

GOLDEN GATE FIRE CONTROL & RESCUE DISTRICT

PLANNING SESSION

NOVEMBER 10, 1993

THESE MINUTES ARE JUST HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MEETING. REFER TO THE RECORDED TAPE IF MORE INFORMATION IS NEEDED.

This special meeting of the Golden Gate Fire Commissioners opened at 6:30 P.M. with the Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation; all board members were present. There were approximately seven people in the audience.

Chairman Strain turned the meeting over to Commissioner Budd. Commissioner Budd stated that he was looking to make this planning session into a brainstorm or idea session where we can find out what some of the concerns are and how we might be able to address them. He also expressed his feelings that it would be more productive of this session if we did not concentrate on some of the financial issues facing the fire district, even though they cannot be ignored, just not make them the focus of our discussion tonight. As a public entity our monies are based on the taxable values of the community.

Commissioner Budd introduced Duwaynd Keller who is manager of the local Dale Carnegie Training. He had invited Mr. Keller here to facilitate the meeting to help organize things for us.

Mr. Keller stated this should be a green light thinking session (change of ideas) and would like the ideas to be positive. The biggest thing we need to discuss is vision, what would we like to go after? Discussion followed which developed the following guidelines to be used in the process of future planning for the Golden Gate Fire District:

### Perception of Community

- They don't understand fire service.
- Don't know how the place works.
- Public relations: Many residents don't know role of volunteers.
- Public only expects a fire truck to show up when they dial "911."
- Public does not know that we often only have (1) person on a fire truck.
- Apathy
- Meetings are not well publicized.
- In spite of Public Relations firm, the public voted against tax increases.
- Meetings not controversial. Boring
- Fire District is the same as other groups in fighting apathy.
- Don't know why they should be interested.
- Public does not realize how understaffed we are.
- Public is not active and involved because they don't see any big problems with the fire district.

### Why Is It Important For The Public To Be More Involved?

- Questions from public would help commissioners (management) to be more perceptive and accurate.
- Has fire district surveyed the public?
- They should want lower I.S.O ratings to lower their insurance costs.
- They don't realize that current protection is inadequate.
- They will only pay for what they think they need. But do they really understand what they need.
- It is the community that is in trouble due to being undermanned.

### How Can The Fire District Get Message To People?

- Local service groups are looking for speakers.
- "American Heat" videos show firefighters being injured - low staffing situations.
- Frontier Days
- Public Education
- Press releases - get publicity of department activities.
- Get a "call list" to the press.
- Have a forum at the Community Center. Draw them in.
- We need to educate our own Commissions and Firefighters.
- We need fresh ideas that do not bore the public.
- Fire district should not appear to public only when we are asking for money.

Needs

- Information director
- Manpower
  - : Fire prevention
  - : Inspections
  - : Stations
- Equipment
- Training
- Vehicle maintenance (replacement program) reserve equipment

What Can We Do More Efficiently With What We Have Available Now?

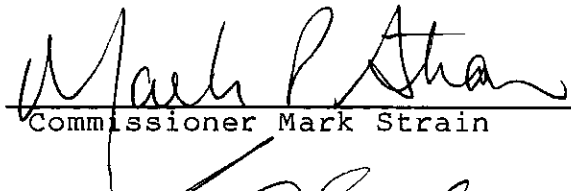
- Better use of volunteers
  - (18 active volunteers)
  - : Administrative
  - : Public information
  - : Inspections
- Recruit more volunteers.
- Need more daytime volunteers.
- Need better qualified volunteers.
- Control overtime expenses.
- Use part time firefighters (if not prohibited by contract).
- Minimize number of calls run. Legal? Liability? As per guidelines by County Medical Director.
- Investigate preventative maintenance agreement cooperation with other fire districts.

Chairman Strain advised that the board would schedule additional planning sessions at their regular meeting next week on November 17, 1993.


\* A motion was made by Commissioner Budd and seconded by Commissioner Smith to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 P.M. Motion passed unanimously.

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Minutes of the 11/10/93 planning session were approved on  
11/17/93.

  
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Commissioner Mark Strain

  
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Commissioner Gene Smith

  
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Commissioner Russell Budd