



Fire & Life Safety Educators of Colorado
Meeting Minutes – March 13, 2009
Hosted by Littleton Fire Rescue



Meeting Called to Order: 0900

McEvoy Minute ~ (Limited to special projects to conserve time)

Mr. Percival ~ Still unable to bring his own utensil, he borrowed a “Cialis” pen this time.

Mr. Micheli ~ Nothing to add but a bright reddish hue.

Ms. Reed ~ No report.

Mr. Davis ~ The W-S fire museum has recovered from the tornado and he is seeking assistance in preparing it for the historical exhibits. He also admitted to stealing Loveland’s pizza/smoke alarm program.

Ms. Goodwin ~ “All our projects are special.”

Ms. Leeka ~ No report.

Ms. Norconk ~ Interested in stealing ideas while Englewood rebuilds its life safety education program.

Mr. Stovall ~ Englewood is baby-stepping back into life safety education.

Ms. Driskell ~ No report.

Ms. Potton ~ She is debuting her crash dynamics course for 8th-grade physics students and teachers in the near future.

Ms. Moore ~ “I am a special project this week!” She also taught a Fire & Life Safety Educator I course this week with Ms. Reed, Ms. Trost and Ms. Potton. Ms. Leeka proctored the exam and 90% of the attendees passed the exam.

Mr. Gillan ~ No report, but he was excited about passing the FLSE I exam.

Ms. Harrington ~ No report.

Ms. Kutchen ~ She is preparing for a Child Wellness Fair.

Mr. Koppes ~ “I am our fire marshal’s special project.”

Mr. Engelhardt ~ Loveland Fire Rescue is experiencing some exciting changes and he gave the responsibility for sharing those changes to Fire Marshal Tim Haag.

Mr. Haag ~ He said Loveland is starting over with its fire prevention bureau, sending three personnel back to the line and providing an administrative assistant to work with Mr. Pringle. “Economic times have caught up with Loveland,” he said.

Mr. Pringle ~ No report.

Ms. Woodward ~ Elk Creek is developing a wildland urban interface program in advance of what could be a long fire season.

Ms. Saito ~ She recently trained Lakewood’s public transit drivers how to adjust booster chairs for elderly riders: “Saving Granny’s Fanny.”

Mr. Dorrell ~ North Metro is partnering with Volunteers of America to provide a handyman program for senior citizens needing home improvements for safety. He learned about the program at FLSEC’s November meeting.

Ms. Trost ~ She is still catching up with her district’s string of structure fires in January and February.

Mr. Pribble ~ He is singing the national anthem at the Colorado Rockies game August 24.

Ms. Taylor ~ South Metro is still working through in merger adjustments.

Mr. Jensen ~ He suffered brain damage while completing three grants in two weeks, but is starting a new church safety program and has several WUI informational meetings with homeowner associations on his horizon.

Ms. Blunt ~ She is developing safety programs for her district's pair of high schools for pre-prom delivery.

Mr. DiPaolo ~ He's been working with Red White & Blue to develop a new WUI program for Evergreen.

Ms. Marshall ~ After surviving a particularly difficult week, she was happy to attend the meeting.

Mr. Love ~ No report.

Mr. Pringle followed the McEvoy Minutes with a special slide show showcasing FLSEC's Top 10 quotations from 2008, which encouraged the humble secretary to continue capturing quotes that sound funnier out-of-context than in and worried the assembled membership about what might make the list next year.

Minutes from January 9, 2009 ~ Approved

Treasurer's Report of March 13, 2009 ~

We have \$6,588.95 in checking and \$27,210.89 in savings for a combined total of \$33,799.84 in all accounts. Report approved as provided.

Report from Related Organizations

Colorado State Fire Chiefs ~ Ms. Trost reported that the recent meeting included a pair of presentations. The response to and recovery from the 2008 Windsor tornado was interesting, but of greater significance to the membership was the proposal by ISO to integrate a district's life safety education programs into its ISO rating starting in 2010 (as well as other new requirements). The full proposal — as well as a form for providing feedback — is available at www.isomitigation.com. Check it out.

Additionally, the CSFCA has been tracking lots of legislation, and Paul Cooke provided attendees with a ledger on the status of various bills.

