



Georgia Fire Sprinkler Association

P.O. Box 661 Grayson, GA 30017

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday January 13, 2015

The January 13, 2015 meeting of the Georgia Fire Sprinkler Association was held at SPP Pumps in Norcross. GFSA President Ray Vance called the meeting to order at 10:45. He opened the meeting with prayer and welcomed everyone. Ray said the meeting was being recorded for purposes of creating meeting minutes. Guests included Bryan Smith with Spears.

Treasurer: Jimmy Hunt said the balance of the checking account is \$5,083.15 with membership checks coming in and expenses going out. Prior to John Phar's departure for California, John met with Jimmy and transferred all documents to Jimmy. Jimmy has scanned everything to electronic format and will maintain all documents in the same fashion.

Executive Director's Report: Billy Wood said the SFPE conference will be on March 17-18. Billy thanked the SFPE again for their assistance with the GFSA calendar. Billy suggested the GFSA join with the suppression and alarm associations to look for ways to improve membership. This could improve participation in the golf outing as well as the calendar. Billy talked briefly with Daniel, president of the Alarm Association. Patrick Cordi said a joint board from all groups is needed. Billy summarized the Christmas gathering and the gifts and donations given to the Georgia Fire Fighters Burn Foundation. Billy is now employed at Pro-Tec Fire & Sprinkler in Loganville. Ray asked how the Fire Sprinkler Advisory Council can be more influential in the State. Billy said it was put in place to deal with complaints and there has been little recent activity.

Codes and Standards: Alan Carte reviewed changes with the Fulton County plan review process and the new plan review fee. Fulton County may begin using an online plan review system. The city of Cumming is using a third party plan review with a \$50.00 plan review fee and \$50.00 permit fee. Ray said on line plan review is the wave of the future. A static pressure 24 hour clock is required by Atlanta and others. David Bohannon said Atlanta requires this because the pressure readings fluctuate 30 to 40 psi. NFPA requires the pressure be monitored over time, it just doesn't say how long of a period of time. David said Atlanta is trying to work out problems with two different departments who do the testing (regular flow tests and 24 hour tests).

Ray discussed recalled products including sprinklers. The IFC requires the fire officials be notified within 24 hours if voluntary or involuntary recalls are found. Patrick suggested it may be wiser to stay within the limits of NFPA 25. For issues outside NFPA 25, Ray said the NFSA & the AFSA says to notify the property owner using the text "it appears you may have..." which makes it the owner's responsibility to investigate the concern.

A discussion took place regarding NFPA 13 and NFPA 101 and the requirements for sprinklers in residential dwelling units. David Bohannon with the city of Atlanta said NFPA calls this a conflict and the city will continue to call for sprinklers in closets & bathrooms. Dwayne Garriss with the state said the codes (101, IFC) overrule a standard (13) but there is no problem requiring more than minimum standards.

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Sprinkler Systems Save Lives and Protect Property



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Anthony Spencer said there is still no UL listed anti-freeze and Tyco is still working with UL. Ray reviewed current anti-freeze requirements.

Georgia State Fire Marshal:

Dwayne Garriss said the state is going to do away with the Inspector License waiver process. Dwayne asked the GFSA to clarify and submit Code Amendment Forms for all needs in 120-3-19.

Dwayne said NFPA 25 requires an inspection to be done on what can be seen and the inspector has to assume the system is installed correctly. He also said nursing homes must be fully sprinklered. Inspection contractors may want to, in an observation report, inform clients of the requirement for sprinklers under overhangs that are over 48" wide. This is a retroactive requirement that should have been completed by August 2014. Inspection contractors may want to hand client a copy of the federal notice.

Jeff Yoder with Gwinnett County started a discussion about private companies modifying their sprinkler system on their own. 120-3-19 does allow companies doing minor repairs.

Georgia Fire Fighters Burn Foundation: No Report

Ask the Attorney: Martin Salsman said the new State legislators are in session.

Education: Ray said the NFSA annual board meeting will be at the Marriott Marquis in Atlanta on March 4th and 5th, 2015. The NFSA has asked that the GFSA be represented at the Board meeting.

Essay Contest / Scholarship: Bobby McCullough said the GFSA Essay Contest will begin mid-January with information going to school systems by the end of January. Volunteer judges will be needed in March to select the winning essays.

SFPE: Kevin Biando provided details of the upcoming SFPE conference.

AFSA: No Report

Activities: No Report.

Old Business: The November 11, 2014 meeting minutes were available on the welcome table.

New Business: No Report

Membership: No Report

Apprenticeship: No Report



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Open discussion: Dwayne said a state law was passed a few years ago that blocked the IBC requirement for installing sprinklers in one and two family dwelling. The Home Builders Association fought to eliminate the requirement for fire sprinklers. To date, for 2015, deaths by fire are up to 5. Smoke alarms do not appear to get the job done. Construction that used to allow for 18 to 20 minutes for collapse/flashover is down to 4 minutes with new construction materials and there are many potential hazards in new electrical equipment. The NFPA is pushing again for home sprinklers and Dwayne asked if there is any movement from AFSA or NFSA? A discussion followed.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:15 PM.



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P.O. BOX 661 • GRAYSON, GA 30017

Location: SPP

Date: 6/15/15

Name	Company	Phone
1. Allen Cagle	Pro Tec	678 373-9282
2. DANIEL LAUGHLIN	PRO-TEC/GASPED	770-403-1200
3. Billy Wood	GFSA	404 226 8304
4. Bobby McCullough	ATLANTA SPRINKLER	7 867 5188
5. CHRIS CONWAY	ALL SOUTH SPRINKLER	(678) 283-6929
6. PATRICK CORDI	WILMINGTON FIRE SCS	(404) 389-9555
7. TREVOR WRIGHT	SPEARS	678-985-1263
8. Bryan Smith	Spears	678-985-1263
9. Anthony Spencer	BlazeMaster	678 863 3678
10. SPOT DOWNIZLY	Challenger Fire	770-682-0692
11. BENNY DURDEN	ATLANTA WINSUPPLY	7-484-1112
12. BRANDEN DURDEN	" "	" "
13. Dwayne Garries	SFMO	4/785-7081
14. RAY VANCE	Amber Fire Pro.	678-478-2741
15. KEVIN BIANCO	ALL STAR FIRE	678 469 3033
16. Jimmy Hunt	SPP Pumps	7) 883-7878
17. Tommy McCullers	Gwinnett Fire	678 300 3378
18. DAVID ADAMS	SANDY SPRINGS	770 206-2083
19. RALPH WATSON	Elite	770 706 159
20. MIKE BRUCE	AIC, INC.	7-614-7022
21. DAVID BOHANNON	CITY OF ATLANTA	404 764 7915
22. TOMMY HABERMAN	VIKING	901-415-8169
23.		