

Metro Dade Fire Fighters IAFF Local 1403

1-16-01

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

Maria Chin
Secretary



UNION MEETING MINUTES

January 26, 2016 (B Shift)
8:00 PM

Firefighters Memorial Building
8000 NW 21 ST

Miami, FL. 33122

2017

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

Dan Cuoco(present)
Stan Hills(excused)
Lisa Bullard(present)
Bill McAllister(present)
Andre Cruzeta(present)
Sparky Thomson
Kevin Martin(present)

2016

Paul Wolf(present)
John O'Brien(present)
Bill Lyster(absent)
Bridget Keating(excused)
Rocky McAllister(present)
Dale Sutton(present)
Richie Martin(absent)

Call to Order at 8:00PM

Pledge of Allegiance and moment of Silence observed

Guests: Brother Firefighter Tenny and his wife from Jamaica addressed the members thanking us for help from our charities while he's healing from burn injuries. He's very appreciative and truly feels like one of the family. Natosha Gonzales recognized for being the liaison.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Blake gave the financial report.

6th DVP Wil Fleites gave an update on issues in Tallahassee:
Legislative conference is Feb 1- Feb 5
Several bills that could have an effect on us
Dade Days Feb 9&10

Correspondence: None

Reports of Officers and Committees:

President Omar Blanco gave an update –

- Thanked everyone for the privilege of being able to address the Local as the President of 1403
- Asked the retirees to stand and be acknowledged for their contribution to the local
- Fortunate to have a united board and mentioned for the 1st time in a while we ate all of our meals together
- Wants to rebuild the brotherhood and enforce the ability to stay united
- We hope to improve communication by implementing the station steward program
- We have new wifi, secured systems and the plan is to increase our communication
- Took a moment to recognize all the staff of Local 1403 and advise that Virginia Harris will be retiring at the end of February. She will certainly be missed
- Stan Hills has resigned effective Feb 1 and has helped Omar in the transition from the last administration
- Contract Update:

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- Priority number 1 met with the Mayor the County and all parties involved. The county wants to get a contract. We will be making sure that we will work hard to get a contract soon. Spoke about the make up of the new contract negotiations team: Matt Mierzwa, Walt Dix, Omar Blanco, Kevin Martin, Brian Lynch and Maria Chin. We have changed the strategy of our negotiations and will be updating everyone as to the dates of our next meetings.
- Recognized Jacquie Neetz for all her hard work as benefits officer and her need for extra help
- Labor Management –
 - Started off on a positive note and able to settle relief factor prior to his tenure
 - ERDI removed mandatory training
 - 1st TRT classes in 8 years will be given to all 51 members
- Committee's –
 - Email went out inviting everyone to participate on a committee- Deadline is Jan 29 and there will be another email informing of all committee members
 - Fire Ops 101 to be given in August – to build stronger relationships with our politicians
- Building Corporation update
 - Many upgrades and renovations to be done including painting of the exterior of the building, flags for the poles, and other much needed repairs to the hall
- Grievances – Explained the longevity grievance will be going to arbitration on Feb 11

Secretary Maria Chin gave an update:

- Local website will have an app feature soon to include a grievance tracker
- MDA total is \$126, 225 and L 65 B won the allotted AD time
- Retiree's Party is on April 9, 2016 and will be honoring 41 retiree's that retired in 2015
- MDRF hiring process in progress. The dept. will be sending out emails to those in the 90-100 percentile range to be able to update their profiles.

Unfinished Business: None

New Business:

- Motion by Henry Tolbert to make a contractual addition to include all airport units with staffing, positions and personnel to be identified in the new contract,
- **Motion amended by Kevin Martin to recommend to the contract negotiations team to propose the minimum staffing for all units at the airport division be included in article 13.1, Second by Lisa Bullard. Amended motion adopted.**
- Discussion on status of appeal process that was sent by the previous President. President Blanco will be reporting on the outcome
- Discussion on redlight camera tickets in the city of Pinecrest/ South Miami area. Members need to be aware of the traffic laws to avoid having to pay the ticket. If you're ticketed, you're responsible for paying ticket.
- Probationary employees should be cautionary drivers if they have to drive.
- Discussion by Rob Ortega on having more pride and tradition. Discussed the Stair Climb and that this year will be in honor of Brother Julius Perez.
- Discussion by Don Poor expressed his pleasure about the togetherness and leadership. Would like to see L1403 seek alternative funding through the department of transportation.
- Discussion by Orestes Gonzalez on members checking members on calls and being professional
- Discussion by Pete Aleman on social media – FB page needs to be monitored more closely because some people are offensive

Good and Welfare:

- Superbowl Sunday Feb 7, Promotion ceremony Feb 5, and Medal day Feb 6 – hope the brotherhood comes out to support those recipients
- Omar thanked members of the board for helping bridge the gap and the work that they are doing
- Donna Sumerville involved with UM organ/tissue bank will be writing an article in the Jumpline
- Ellen Higgenbottom reminded of an article she wrote in Jumpline about Shriners Hospital for Children
- Raffle winners
 - Adam Parks – 6163 \$25 (donate it back to burn victim)

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*Dade County Fire Fighters
"Not a Job – A Commitment"*

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- Rick Ramirez – 6212 \$50 (donate to charities)
- Christian Chuck – 6160 \$75
- Ellen Higgenbotham 6197 \$100 (donate to burn victim)

Motion to adjourn by Wil Fleites at 1020 PM, Second by John Soeder. Motion adopted.

In Unity,
Maria Chin, Secretary
IAFF Local 1403

Next meeting is February 23, 2016 8:00 PM (C Shift)