

MFPD District Auxiliary (D'Ax)

Board Meeting May 1, 2023

Meeting Minutes

Meeting was called to order at 6:33 pm.

Approval of agenda: Harris moved to approve, Beesley seconded, unanimous vote.

Approval of minutes from April 3: Blain moved to approve, Harris seconded, unanimous vote.

Nonprofit status: has been filed but no word yet, cost was \$275 to file electronically.

Treasurers report: handouts for April Income & Expense (I&E) and summary of pancake breakfast.

April ending balance was \$4324, minus an outstanding reimbursement owed for the pancake breakfast of \$267 which will be reflected in May I&E.

Pancake breakfast: 51 paid and 14 free meals for children, plus more than 20 FF and Support Group (SG) members who weren't charged. Estimated cost per meal is \$4.55 so we make \$5.45 profit per meal. Also sold 6 T shirts and received \$280 in donations so total income from the event was \$930.

Discussion: cost per meal might not be accurate as it may be based on what was purchased for this event without taking into account what was already on hand. May not be important though, as this event is intended to be more of a community outreach than a fundraiser. Also there was a discussion about whether SG members should be required to pay; one SG member complained on social media. We will make sure that announcements say "suggested donation" from now on. MVFA events are typically \$10, which is intended to cover costs but not necessarily raise revenue.

Discussion about whether we should acknowledge donations: We can use a receipt book at the time of donation, and acknowledge donations larger than \$50 with a thank you note.

Communications committee: flyers posted on social media & information given to Byte.

SWAG: sold 8 shirts before pancake breakfast & 6 at the event so we have 67 left, in a variety of sizes. We have had requests for hats, may want to get some in different colors. We do not try to make money off the SWAG.

Sustainability committee: determining different levels of service for community, such as an 8 to 5 fire station vs. what we have now; committee will submit results to full Board. Consideration of requesting community to raise assessment, which has not been raised since 2004. An "8 to 5" fire station would cause everyone's insurance to go up, considering response would be more than 30 minutes for events that occur after 8 to 5.

Secretary report: no report submitted; question of whether to post D'Ax meeting minutes to MFPD website. Blain made motion to post minutes, Beesley seconded, motion passed unanimously.

Mothers Day gift bags: 15 were made, 6 sold to date. Price is \$25 while cost to D'Ax is \$4 per unit for chocolate so profit is \$21 each. Shar and Dee donated mugs.

Report on status of funds remaining from November fundraiser: Mary W reported a balance of \$5,625 after the purchase of the projector.

Discussion about purchasing a snow cone/shave ice machine: Shave ice starts from blocks and is made one at a time while snow cone ice might melt, potential that we could make our own ice blocks. Blain made motion to buy shave ice machine for \$279 plus tax & shipping using funds from November fundraiser with D'Ax purchasing the syrups. Stever seconded, unanimous.

Rolling carts tabled until we have shed; crock pots donated by Devon & Jim Burkhalter.

Popcorn machine: looking for Greenworks cleaner but currently unavailable.

Discussion of having popcorn at upcoming yard sale to increase customers, crafters may also want to participate. It was stressed that any additions to the event must be approved by the entity that is running the event; D'Ax has been approved to have a table with free popcorn.

Discussion about shed: it can be delivered within a week but we must have the site prepared first. Seller agreed to remove the delivery charge due to the fact that we are a fire department & needs a 25% deposit. Cost is \$3975 plus tax, which comes out to about \$4,263. Motion by Blain to approve buying 10x12 shed using funds from November fundraiser and providing 25% deposit but we will wait to place the order, Brady seconded, unanimous vote in favor.

Major fundraising activities/capital improvement fund: one bid we received for painting the station exterior was \$6,800 plus \$1,500 for the doors. A preferable option may be to do the heater and upstairs a/c; do not have bids for those yet. Also a possibility of electrical repairs being done by volunteers but we would need permits.

Some concern in community about investing funds in fire station upgrades if the station may potentially close in a couple years.

Additional project areas include: stairway, FF quarters, bathrooms, kitchen, compressor to fill SCBA tanks, electrical, landscape, computer upgrades and video monitor for wall. For landscape, Trent agreed to do a drawing with help from Karen Jensen. Ideas for landscape include a new flagpole, seating area and plants. Funding could come from selling bricks to display names of donors and/or plaques on tables or benches with donors' names; need to be sensitive to the financial situations of the community in requesting funds for things that may be seen as more cosmetic/less necessary.

D'Ax board may hold an executive meeting to get more detail on all capital improvement needs. Since we are starting a building fund.

Upcoming events: May 20 – evacuation drill and chili cookoff. Possible future events: formal, wine tasting, crab feed, silent auction, band with live music.

Motion to adjourn at 8:17 by Stever, seconded by Harris, unanimous vote.