

Metro Dade Fire Fighters IAFF Local 1403

01-23-18

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIRE FIGHTERS, AFL-CIO, CLC
8000 N.W. 21st Street, Suite 222, Miami, FL 33122-1605
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Omar Blanco
President

Brian Lynch
First Vice President

Michelle Steele
Second Vice President

Paul Blake
Treasurer

Gabe Nemeth
Secretary



UNION MEETING MINUTES

January 23, 2018 (A Shift)
8:00 PM

President Omar Blanco(present)
1st Vice Pres. Brian Lynch(absent)
2nd Vice Pres. Michelle Steele(present)
Secretary Gabe Nemeth(present)
Treasurer Paul Blake(present)

2018
Dale Sutton(absent)
John O'Brien(absent)
Rocky McAllister(present)
Bridget Keating(absent)
Robert Ortega(present)
Rick Ramirez(present)
Lazaro Pereda(present)

2019
Lisa Bulard(present)
Billy McAllister(present)
Adam Parks(present)
Andre Cruzeta(present)
Dan Cuoco(absent)
Nick Digiacomo(present)
Christian Chuck(present)

Call to Order at 8:00PM NO QUORUM. INFORMATIONAL MEETING ONLY .

Pledge of Allegiance and moment of Silence observed

Guests: none

President Update:

- Contract update – Next meeting in February working on the date.
- Politics- 2018 Elections will be significantly important and we are already working on them. We have formed a political team and are not waiting until the fall to get things organized. We need everyone to get involved to help with the political process and local elections. If not already registered to vote, members need to register. Omar will continue to do political “ride alongs” with our local officials. It is important for them to see and understand what we do.
- PAC- Challenge everyone to raise their PAC (Political Action Committee) contributions or to begin contributing if not doing so already. As a local we need to be involved in politics to get bills such as Cancer Presumption and COLA restoration passed in Tallahassee.
- iElectapp.com –Requesting our members create an account. ielectapp.com allows us to research public information such as voting districts, absentee voting selection and party affiliation in an effort to inform our members when there is a critical election in their corresponding district. Please go to ielectapp.com and create an account. The campaign code is “MDFIRE”.
- Tallahassee Report - Just returned from working together with FPF on the PTSD bill. Met with Senator Rene Garcia who is sponsoring the Pension bill and with Anitere Flores who is sponsoring the Cancer Presumption bill. Will return the 2nd week of February for the FPF's legislative week.
- Labor Management is meeting this week. Topics to be discussed include:
 - o R39 going into service in April, will be on next bids; Discussion still on where new South end suppression unit will go
 - o Continuing to monitor AMR and their expansion
 - o Dive Rescue – need to look for ways to increase the number of divers in operations
 - o Fire watch and staffing issues.
- 4 afternoon general membership meetings are scheduled for 2018 (March, June, September, November); Food will be provided courtesy of Errol Johnson who will be cooking lunch for those meetings.
- Firefighter Calendar – Our Firefighters Charities has joined forces with Luis Espinosa (calendar founder) in an effort to raise funds and visibility for our local's firefighter charities.

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“Not a Job – A Commitment”*

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- Upcoming events – March 10th, Retirement Party; March 24 & 31, tryouts/auditions for firefighter calendar; on April 25th, Firefighter Calendar Secretaries' day will be held at the Union Hall.
- Wellness Center – reminded members that it is open for business and only hearing of positive experiences with the doctor and his staff. The majority of the membership does not have a Primary Care Physician (PCP), so the Wellness Center offers a location for those members to be seen. FF Pete Aleman provided a testimonial of his great experience with his visit and Dr. Perez.
- The building is doing great. It is already significantly booked for 2018. The rental price was raised for the general public, but a straight \$600 fee was established for our members to rent the hall.
- Thank you to the building staff and office staff for a job well done, all of this would not be possible if it wasn't for their hard work behind the scenes.
- Thank you to Michelle Steele and all of her volunteers for a great job with the Poker Tournament. It was a great event.
- Thank you to Gil Velasquez and his team and all their work in preparation for the Super Bowl party.
- Thank you to Claudine Buzzo for all her hard work during the beginning of the year as the Benefits Officer.
- Discussed the change of health insurance carrier. There have been a few hiccups, but hopes all bugs have been resolved but if you have any issues, contact the Health Trust staff. Ultimately, the switch to Allegiance will be a benefit to our membership.
- Be smart with what you post on Social Media. What could be categorized as "firefighter humor" could be perceived differently by the public.

2nd VP Update: Steele

- Discussed the longevity grievance and hope for a resolution by April or May
- Reporting of injuries and the importance of doing it on the injury date
- St. Patrick's Day Parade

Treasurer's Update:

- Quick report, no numbers discussed

Secretary Update:

- 25 members just completed the IAFF PEER Support training (2 days). Will informed our membership of their existence and their mission to educate and assist our members.

Correspondence: none

Reports of Officers and Committees: none

Unfinished Business: none

New Business: none

Good and Welfare: none

In Unity,
Gabe Nemeth, Secretary
IAFF Local 1403

Next meeting is February 27, 2018 8:00 PM (C Shift)

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