

DUNN'S CORNERS FIRE DEPARTMENT

DISTRICT CHIEF'S REPORT

FISCAL YEAR 2016-2017

We have finished another successful year at the Dunn's Corners Fire Dept. There have been some changes within the structure of the department that were not expected at the beginning of this fiscal year. One of the major changes was that Chief Michael Frink resigned from his position as District Chief. His last day was on April 26, 2017. I would like to thank Chief Frink for his service and the department wishes him best of luck in all future endeavors. I would also like to thank Chief Frink's wife, Heather and his family for their dedicated service and support to the department while Mike served as District Chief for the past 12 years. With the District Chief position now vacant the Operating Committee elected to have myself, Keith Kenyon, 1st Deputy Chief of DCFD to serve as the Interim Chief. I was elected to take over operations while the hiring process takes place to appoint the new District Chief.

Another change that the department had to endure this past year was the resignation of Chris Wells, the District Firefighter and Facilities Manager. His resignation was effective on December 17, 2016. I would like to thank Firefighter Wells for his service while employed with the Dunn's Corners Fire District. I would like to wish Firefighter Wells best of luck with his new employment with the Tiverton Fire Department. The Board of Engineers is currently in the process of hiring a new Fire Marshal/Firefighter.

The Dunn's Corners Fire District should take pride in the fact that even under these significant changes the department has continued to provide the district with the best possible emergency care. This can only be attributed to the hard work and dedication of my fellow officers and firefighters. Over the past year, there were over 115 trainings held and the dedicated members of this department have participated in a total of 1791 hours. Current membership is at 46 which is an increase of 5 from last year.

Membership Breakdown:

Senior Members	32
Life Members	5
Associate Members	2
Junior Members	1
Probationary Members	6

During the past year, the Dunn's Corners Fire Department responded to 888 Incidents. This is an increase of 93 from the previous fiscal year. The average personnel response per fire call was 8.2. A quick breakdown of these incidents is listed below. Please see attached incident summary sheet for full detail of incidents

Breakdown of Incidents:

Non-medical	441
Medical	447

Breakdown of Incidents by District:

District	Number of Incidents
DCFD	733
Bradford	51
Shelter Harbor	31
Central Beach	22
Shady Harbor	10
Mutual Aide	41

This year the Fire Marshal’s office conducted 339 inspections and plan reviews for residential and commercial properties located in our coverage area. This is a decrease of 38 from last year. However, it must be stated that this number will continue to fluctuate over the years because it is dependent on residential and commercial transition and growth.

Project Updates:

Throughout the 2016-2017 fiscal year, numerous projects were completed to help maintain and/or improve operations.

1. One major improvement is the fire alarm notification system. All occupancies in our response area have switched over to radio boxes from the old wired system. This will allow for better notification between occupancies and dispatch especially during high powered storms. In the upcoming year, we will need to continue to focus on removing the wire from the antiquated system. The wire is located on the utility poles running from our stations to all the occupancies that had a wired master box.
2. The department researched and purchased a new Car 1 which is a 2016 GMC Yukon. The former Car 1 is still in service as the new Squad 2 which will be used to transport firefighters to trainings, meetings and to get extra personnel to fire scenes when needed.
3. Station 1 painting project was completed within budget. Both stations also had exterior lighting upgraded to LED lights.

Two projects that were approved in last year’s budget were not completed. The projects were replacing the hot water system at Station 2 and upgrades to Station 1 security system and adding security system at Station 2. Both of these projects are noted in the resolutions.

Grant Updates for the 2016-2017 Fiscal Year:

We are still in the running to receive a grant to help offset the cost of the new SCBAs. However, we are prepared to purchase the SCBAs on our own if the grant is denied. We are currently working on purchasing personal protection gear for Wildland Firefighting from the Rhode Island DEM Grant that was received last year.

Acknowledgements:

At this time I would like to thank the following people for helping to make this past year a successful one for the Dunn's Corners Fire District.

1. Mary Rathbun, for her continued commitment to this department has helped make these transitions seamless. The district is very fortunate to have such a valuable employee.
2. The countless hours the Operating Committee has volunteered to help the Dunn's Corners Fire District prosper and also for their helpful guidance these past few months in my new role as Interim Chief.
3. Retired Deputy Chief Kenneth Martin for his work with Chief Frink for writing the SCBA Grant
4. Deputy Chiefs Carl Johnson and Thomas Algieri for their constant support these past few months. Everyone should know that this transition process would not have been successful without their help.
5. Department Line Officers, their devotion helps make this fire department in my opinion one of the best in the state.
6. Captain/Training Officer Jeffrey Thomas for lending his expertise in the hiring process of both the District Chief and Fire Marshal/Firefighter.
7. Fire Police Captain Bob Delaney and the members of the Fire Police for their continued dedication to keeping emergency scenes safe for all personnel. These members do not receive adequate recognition for their hard work and dedication.
8. Firefighter John Merkel for the countless hours he has put in to maintaining the Department's website and Firehouse Software.
9. The members of this department that continue to help this department grow and succeed. As cliché as it is, there truly is no "I" in team.
10. Lastly I would like to thank my wife, Andi and our children, Brody and Karlin for their extra support and patience since taking on the responsibility as the District's Interim Chief. This new role has taken me out of our home for countless hours as a result I have missed many family moments such as reading and tucking Brody and Karlin into bed. And Karlin doesn't let me forget it! Being the Interim Chief and maintaining my full time job working between 40-70 hours a week as a Lieutenant at the West Greenwich Fire Department has definitely been a balancing act. Without a doubt, my family has been my rock throughout these past few months. I am blessed to have a family that is always willing to put their interests aside so I can give the time this department requires.