

Metroplex Fire Safety Educators Association  
Meeting Minutes  
May 15, 2008

Meeting location: Garland Fire Department  
1500 State Highway 66  
Garland, TX 75040  
Host: Christopher Balanciere, Public Education Specialist/Inspector

Members in attendance:

- Jamie Perkins, Carrollton
- Peggy Harrell, Plano
- Wendi Kimpton, Farmers Branch
- Steve Papagno, North Richland Hills
- Christan Odom, Murphy
- Teri Level, Richardson
- Christopher Balanciere, Garland
- Sue Vanek, Parkland Burn Unit
- Michael Laws, DeSoto

The meeting was called to order by President Jamie Perkins at 1034 hours. The meeting was held in Room 417 of the new Garland Fire Administration and Training Building. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and a moment of silence was observed.

President Perkins asked for all present to conduct a rollcall stating name and department.

The minutes from the March 27, 2008 meeting and the most current treasurer's report were not available. President Perkins will make them available for adoption at the July meeting.

New business discussed included:

- Wendi Kimpton has been asked to coordinate the Public Education speakers for the Texas State Fire Marshals Conference in Austin in October. She needs to fill eight slots and have all information to Deborah Johnson (with State FM Office) by June 20, 2008. Wendi asked for anyone with any ideas for speakers to contact her. Wendi stated there is no budget to pay speakers but she may be able to get rooms provided. Breakfast would be provided for speakers. Ideas discussed included:
  - Pub Ed Basics—Christopher Balanciere recently taught rookie class the state curriculum.
  - Remembering When—Stacie Durham with McKinney FD coordinating programs now.
  - Clowning with Ringling Brothers clowns—Bill Hawes can contact for us.
- Jamie Perkins announced the July meeting would be her last as President. She is leaving her Pub Ed position to return to teaching with Dallas ISD. August 1<sup>st</sup> will be her last day with the Carrollton FD. Upon her resignation, Wendi Kimpton will step up to serve as President. Peggy Harrell is "helping" with the duties of Secretary and the position of Treasurer is still open.

Old business discussed included:

- The July 17, 2008 meeting will be hosted by the Plano Fire Department at their Fire Administration Building located at 1901 K Avenue in Plano. Representatives from Hand2Live and Crown Inc. will be presenting.
- The September meeting's location is still not known. A presentation is tentatively scheduled of the Injury Prevention Center of Children's Medical Center.
- The November meeting's location is still not known but officer elections will take place and a presentation is tentatively scheduled of the State Farm and Allstate Insurance companies.
- MFSEA would like to purchase a camera. A motion was made by Wendi Kimpton that a camera be researched and purchased with a cost limit not to exceed \$300. The motion was seconded by Christan Odom and accepted by vote.

Resource Exchange discussion included:

- Garland Fire Department's May 3<sup>rd</sup> Safety Festival was discussed and photos were shown by Christopher Balanciere (who also does art and graphics on the side).
  - StarWalk provided inflatable fire engine bounce house.
  - The FSH was run by Explorers.
  - CFA volunteers provided labor.
  - CERT did cribbing demo.
  - State Farm through SafeKids provided carseat checks.
  - Other Garland departments were represented (water, transportation, City Manager).
  - SIM Man demos were provided.
  - The GFD Mobile Command Post and other Ops apparatus were there.
  - CareFlite flew in and showed helo.
- Christan Odom asked for help in getting invited into Murphy schools classrooms to do fire safety instruction.
- Peggy Harrell and Christopher Balanciere discussed Vision 20/20 Forum.
- Jamie Perkins reminded all to visit the MFSEA website for news on conferences and other items.

The meeting was adjourned at 1125 hours and the presenter, Bill Hawes of Puppet Productions began his presentation along with Michael Laws of DeSoto.