a fund raiser to be held on Sat. May 18th 7 to 11 PM Eastern Market 225 7th St. SE.