

March 11, 2009 General Membership Meeting

1. Roll Call of Officers

President	Tommie Haffelder - P
Past President	Robert Wisian - P
Vice President	Henry Tomlin - P
Secretary	Liz Merrill - A (Funeral)
Treasurer	Randy Malone - P
Sgt. at Arms	Ernie Hinkle - P
Board	Bill Whitaker - P
Board	Norman Toungate - P
Board	J. W. Thompson - P
Board	James Paap - P

2. Reading of the minutes

Motion made by Brother Tomlin to accept the minutes of the January 2009 meeting as written, Second by Brother Toungate.

Discussion – None

Approved by voice vote.

3. Membership report: (Resignations and new members)

Of the current 438 retired Austin Officers who meet the qualifications for membership 268 members have paid their 2009 dues. In addition we have 16 Honorary Members and 1 Associate Member.

Mark Long – Associate Member Nomination

Motion made by Brother R. Gross to accept Mark Long as an Associate Member, Second by Brother J. W. Thompson.

Discussion – None

Approved by voice vote.

4. Reports of Committees-

Benevolent Committee – Jeff Rodman –

Jackie Sparkman – more work on his heart

Dan Richards (former APD) – Died due to being injured in auto accident

Kenny Wilson – (Active APD/Retired) – Died due to cancer

We need a policy to cover an officer's death, such as Kenny Wilson, who is an active officer but is retired due to a pending death. Currently Retired Members, their Spouse and Active Officers are sent flowers if they die. We send a card to the families of Retired Officers, who are non-members. Kenny did not have time to join and only retired due to his condition, which did not give him time to join. Most will see no reason to vote on this, however, we limited who we send flowers to by a vote of the membership and need to change up the rules with a vote. While voting on this change we need to add the option for the Committee Chairman to send a gift, as requested in the obituary, in lieu of flowers, again, something we should just do, but we are bound by a vote at this time.

A vote could also be to allow the Board of Directors the power to establish the rules dealing with the monies spent due to the death of an officer. Then, in the future, should something come up that needs to be changed we would not have to wait until a General membership Meeting to vote, the Board could take action with a phone vote.

Motion made by Brother Rodman to allow the Board of Directors to the right to establish the guidelines for gifts given due to a death. Second by Brother Hinkle.

Discussion – None

Approved by voice vote.

Entertainment Committee – Randy Malone – Our next event has been planned for Saturday May 2, 2009, 12 noon, food served at 1pm. As in the past the event will be free for APROA members and one of their guest. Chief Art Acevedo will address the membership.

On May 15th the City/Department is hosting a Retiree Luncheon. All we have at this time is the date. We will send out additional information as soon as we get it. The date for the Luncheon, Friday, May 15th, is also Peace Officer Memorial Day.

What we have recently been told is since there was no funding for this event; Julie O'Brien came up with the idea for the Executive Staff and Commanders to fund the event. We were originally told that due to their being a shortage on funds the Department would be asking Retirees to pay a portion of the funds, which we planned to pay for our members.

Brother Haffelder reported that the Board had voted to donate \$1,000.00 to the Retiree Luncheon at the Board meeting this date and if any member wanted to bring that up for discussion to do so at this time. No one objected to the vote by the Board.

Legislative Committee – Pete Morin -

APROA Pac – Brother Morin reported that he had met with the Forth Worth Retired Firefighters was they told him about their PAC and how after forming a PAC they have better access to the Mayor's office. Brother Morin discussed the APROA forming a PAC.

Motion made by Brother R. Gross for the APROA to form a committee to check into a possible PAC for the APROA. Second by Brother Hinkle.

Discussion –None

Approved by voice vote.

Motion made by Brother Tomlin to accept the Committee Reports, Second by Brother Keene.

Discussion –None

Approved by voice vote.

5. Treasurer Report - Copies attached to minutes

Motion made by Brother Vega to accept the Treasurer's report, Second by Brother Wisian.

Discussion - None

Approved by voice vote

6. Communications and Bills –

Thank you letter from Fitzhugh Baptist Church for donation to the Youth Scholarship Fund in the name of Bob Cervenka.

Thank you card from the Bob Cervenka family

7. Unfinished Business –

Lifetime dues – Steve Nichols - Texas Masonic Lodges \$50 yr - \$500 lifetime

The membership discussed the possibility of establishing a Lifetime Membership for the APROA. Brother Toungate indicated that an organization he belong to have a sliding scale which they use to determine how much one must pay if they want to pay a Lifetime Dues. This is based on age. Brother Toungate will provide this to the Board and this issue will be discussed at the May meeting. The change would require a change in our Constitution.

8. New Business

New Badge – Chief Acevedo approved a by mail approval process for the new design wallet badge. The forms needed to purchase the new badge will be available on the web site. The new badge cost \$74.95 + tax.

Computer Jobs – Brother Haffelder reported that he had gotten an e-mail from FreightWatch International about job vacancies they had. The company is located off of 360 and the job deals with tracking packages with computers. Information about the jobs will be sent out to members by way of an e-mail.

Central Texas Wolf Pack – Brother Rodman reported that the Central Texas Wolf Pack was a football team made up of Central Texas First responders and active military officers. Currently they have 56 players. The team plays through to U.S. and players have to pay their own expenses. If you are interested in more information you can check out the web site at www.eteamz.com/centraltexaswolfpack/index.cfm or contact Jeff Rodman. Sponsors are needed to help pay expenses for the players and team.

Door Prize drawing – Won by Brother Robert Collins

9. Adjournment

Motion made by Brother Toungate to adjourn, Second by Brother Rodman.

No discussion.

Approved by voice vote

_____ – Secretary (By Randy Malone)