

Congressional Fire Services Institute National Advisory Committee Meeting

Virtual Meeting

October 2, 2020

Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order on October 2, 2020 at 10:30 am.

Jim Estepp, CFSI Board of Directors

- We know this is a difficult time for everyone.
- We hope you all push the CFSI agenda as much as possible.

Presentation on the National Firefighter Registry and COVID-19 vaccination - Dr. John Howard, Director, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), and Administrator, World Trade Center Health Program, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)

- National Firefighter Registry (NFR)
 - Previous studies on cancer were limited (few women and minorities, and lack of data on volunteers).
 - NFR will represent all firefighters, not just those with cancer.
 - Goal is to enroll more than 200,000 in the registry through an open enrollment web portal. This will help attain a better and more accurate sample.
- COVID-19 Vaccine
 - Vaccine concerns: safety, efficacy, durability, acceptance
 - Operation Warp Speed is investing in a vaccine for use
 - How to allocate vaccines? National Academy of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine recommended first responders in the top tier. CDC published a playbook on vaccine administration, including allocation. Critical infrastructure workers are near the top of that list.
- Questions
 - Dave Lang: NY is owed money for the world trade center health fund. Can you help me understand what the federal government will do?
 - Howard: We understand some money withheld was related to the Secondary Payer Act with Medicare. We don't know why else money was withheld. But we're working on it and hoping to make everyone whole.
 - Wallace Banks: Can I get copies of slides?
 - Howard: Yes

Chair's Report

- Chief Ron Siarnicki delivered the Chair's report.
- It's a great opportunity to participate in webinars with CFSI
- We weren't able to make the reception work this year, but Washington Gas may be a good future partner for us
- The National Fallen Firefighters ceremony was canceled, but there is a video tribute that will be played this Sunday.

Vice-Chair's Report

- Craig Hannan delivered the Vice-Chair's report.
- The CFSI strategic plan will be discussed in the coming months.

Executive Director's Report

- Bill Webb, CFSI's Executive Director, delivered a report.
- We are thankful to sponsors who have stayed with us.
- We're working on next year's annual program, but there are a lot of uncertainties.
- It is unfortunate we weren't able to present awards in-person at the dinner this year, but I will be conducting local award presentations for this year's recipients.
- We have been working with many organizations on this call to advocate for several fire service priorities and to support us with our webinars.

Legislative Report

- Michaela Campbell, CFSI's Director of Government Affairs, delivered a report.
- Discussed legislative issues including appropriations (possible increases for programs including AFG and SAFER grant programs), additional COVID-19 funding, and several standalone bills that CFSI supports.
- Talked about the need for caucus recruitment and changes in caucus leadership in 2021.

Development Report

- Steven Tramel, CFSI's Development Manager, delivered a report.
- We're planning to do more webinars.
- We've created new benefits for our supporters, including a new quarterly newsletter and a potential happy hour for Associates Club members.
- We're looking at a happy hour or other event for corporate sponsors as well.
- The challenge coins for 2020 were donated this year.

Subcommittee Reports

- **Ethics** – No report
- **Programmatic** – Craig Hannan
 - We're brainstorming ideas for three different event options (virtual, in-person, hybrid).
- **Fundraising** – Vickie Pritchett
 - Committee is ready to assist as CFSI navigates the pandemic.
 - We're excited about virtual happy hours.
 - We're also ready to assist with planning for next year's events.
- **Membership** – Tony O'Neill
 - No new membership applications.
- **Resolutions** – Four resolutions were considered by the National Advisory Committee:
 - *Resolution In Favor of Federal Support for Easing Restrictions Related to Firefighter Disability Benefits*

- Offered by the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation, International Association of Fire Chiefs, National Fire Sprinkler Association, and the National Volunteer Fire Council.
 - Motion: National Fallen Firefighters Foundation
 - Second: International Association of Fire Chiefs
 - Unanimously approved
- *A Resolution In Support of Federal Initiatives to Promote the Installation of Carbon Monoxide Alarms In Residential Properties and Places of Public Accommodation*
 - Offered by the National Association of State Fire Marshals (NASFM), International Association of Fire Chiefs, Underwriters Laboratories, National Volunteer Fire Council, International Code Council, National Fire Protection Association, and the Cumberland Valley Volunteer Firemen’s Association.
 - Motion: NASFM
 - Second: International Association of Fire Chiefs
 - Unanimously approved
- *Resolution to Support the Prioritization of Firefighters and EMS Personnel in Accessing COVID-19 Vaccinations, Treatments, Testing, and Supplies*
 - Offered by the International Association of Fire Chiefs, the International Association of Fire Fighters, the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), and the National Volunteer Fire Council.
 - Motion: International Association of Fire Chiefs
 - Second: NFPA
 - Unanimously approved
- *Resolution to Support Reimbursements for Fire and EMS Departments Providing Treatment-in-Place Services to Low-Acuity EMS Patients*
 - Offered by the International Association of Fire Chiefs, the International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF), and the National Volunteer Fire Council.
 - Motion: International Association of Fire Chiefs
 - Second: IAFF
 - Unanimously approved