Fire Marshals of Colorado ~ Ms. Woodward said the recent training was on updates to the International Building and Residential Codes in regards to new sprinkler requirements. She also said several FMAC members are forming a committee to figure out how the new requirements will be implemented in our state.

Northern Colorado Fire Marshal's Association ~ Mr. Pringle said he is trying to get a flyer for the NCFMA conference to distribute at the FLSEC conference. Additionally, the committee is seeking speaker proposals. The conference is November 2-6, 2009. Mr. Jensen already has been accepted as a speaker for the event.

Emergency Services Public Information Officers of Colorado ~ "Normal things happened," according to Mr. Pribble, and the attendees at the March meeting learned about Twitter as a communication device. From the ESPIOC Minutes:

Twitter, a social networking site, was used during the Old Stage Fire (Boulder) in January as one way to give and get information on the fire. Sarah Huntley talked specifically about how it was used. She noted that they didn't know they were using Twitter at first. Boulder County has a Twitter page, and every time they posted a news release to their web site, it automatically sent out a "tweet" to those following it.

On the positive side, it helped PIOs know of issues and information that needed immediate response. It brought more eyes and ears to the flow of information. It was simple to link the web updates to the tweets to reach more people with the information, and the information was unfiltered.

On the negative side, the information was unfiltered! You had to keep messages very short, they had no control over information coming from others, no credentials are required, there is no way to delete tweets (so if the information is wrong it can't be removed), it creates another information source to monitor, and there is always the risk of being associated with distasteful content.

Safe Kids Denver Metro ~ Ms. Saito asked FLSEC members to use SKDM's monthly car seat fitting stations on the 3rd Sunday as a resource. Fire departments are asked to host the events during the winter so that apparatus bays can mitigate the impact of weather on technicians and customers. Additionally, she said Burger King is a new option for local project funding.

Mr. Pringle added that the Denver and Larimer County Safe Kids chapters are approaching their 10-year anniversaries.

Executive Board (EBoard) ~ No report.

NFPA ~ Ms. Taylor reminded attendees that the NFPA's monthly newsletter *Safety Source* is a good resource. She also described how Monica Colby had donated \$1,000 for two of life safety educators outside of Colorado to attend our conference in April.

Special Guest ~ Little Fire Rescue Chief John Mullin

Chief Mullin spoke for a few minutes on the importance of life safety educators and community risk reduction in each of our communities and wondered aloud on how the fire service might evolve to embrace life safety educators as much as its firefighters someday.

"You touch more people than my troops do; you interact with more people than my troops do; you have made a difference in more lives than my troops," he said. "I'm sorry we don't support you more."

Team Reports

Publications/Media/Curriculum:

The Team's appearance on *Colorado & Company* January 29th to discuss carbon monoxide alarms was a success. Praise was heaped on Mr. Dorrell and Ms. Kutchen for creating the opportunity.

Phase 1 of the Activity Book is complete; the team agreed to postpone working on Phase 2 for 3rd- through 6th-grade students until 2010. Donald Wescott and Englewood picked up their books from Ms. Blunt following the meeting.

In the meantime, the team has applied for a Fire Prevention & Safety grant to fund FLSEC's Great Colorado Fire Drill. This campaign will consist of multiple parts: providing training to the state's fire departments on developing a fire drill campaign in their own communities; providing each department with a toolbox that includes lesson plans, a banner, NFPA brochures and 10 dual-sensor lithium-battery smoke alarms; producing advertising and public safety announcements for statewide broadcast, web-based and print media promoting home escape plans and fire drills; and implementing the Great Colorado Fire Drill during Fire Prevention Week 2009. More information will follow.

Conference:

Only 22 people have submitted their registrations thus far, but Mr. Pribble said he is no longer worried because he can't control those numbers. Mr. Jensen recognized South Metro's and Cunningham's IAFF chapters for supporting the conference with \$250 donations and asked members to contact their agency chapters to consider matching those efforts. Mr. Love said Poudre will match. Ms. Kutchen and Ms. Driskell reminded members to donate to the silent auction.

Awards:

Ms. Moore provided maps to the banquet, which immediately followed the meeting at The Overlook Restaurant. Awards Team members now have a two-year commitment to provide for continuity in that group.

