



Addington C. Stewart
President

IABPFF CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE

International Association of Black Professional Fire Fighters



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Constitution and Bylaws Committee by Chairperson Sandra Richards March 2019

The Constitution and Bylaws Committee completed the task of submitting the Official Copy of the 2018 IABPFF Constitution and Bylaws for the organization on February 6, 2019.

The mission and goal of the Constitution and Bylaw Committee was to create as systemic approach to review and dissect and strengthen the Constitution and Bylaws of the organization. The result is to have a document that allows growth of the IABPFF and enables the Executive Committee to function effectively. We believe this has been accomplished at this time. By updating our Lifetime Membership, Dues Structure, changing back to Biennial Convention and Executive Council format, amending Site Selection process, removing grammatical errors and putting the policies in prospective, just to summarize a few changes, has created a document that will impact and hopefully strengthen the Organization's core.

Roberts Rules of Order defines, the Constitution is the main document of an organization that determines the fundamental aspects of the said organization. Whereas, the Bylaws determine the detailed guidelines of the fundamental aspects of the organization and states the daily work of the organization.

The Constitutional Convention was held August 5th & 6th 2018. All Amendments were in order and voted on. All Amendments passed except for one which would have modified individual membership criteria. It is the opinion of the Chair, that this was accomplished through the process of requesting input from the membership and Executive Board through the amendment submittal phase and the information was posted on the drum and distributed to the Regions through the respective Corresponding Secretaries.

The Committee has completed its duties for this period. A workshop was held in Las Vegas, in August 2017, to assist in the familiarization and refreshing of Roberts Rules of Order. In addition, all Regions were made aware of the process.

My recommendation for the Executive Board is to start now documenting changes desired in the next Constitutional Convention in 2020. My suggestion for getting members involved would be to allow the Chairs to solicit people they know to serve on the Committee.

Thank you to Barbara Worthman (SER), Lionel Newby (SWR), Immediate Past President James Hill for serving on the Committee. Thank you, Executive Board and Members for submitting the amendments and working together during the Convention. Passing amendment for a dues increase to ensure that Organization existence is insured was Epic. Thank you to all the Regional Directors for providing your Region's Constitution and Bylaws for review during this process. Thank you, President Stewart, for the opportunity to serve.

Sincerely,

Sandra Richards

Sandra Richards, Chair