

VIRGINIA CHAPTER of NENA

National Emergency
Number Association



EMERGENCY HELP.
Anytime, anywhere, any device.

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<http://www.virginia-nena.org>

October 27th 2011

2011 Fall Business Meeting

Meeting Called to Order

This meeting was called to order at 1643 hours.

Secretary's Report

Available online

Treasurer's report

The beginning balance on May 20th 2011 was \$24,878.54 and the ending balance on October 27th 2011 is \$16,649.06. This does not include two checks from room invoices that were just received in the amount of \$158.76, nor does it include the PayPal account in the amount of \$512.05. The total monies on hand as of this date are \$17,319.87. In regards to the spring conference, the total paid out was \$59,893.54 and the total taken in was \$ 59,649.01. This does not include \$135.60 in outstanding invoices who have promised to pay and it does not include outstanding invoices we have not heard from totaling \$135.60. If all payments are received VA NENA will have made \$53.33 profit on the Spring Conference.

Chapter Committees

Standing Committees

Nominating committee – chairperson is immediate past-president along with 2 other members

Commercial committee – comprised of 3 commercial members

Bylaws committee – comprised of 3 members. Rodney Gentry (Hanover) is the former chair and Jim Davis co-chaired (Pittsylvania County) and now we are looking for a new chair and co-chair.

Conference committee – Denice Marrs will chair the spring conference again this year and the dates are May 17th-18th 2012. The subcommittees will be programs, registration, and sponsorship. Denice advised that the contract is signed for the hotel, which is the Holiday Inn, located at 3900 Atlantic Ave (on the Boardwalk) Virginia Beach. We have signed a contract with the same band as we had last year. Denice is taking names of people who want to help. Denice would like for us to stay in a tighter budget range and to use our money wisely. The theme for the spring 2012 NENA/APCO conference is "Text on the Beach". Rodney Gentry is our public relations coordinator & Rich Troshack (Chesterfield County) is helping him. Denice anticipates numbers to not be as great as last year, so we really want to put this conference out there and tell people about it solely being an educational conference. Allan reported that as he went around the state for the regional meetings, people talked about how much they like the educational component.

Other Committees

Membership Committee - Allan stated that his presidency has stressed membership.

Technical Committee - Allan said that last week there were many technical issues throughout the state. He encouraged volunteers for this committee.

Old Business

Financial Audit – Allan advised that we still have the financial audit to do. Jackie advised that they should have the audit done in the next few weeks. Allan stated that they were hoping for the financial contact to help with incorporation. NENA National has said that all state chapters must be incorporated and also that tax returns are to be done properly every year.

Regions – We have interim directors for Southwestern Region IV, and Northern Region II. We need interim directors for Capital Region I, Central Region III, Southeastern Region V, and Western Region VI. Regional Directors in Regions I, III, and V are elected to serve a 2 year term. Regional Directors in Regions II, IV, and VI are elected to serve a 1 year term. Allan reiterated that the purpose of regions are to promote public safety training events, promote communications between PSAPs, act as a communication conduit between members & executive board, reach out to non-members and secondary PSAPs, and to serve as a forum for regional issues relative to VA NENA and the Commonwealth. Allan moved on to region meetings and he said that at a minimum, he would like to see semi annual meetings (held prior to the spring and fall conferences); however, he prefers quarterly. He advised that the time and location are totally up to the regions. He added that they could be held at whatever location people would like.

New Business

Bylaw changes – Members of Region VII (Washington Metro) are having problems with people commuting and traffic. People have brought up the possibilities of teleconferences, and he said he would support that if there is a PSAP that can offer that.

Membership – Allan would like this to increase. Membership is currently about 147.

New business from the floor

Buster talked about the George Thomas ENP scholarship and he said Pokey Harris (Washington County) was the first one that received this. He announced that Bill Agee took the test and has unofficially passed, and will be reimbursed through the scholarship fund. Allan said we could fund three people at this time.

Steve Souder (Fairfax) said that 35 days ago the FCC invited comments on actually implementing NG 911. They have published a seventy one page document detailing how it should be implemented. They asked VITA if they commented and they have not because there are rules that the state has to follow when it comes to national matters. Steve wants to know if our chapter feels like we should comment on this document. Allan and Barbara have tried to go through it, and Barbara advised that people at NENA National are going through it. Allan said we don't have enough individuals to make comments on it.

Allan and Erin have been working on bringing up the regions to speed.

Barbara Yager (NENA 1st Vice President & 911 Administrator in Arizona) addressed the members and reminded everyone that anyone can volunteer for a national committee on the NENA website, and someone will contact them. She stressed that it is very worthwhile. Barbara said people could ask her about getting involved. She wants people to feel comfortable with contacting NENA national, and she would really like people to get involved. She reported that two hundred group memberships were accepted last year. She feels as though we are graying, and we need young blood. Barbara reminded membership that she started out serving at her state level; she was on the ENP board. Allan added that he has served on a national committee and reiterated that he does not want people to be intimidated.

Buster advised that he just received word from Lisa Nicholson (VITA) that 61 applications for the educational grants have been submitted. Julie McKercher (James City County), in referencing an earlier meeting with VA APCO and VITA, said we had 68 applications last year and Steve Marzoff (Wireless Board) said that was a failure and if we have something similar he will be going before the Wireless Board and will not support this grant. Denice asked what number is successful and Julie didn't know. Pat Schumate (Roanoke County & Wireless Board) said with so many PSAPs represented, he expects more agencies to apply

for the grant. Pokey asked if the wireless board has expressed that same feeling, and Pat said no. Allan said that Steve Marzoff spoke out of turn because that is not what Allan knows historically. Pokey said what is acceptable is subjective, and pointed out that this is a return on an investment. Rich asked if we should put together a document showing how successful the grant is. Pat said he did not say it wasn't successful, and reminded membership that he is a Wireless Board member and they fought hard to get the grant and they will continue in that direction, but he and the Board want the PSAPs to take advantage of the grant. Allan said we are only in the beginning of the grant and so the results of the first years will not justify this. It was reported that Steve Marzoff does not think that agencies that have availed themselves of the grant should be penalized. It is more complicated than it appears on the surface. Tim Addington (VITA) stated that there are many people not taking advantage of the grant. Allan said this is one reason why the regions are important – to share information like this. He said that we can ask the executive board to help. Buster asked why agencies are not applying, and Tim said he did not know. Pokey advised that we should look at the agencies that make up the Commonwealth and consider whether they are even large enough to send staff to conference. She urged us to think about the decisions makers in the county, and whether in their limited knowledge of PSAPs, they would even be open to letting staff attend. She brought up that agencies may have differing conference policies, and we should consider what they say. Pokey gave the example of Washington County not being able to come to the spring conference because of the tornado that took place, so things do come up that prevent PSAPs who want to participate from coming. She said we should look at the number of PSAPs that applied over the last five to six years. Allan said that this is the first year as a grant before it was scholarship. Pokey said we are pushing products, but not training. We should be able to promote this process.

Other Announcements

Allan advised that there are ENP study groups, and that Prince William County has really helped with these groups.

Allan reminded us that there is a national Center manager Certification Program.

Allan stressed membership again.

Barbara said that the new NENA magazine should be mailed out today. The new website goes live on Nov 17th, and it is interactive with a lot of capabilities. Allan reminded membership that we can put announcements on the VA NENA site, and that includes job openings.

Meeting Adjourned

Buster motioned to adjourn the meeting and Julie seconded this motion. The meeting adjourned at 1736.

Elizabeth Ashby
Secretary