



State of Maine LOSAP
LOSAP Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
July 15, 2019

Attendees: Bill Gillespie, Fred Brewer, Jeff Brackett, Bill Hussey and Stephan Bunker

Guests: Duane Bickford (Unappointed Board Member) and Dan Brooks

The meeting was called to order by Bill Gillespie at 10:05

Minutes: Stephan Bunker motion to approve Bill Hussey seconded. All approved.

The board discussed the Legislative process that LD 1014 went through this past session. The Bill was unanimous out of Committee but went up against multiple bills in the Supplemental Appropriations Table. Ultimately the bill was held over into the next legislative session. It was carried over into the next session with a \$5m price tag. Ultimately we need to find a revenue source for the funding of this bill. Our goal before the next legislative session is to meet with the governor and convince her that this is a worthwhile program and have her champion the bill. Bill will setup a meeting with the governor and Fred will reach out to her Chief of Staff Jeremy Kennedy. If a meeting is scheduled with the governor then Bill Gillespie, Stephan Bunker, Duane Bickford and Fred Brewer will attend. Stephan Bunker wanted to know if we had a fallback position and it was discussed that the immediate need is to cover the administrative costs of the program so that Municipalities can contribute to the program.

The Margaret Chase Smith Foundation is funding a study of Recruitment and Retention of Firefighters in Hancock County. Bill Gillespie will reach out to them to see where LOSAP fits into their study.

Bill Gillespie has reached out to find out about the two board members that are awaiting appointment to the board. The State's Director of Boards and Commissions will be reaching out to Duane and Marshall soon.

With the way the legislative process went in the last legislative session it was apparent to Chair Gillespie that we needed more voices from the firefighters throughout the state. Bill proposes that we start a Road Trip program where we reach out to the firefighters associations and try to get contact information so that we can get people organized that will show up when we need them to attend legislative sessions. The goal is to get a grass roots effort to mobilize more people to attend the legislative sessions. Bill will find out when the meeting sessions are and we can get board members to the meetings to discuss the LOSAP program and get peoples information to build and email contact list.

Website – Working with Informe to develop the website. We need to get the Home Page done to complete the website information. The board would like to see a mission statement, discussion on why LOSAP helps with recruitment and retention. The goal is to encourage more active members in the program.

Next meeting is August 12th at MMA.

Bill Hussey Motion to adjourn at 11:29, Jeff Bracket, seconded, all in Favor.

Respectively Submitted

Frederick Brewer

Future Meetings September 9th and October 14th.