

Town of Colchester Fire Department Task Force
Meeting Minutes
Monday, August 19, 2013
7pm
Colchester Hayward Fire Department
52 Old Hartford Road, Colchester

1. Call to Order: The Meeting was called to order by the Chair at 7pm.

Members in attendance were Curran, Didato, Harper, Knapp and Martin.
First Selectman Schuster was also in attendance.

2. Public Comment: There were no comments from the public.
3. Approval of the Minutes of the August 5, 2013 Meeting: Motion made and seconded (Martin / Curran) and unanimously approved.
4. On Line Training Trial Program - Didato, Knapp and Martin will have trial sessions set up with Target Safety.
5. CHFD: Culture and Long Term Vision – There was a long discussion about the culture, vision, formal and informal leaders, and the lack of a unified voice within the CHFD. Assistant Chief Paul Giudice was invited in to meet with the Task Force.
6. Review of CHFD Volunteer Application Process: The consensus was that this should be included in the Task Force report as an area where improvements can be made.
7. Initial Fire Fighter / EMT Training: The consensus was that thinking out of the box with regard to training was another area that should be included in the Task Force report as an area where improvements can be made.
8. Ongoing Fire Fighter / EMT Training: The consensus was that thinking out of the box with regard to training was another area that should be included in the Task Force report as an area where improvements can be made.
9. Tax Abatement Program: The consensus was that this should be included in the Task Force report as an area where improvements can be made.
10. Recruitment Programs: A number of ideas were discussed and will be included in the Task Force Report, including investigating interns, living quarters and other staffing options.

11. Other areas to investigate: Chair Harper will draft a framework for the report for review and discussion at the next meeting. Task Force Members were asked to please send her ideas and a short biography for inclusion in the report.

12. Adjourn: Motion to adjourn (Knapp / Martin) at 9:15pm

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mary-ellen Harper".

Mary-Ellen Harper
Fire Department Task Force Chair.