Certifications:

The Division of Fire Safety has asked for another meeting to confirm changes to the requirements to certify and recertify as Fire & Life Safety Educators. Mr. Pringle said FLSE II will be offered at the NCFMA Conference in November.

Election of Officers -- None

Old Business

The membership voted affirmatively to spend \$695 to purchase exhibiting rights at the Salute to Seniors event at the Colorado Convention Center May 27, 2009. Mr. Jensen will coordinate staffing of the event.

Mr. Dorrell requested help providing a car seat fitting station on May 2.

Our Remaining 2008 Meetings are:

May 8 ~ North Metro

July 10 ~ Colorado Springs

September 11 ~ Thornton (TBD to accommodate memorials and the annual Stair Climb;

Mr. Jensen will survey members for their input)

November 13 ~ Poudre

New Business

South Metro is hosting a car seat safety technician course in May. Contact Ms. Reed for details (mandy.reed@southmetro.org), but the course cost is only \$60 to cover the certification.

Ms. Marshall inquired whether invoices can be sent to agency accounts payable staff for annual dues to alleviate miscommunications within said agencies. Mr. Jensen suggested FLSEC handle those requests as needed rather than having to build a database of new contacts/addresses that could change more often than the educator roles.

ESPIOC is touring "The Cell" to learn about anti-terrorism plans for the area on Sept. 10. Contact Mr. Pribble for information.

Mr. DiPaolo and Ms. Taylor proposed having a no-work all-fun FLSEC retreat this summer that would utilize his property at Grand Lake. As long as the event happens after West Metro's Muster (June 13) and Parker Country Days (June 12-13), the membership seemed interested in the proposal.

Mr. Davis reiterated his need for help directing a cadre of volunteers to become curators and interpreters for the Windsor-Severance Fire Museum.

Mr. Koppes said W-S's annual open house extravaganza is June 6.

Mr. Pringle, who had left to attend to the banquet, was recognized for receiving the Firefighter of the Year award from Loveland's Elks Lodge. Usually the award goes to a line firefighter, but Mr. Engelhardt said, "that's a testament to what an amazing educator Scott is."

Door Prize ~ None.

Meeting Adjourned: 1109

Members in attendance

Dawn Blunt (Greater Brighton Fire), Mike Davis (Windsor-Severance Fire), Jeff DiPaolo (Evergreen Fire), Angela Driskell (Thornton Fire), Jeff Dorrell (North Metro Fire), Dan Engelhardt (Loveland Fire), Ray Gillan (Poudre Fire), Brianna Goodwin (Colorado Springs Fire), Deanna Harrington (Cunningham Fire), Einar Jensen (South Metro Fire), Kerry Koppes (Windsor-Severance Fire), Pam Kutchen (North Metro Fire), Sherrie Leeka (Westminster Fire), Patrick Love (Poudre Fire), Valerie Marshall (Donald Wescott Fire), Gary Micheli (Pueblo Fire), Katie Moore (Littleton Fire), Madeline Norconk (Englewood Fire), Woody Percival (Pueblo Fire), Colleen Potton (South Metro Fire), Scott Pribble (Arvada Fire), Scott Pringle (Loveland Fire), Mandy Reed (South Metro Fire), Susan Saito (West Metro Fire), Kraig Stovall (Englewood Fire), Tracey Taylor (South Metro Fire), Micki Trost (West Metro Fire) and Elizabeth Woodward (Elk Creek Fire).

Guests in Attendance

Tim Haag (Loveland Fire) and Chief John Mullin (Littleton Fire).

Quotes of the Month

“I love Lucy!” ~Ms. Kutchen

“I’m a bum toucher.” ~Mr. Pribble

“We’re all talkers.” ~ Ms. Taylor

“I have no idea how to turn that off.” ~Mr. Pringle

“You guys are so mean.” ~Ms. Kutchen

“Can anyone else roll their tongue like that?” ~Mr. Pringle

“We still have money.” ~Ms. Blunt

“Second!” ~Ms. Moore

“It will flush.” ~Mr. Dorrell

Respectfully Submitted by Einar Jensen, Secretary