Unfinished Business

- No unfinished business was discussed

New Business

- The CFSI/IFSTA Dr. Anne W. Phillips Award for Leadership in Fire Safety Education was presented to Ed Comeau.

Presentation on NFPA Code Consolidation - Chris Dubay (NFPA)

- NFPA is consolidating certain codes over five years.
- It can help reduce costs and travel, and improve organization and coordination.

Adjournment

- Upon motion made and duly seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

ATTENDANCE:

Siarnicki, Ron	National Fallen Firefighters Foundation (NAC Chair)
Hannan, Craig	International Fire Service Training Association (NAC Vice Chair)
Jim Estepp	Congressional Fire Services Institute Board of Directors (Vice President)
Neal, Chris	Congressional Fire Services Institute Board of Directors (Secretary/Treasurer)
Austin, Steve	Congressional Fire Services Institute Board of Directors
Echols, Peggy	Congressional Fire Services Institute Board of Directors
Webb, Bill	Congressional Fire Services Institute (Executive Director)
Campbell, Michaela	Congressional Fire Services Institute (Director of Government Affairs)
Tramel, Steven	Congressional Fire Services Institute (Development Manager)
	Cumberland Valley Volunteer Firemen's Association
Baldwin, Allen	
Banks, Wallace	International Fire Buff Associates, Inc.
Bashoor, Marc	Fire Chief/FireRescue1
Bassi, Preet	Center for Public Safety Excellence
Boston, Nicole	Society of Fire Protection Engineers
Brooks, Paul	Institution of Fire Engineers - USA
Cade, Gregory	National Fire Protection Association
	National Fire Protection Association
Chase, Barry	
Cline, Douglas	International Society of Fire Service Instructors
Comeau, Ed	Campus Firewatch
Compton, Dennis	International Fire Service Training Association
Cox, Michael	North American Fire Training Directors
Cronin, Brad	Society of Fire Protection Engineers
DeCrane, Sean	Underwriters Laboratories
Denhardt, John	American Fire Sprinkler Association
Dubay, Christian	National Fire Protection Association
Durstine, David	Fire Apparatus Manufacturers' Association
Eggerman, Diane	Center for Campus Fire Safety
Ellis, Frank	National Fire Sprinkler Association
Fippinger, Karl	International Code Council
Gabliks, Eriks	North American Fire Training Directors
Gibson, Hugh	Insurance Services Office
Granby, John	Fire and Emergency Manufacturers and Services Association
Guthrie, Bob	National Volunteer Fire Council

Krupp, Roger	International Association of Arson Investigators
Kuntz, Kevin	Insurance Services Office
Lang, Dave	International Association of Fire Fighters
LaSala, Ken	International Association of Fire Chiefs
Marinucci, Rich	Fire Department Safety Officers Association
Maser, Gabe	International Code Council
Matthews, Peter	Firehouse Magazine
McDonald, Candice	Cumberland Valley Volunteer Firemen's Association
Medovich, Jack	American Fire Sprinkler Association
Meissner, Shannon	International Association of Fire Fighters
Michaels, David	VFIS
Morris, Lee	Fire Apparatus Manufacturers' Association
Narva, Jon	National Association of State Fire Marshals
Nathan, Stuart	International Fire Buff Associates, Inc.
O'Neill, Tony	ProBoard
Owen, Sarah	Underwriters Laboratories
Pegram, Steve	International Society of Fire Service Instructors
Pritchett, Vickie	National Fire Sprinkler Association
Robinson, Mikel	International Association of Wildland Fire
Roxson, Randy	USA Sprinkler Fitters Association
Sactor, Alan	Center for Campus Fire Safety
Sawyer, Tami	CDC
Sobotka, Debbie	Center for Public Safety Excellence
Spencer, Bill	National Association of State Fire Marshals
Statler, Seth	National Fire Protection Association
Stephens, Scott	International Association of Arson Investigators
Tourk, Nancy	CDC
Varner, Bruce	Institution of Fire Engineers - USA
Victor, Terry	Johnson Controls