



City of Grand Island

Tuesday, August 11, 2009

Council Session

Item C1

Recognition of Life Saving Efforts

Staff Contact: Mayor Hornady

Council Agenda Memo

From: Troy Hughes, Fire Chief
Meeting: August 11, 2009
Subject: Certificate of Recognition
Item #'s: C-1
Presenter(s): Troy Hughes, Fire Chief & Mayor Margaret Hornady

Background

Sudden cardiac arrest takes the lives of many people. This tragic destiny course can be altered given the right conditions. Early notification of 911 dispatching, bystander CPR, and the availability of advanced life support all work together to successfully change destiny. The Grand Island Fire Department recognizes the efforts of those who have recently acted and changed a tragic destiny.

Discussion

Two recent incidents warrant recognition for the life saving efforts displayed by those involved. The first incident occurred on May 12, 2009. The Doniphan-Trumbull track team was practicing for an upcoming event when a 17 year old male student athlete suddenly collapsed and went into cardiac arrest. Fellow student athlete Ashley Schmitz was the first to arrive at the side of this downed athlete, she immediately started CPR. Ashley was quickly joined by Coach Adam Pfeifer and Coach Bob Samuelson who assisted in performing CPR. Coach Tim Schirmer called 911 and directed emergency crews to the scene. Within a few minutes, the Doniphan Quick Response team had arrived on the scene and continued emergency care of this student athlete until the arrival of a Grand Island Fire Department advanced life support ambulance. The patient was transferred to the emergency department staff at St. Francis and survived this tragic event.

The second event occurred on the evening of May 15, 2009. After a long day of firefighter training at the Nebraska State Fire School, several members of Meadow Grove and Battle Creek Fire Departments went to a local restaurant to enjoy a meal together. Suddenly, a 24 year old training officer from Meadow Grove Fire Department became unresponsive. Drawing on their training, the other members of the dinner party quickly recognized the seriousness of the situation. Fellow Meadow Grove Fire Department member Craig Tegeler and Battle Creek Fire Captain Scott Kudera quickly assessed the downed training officer and began CPR. They continued their life saving efforts until a Grand Island Fire Department engine company and

ambulance arrived on scene. The patient was transferred to the emergency department staff at St. Francis and survived this tragic event.

Recommendation

It is recommended the Ashley Schmitz, Bob Samuelson, Adam Pfeifer, Tim Schirmer, and the Doniphan Quick Response Team be awarded certificates of recognition for their life saving efforts that occurred on May 12, 2009.

It is also recommended the Craig Tegeler and Scott Kudera be awarded certificates of recognition for their life saving efforts that occurred on May 15, 2009.