

MINUTES OF THE PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE
OF THE COTUIT FIRE DISTRICT
October 24, 2011

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by the Chairman, Laurie Hadley. Also present were members Amy Kates and Rick Barry, as well as the District Treasurer, Agnes Murray, and the District Moderator, Alison Lowe. Several members of the public also attended.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved, with Ms Kates offering to correct the clerk's grammar in an e-mail unanimously.

The treasurer's report was also read, and after Ms Kates questions were satisfactorily answered by the Treasurer, Agnes Murray, the report was approved unanimously.

The subject of a new District Office was discussed. Ms Kates said she had approached the owner of a building at the corner of Route 28 and Newtown Road. Ms Hadley had previously contacted the real estate agent for the property and had been given a figure of approximately \$1,400.00 for monthly rental plus utilities. Ms Kates said the owner would be happy to have someone in the building "**for the winter**" and would agree to a monthly rental of \$650 plus utilities. Ms Kates and Ms Murray expressed concern about a conflict of interest. A motion was made and seconded to accept Mr Mycock's offer and passed with Ms Hadley and Mr Barry voting in favor and Ms Kates against.

A discussion was held concerning CMED. A meeting had been held between the Alliance and the Sheriff. No Cotuit members attended as notice was not received until the day after the meeting. In addition to requesting an audit of the sheriff's accounts, the hospital has contacted all other fire departments in the state to determine how their systems are funded. Several different methods are apparently being used. It was stated that Mr Cleon Turner has a bill before the legislature which hopefully will resolve this issued. As it stands now, the hospital appears to be solely responsible.

The contract for work at Freedom Hall was discussed. The committee previously voted to award the contract to Mr David Kerr. Ms Kates now expressed her opinion that we should have issued an RFP and she felt we should not go forward with the contract. After discussion, the contract was signed by Mr Barry and Ms Hadley. Ms Kates declined to sign the contract.

The matter of the union firefighters contract was then addressed. This item had been placed on the agenda at the request of Ms Kates. She was apparently upset that she had not been given the opportunity to vote on the contract. Mr Barry and Ms Hadley both felt this was not a matter on which the Prudential Committee has a direct vote. Any questions and concerns about the contract should have been addressed prior to finalization of the contract.

No executive session was held.

It was agreed that we would post an ad in the "help wanted" section of the local daily and weekly newspapers with regard to hiring an assistant treasurer. The desired qualifications were discussed.

During a belated public comment session, Ms Ruth Pierce asked for the location of the property being leased for a District Office. The property is the basement of the School Street property owned by Fire Commissioner Ronald Mycock.

A motion was made, seconded and passed to adjourn the meeting at approximately 7:25.

Respectfully submitted

LAURIE C. HADLEY
Chairman and Clerk