



ALBERTVILLE	ELK RIVER	PLYMOUTH
ANDOVER	FRIDLEY	RAMSEY
ANOKA/CHAMPLIN	GOLDEN VALLEY	ROBBINSDALE
BIG LAKE	HAMEL	ROGERS
BROOKLYN CENTER	HANOVER	ROSEVILLE
BROOKLYN PARK	HAM LAKE	ST. ANTHONY
CENTENNIAL	MAPLE GROVE	ST. MICHAEL
COLUMBIA HEIGHTS	MEDICINE LAKE	SBM
COON RAPIDS	MINNEAPOLIS	WEST METRO
DAYTON	OAK GROVE	
EAST BETHEL	OSSEO	

WEBSITE [HTTP:WWW.NSRMAA.ORG](http://www.nsrmaa.org)

**North Suburban Fire Marshals Association  
Maple Grove Fire Department  
October 28, 2003**

**Meeting Minutes**

**A. Call to Order**

President Ralph Messer called the regular meeting to order at 9:30am.

**B. Welcome by Host Department**

Marilyn Arnlund welcomed the group to Maple Grove. Twenty-three inspectors, marshals and chiefs were present representing fourteen fire agencies.

**C. Educational Session**

Pete Jaroscak shared with us a slide presentation from the 2002 Winter Olympics in Utah. The International Fire Marshals of America recruited fire inspectors to conduct fire inspections at Olympic venues and surrounding establishments. Pete was one of twelve inspectors from across the country to be accepted. Each day began with the inspectors heading to the fire department to receive their assignments at 7am. They spent the days and evenings walking through crowded establishments making sure all exits were kept free of obstructions. The days were long but it was fun. Inspectors had to pay their own airfare, but rooms, food and events were free. Inspectors will be recruited for the next winter Olympics in Vancouver. Call Pete at 763-520-5644 if you would like to hear more about this opportunity.

**D. Acceptance of Last Meeting Minutes**

A motion was made by Kip LaMotte and seconded by Bill Calder to approve the last meeting minutes as mailed. The motion carried and President Messer accepted the minutes dated August 26, 2003

**E. Fire Safety House Report**

The safety house has had a lot of use this year. A big thank you to Charlie Thompson and St. Michael FD for storing the house and making the necessary repairs. A reminder to all departments using the

house, please record the number of people that go through the house while at your events and give this information to Charlie.

### **F. State Fire Marshals Office Report**

John Gergen reported that former state fire marshal Tom Brace has been hired as Executive Director of the Minnesota State Fire Chiefs Association.

John Gergen also reported that wireless smoke alarm systems are being tested in nursing homes in Duluth and in Princeton. More information on the results will follow.

### **G. Code Committee Report**

Katherine Gove reported that committees are being put together to look at making code amendments at the national level. Contact code committee chair Bob James at [bjames@ci.bloomington.mn.us](mailto:bjames@ci.bloomington.mn.us) if you have code concerns or would like to participate.

### **H. New Inspectors or Marshals**

Centennial Fire Marshal Randy Lauderbaugh introduced himself. He can be reached at (651) 784-7472 Ext. 126.

### **I. Old Business**

Please get all fire safety contest posters Denny Nothnagel. He will select an art teacher at a non-participating school to do the judging. Awards will be given at the NSRMAA meeting in Ham Lake on November 25<sup>th</sup>. A ½ hour fire safety program has not been selected yet. Bill Calder will talk with Bob James about having reporter Trish Van Pilsim attend.

### **J. New Business**

Women of Today, a Brooklyn Park group, made a \$100 donation for the fire safety house. The check is a thank you for a babysitting clinic put on by Chris Wilbur. Bill Calder will send the group a thank you card.

At the next meeting elections will be held for the officer positions of the North Suburban Fire Marshals Association. These are two-year terms. President Ralph Messer, Vice President Kip LaMotte and Secretary Brad Matti all expressed interest in continuing in their current positions.

Aaron Surratt asked which communities are using the National Safety Council materials. And, those that aren't using the Safety Council materials what are you using? Aaron can be reached at 763-537-2323-2002. Bill Calder reported that Harlan Lundstrom at SBM Fire has a good CD. Harlan can be reached at [harlanl@uswest.net](mailto:harlanl@uswest.net) or 763-786-4436. Bill suggested that at the February meeting each department could bring in their safety materials to share.

Aaron Surratt reported that on November 14<sup>th</sup> the FEMA grants reopened and there is a lot of money available for prevention.

Lynn Cook reported that Batteries Plus gives out coupons for 9-volt smoke alarm batteries.

Discussion about whether safety materials should be discussed at this meeting or a separate fire educators meeting. No consensus.

Discussion about the Jonathan Winters fire education vide for seniors. Everyone that has seen it says it is very good.

Discussion about the use of fire watches when fire alarm systems are down. A person assigned to fire watch is to have no other duties. Bill Calder is wondering what communities are requiring for a fire watch. Can it be an employee of the business or security guard? Maple Grove said they allow a business employee to be assigned as a fire watch. The person must tour the business every half hour and keep a log. They will also provide a city firefighter at a rate of \$25/hour. Brooklyn Park will provide a firefighter for \$35/hour. Other communities?

**K. Good of the Association**

None.

**L. Adjournment**

No further business appearing, a motion was made by Keith Flermoen and seconded by Katherine Gove to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried and President Messer declared the meeting adjourned at 11:15am.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Brad Matti*

Brad Matti  
NSFMA Secretary  
Phone: 763-785-6184  
E-mail: [bmatti@ci.blaine.mn.us](mailto:bmatti@ci.blaine.mn.us)

**NEXT MEETING**

Holiday Luncheon at The Sunshine Factory in New Hope 1100am on Tuesday December 9<sup>th</sup>.