

Fire Investigators Strike Force

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Minutes of November 11, 2009

Next Meeting: December 9, 2009

Program: Elections and guest speaker.

Location: Manzo's Banquets 1571 S. Elmhurst Rd. Des Plaines, IL 60018 (Just North of Oakton on Rt. 83, East Side.)

Time: 1100

President Kushner opened the meeting at 0900.

- A motion was made and 2nd to accept the October Minutes; the motion passed.
- A motion was made and 2nd to accept the Treasurers Report; the motion passed.
- A moment of silence was held for all of our veterans who have made the ultimate sacrifice for our country and in particular for the 13 people killed at Fort Hood, Texas.
- Thank you to everyone who brought clothing items to the Salvation army.
- Please bring slightly used toys to our December meeting/luncheon. The toys will be given to the Salvation Army for distribution.
- We received many compliments on our October seminar; it was one of our best.
- You have until January 1, 2011 to submit your paperwork to the Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM) for recertification. It is your responsibility to get the information in on time. Failure to do so could result in you losing your certification as a fire investigator or arson investigator and you might have to attend the modules again in order to be certified.

Our speakers were Bill Sheley of Hi-Tech Housing, Inc. and Bob Justus of the Modular Home Builders Association. Bill covered an extensive amount of material including how these units are built, shipped, and assembled. Bill also explained the difference between a modular home and what we would have at one time called a trailer home (they are now referred to as HUD homes because they meet standards set down by the Federal Government through the Department of Housing and Urban Development). Modular homes have to meet state building codes and are inspected by an independent third party. These homes also have to meet the codes of the locations where they will be built. For example: modular homes in Chicago must use conduit for electrical wiring. HUD homes do not have to meet any other codes because you can not supersede the federal Government. A good example of modular homes in our general area is Saddlebrook Farms in Grayslake. Saddlebrook is a retirement community with a wide variety of homes (and prices).

Modular buildings are also being used for commercial businesses. Many banks in certain areas are of modular construction. Temporary businesses also use modular buildings.

Our thanks to Bill and Bob for taking the time to speak to our organization.

“ Remember it was the Veteran, not the reporter, who gave us freedom of the press.

It was the Veteran, not the poet, who gave us freedom of speech.

It was the Veteran, not the lawyer, who has given us the right to a fair trial.

It was the Veteran, not the campus organizer, who has given us the right to demonstrate.

It is the Veteran who salutes the flag,

Who served under the flag,

Whose coffin is draped by the flag,

Who allows the protester to burn the flag.”

Father Dennis O’Brian USMC

Respectfully Submitted,

John Gilleran

FISF Secretary