

Dunn's Corners Fire District

1 Langworthy Road
Westerly, RI 02891

Minutes Operating Committee Meeting November 26, 2007

The Dunn's Corners Fire District Operating Committee (OC) convened on Monday, November 26, 2007, at 7:00 PM, in Fire Station #1.

Attendees comprised OC members Mike Frink, Richard Hosp, Ken Martin, John Merkel, Dan Schilke and Jonathan Schreier. A quorum was present. In attendance were district Clerk Steve White and representatives of the four Contracting Districts, Weekapaug, Shelter Harbor, Shady Harbor, and Central Beach.

Actions of the OC (all votes unanimous unless otherwise noted):

1. Minutes from 11/19 meeting: Minutes of the November 19, 2007 meeting were approved.
2. Next meetings: To be held on Mondays, December 3 and December 10, 2007, all at 7:00 PM at Fire Station #1.
3. Coverage Fire Districts: The Dunn's Corners Fire District Operating Committee met with representatives from the four Contracting Districts Weekapaug, Shelter Harbor, Shady Harbor, and Central Beach to discuss the concerns of the districts. The major points to come out of the meeting were as follows.
 - The Contracting Districts are satisfied with the quality of the fire protection services they receive.
 - That the DCFD's expenses are mostly capital related.
 - The districts would at some point like to see a long term financial plan for the Dunn's Corners Fire District.
 - The Coverage Districts expressed the desire to be viewed as partners as opposed to service users.
 - The number one concern of the coverage districts was if the property values of their districts grow at a disproportionately faster rate than those in the Dunn's Corners Fire District that they will be covering a substantially high proportion of the budget. The long term trend of the districts' proportional expense has been approximately 40% of the budget. The coverage districts asked that the Operating Committee consider the option of pegging each district's bill to a mutually agreed upon fixed percentage of the DCFD budget, as opposed to the current property value calculation.
 - Some of the coverage districts representatives proposed to the Operating Committee opening future discussions on the possibility of actual partial ownership of fire apparatus and/or facilities.

- The Operating Committee agreed to take all of the districts concerns under consideration and agreed to future meetings and dialog with the coverage districts to develop plans to guide the nature and future of the relationship.
4. Supporting Documentation: The Operating Committee agreed to provide the Coverage Districts with the slide deck of the meeting and the URL for the municipal affairs website.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve White, District Clerk