

WESTERN NEW YORK VOLUNTEER FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION, INC.

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING

St. Johnsburg Fire Company
7165 Ward Road (Rt. 429)
North Tonawanda, NY 14120

January 12, 2014

Sergeant-at-Arms Donald Trzepacz announced the commencement of the Regular Meeting and pointed out the exits.

President Wendi Walker Called the Meeting to Order at 2:00 p.m. Sergeant-at-Arms Donald Trzepacz led the membership in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Assistant Chaplain Robert Carncross asked the membership to pause for a moments silence In Memory of Arthur Popiol, who passed away on January 8, 2014. Arthur Popiol was a past Erie County Trustee to the Western New York Volunteer Firemen's Association, a past President of the Southwestern Association of Volunteer Firemen; a Past Chief of the East Aurora Fire Department; a Founding member and President of the Firemen's Memorial Exhibit Center of Western New York. Chaplain Carncross then offered the Invocation.

President Walker welcomed everyone to the meeting. A Motion to accept the Minutes of the previous session was made by William Kershner, Seconded by Tim Wolfanger. Carried.

Report of Secretary Tim Tyrrell: Dues notices for all Fire Companies and individual members have been sent out. We have been working on the membership lists and removing members that are delinquent in dues. There are 65 companies that are delinquent in dues, some are many years in arrears. We need help in contacting them. Last year there were 8 fire companies dropped out and we are now down to 302 fire company members. There are 150 individual members to be eliminated from the rolls. We are down to 550 dues paying members and about 1400 fully paid life members. Post cards were sent to the fully paid life members. We are working on address corrections and have several that are deceased. We have recruited three new members and have sent out dues notices to all 2013 delegates who were not already members. The Minutes of the November meeting were sent out. If you did not receive them either through regular mail or e-mail, let the office know. We are continuing to work on the old files at the office and have eliminated over half of them and we are putting as much of the information into the computer as possible. Motion by Robert Bitterman, Seconded by Marcia Tyrrell to accept the Secretary's report. Carried.

Assistant Secretary Daniel Evans reminded Trustees and Committee Chairs to submit their written reports to him. Blank report forms are available. He noted that this

organization, in addition to our Constitution and Bylaws, also operates under Robert's Rules of Order Revised. When a member wishes to speak, they will arise, address the Chair and then speak when recognized by the Chair. This will improve the decorum of the meeting. He also offered a suggestion to recruit new members by bringing someone with you to the next meeting. Individual membership applications are available at the Secretary's table.

Report of Treasurer Thomas McLaughlin: Account balances as of January 12, 2014:

Savings	\$ 622.31
Checking	\$ 2,464.27
Scholarship	\$ 2,232.51
Total	\$ 5,319.09
Total Disbursements	\$ 5,391.90

Motion by William Kershner, Seconded by Anthony DeMarco to accept. Carried.
Communications: None

COMMITTEE REPORTS

First Vice President Harold Wollaber assumed the Chair

Trustees Report: Douglas Wood reported that six trustees were present.

Bowling: Chairman Thomas McLaughlin reported that bowling tournament applications had been mailed out. The Tournament would be February 15, 16, 22 & 23 at Rapids Bowling Lanes, Niagara Falls Blvd., Niagara Falls, NY. Requested that applications be returned promptly. Motel information had been previously distributed.

Budget & Program Book: Chairman Edward Dysard reported that as of January 6, 2012, we had reached 39.7% of the budget goal: Gross sales to date-\$33,806.50; Support Services of New York-\$27,045.60; W.N.Y.V.F.A.-\$6,760.90. If your fire company is having a fund raising, let Ed know and the solicitor will stay out of your area. (c) 716-946-1094 or e-mail: Edwardo011781@aol.com.

Constitution & Bylaws: Chairman William Kershner reported that no proposals had been submitted as of today.

Convention Committee: Chairman Ross Corser. No report.

Local Committee: General Chairman Tim Pytlik reported that the St. Johnsburg Committee was meeting on a regular basis and everything was coming together.

EMS: Brian Hill reported that the applications were sent out in a joint mailing.

Explorer/Junior Firefighter: Greg Robertson. No report.

Fireman of the Year: David Evans reported that applications had been sent out.

Encouraged fire companies to get nominations in.

Fire Officers: Anthony DeMarco reported that there have been no changes since last meeting. One of the seminars is being arranged for outside.

Fire Police: Chairman Donald Trzepacz reported that everything is ready to go.
Fire Prevention: Gary Hunt reported that nothing had been sent out yet.
History: Chairman Frank Wilczak asked that Fire Companies continue to submit information such as program books for anniversaries, installations, memorial service, new truck dedications, etc.

Investment & Finance: Chairman Thomas McLaughlin reported:

Savings	\$ 622.31
Scholarship	2,232.51
Past President's	439.40
FASNY Credit Union CD's (7)	87,506.35
Checking	2,464.27
Total as of 1/12/14	\$ 93,264.84

Legislative: Chairman Robin Schott reported: That the Legislative Update would be held: Sunday, April 6, 2014 at 12:00 noon at the St. Johnsburg Fire Company. He also reported that during the last Legislative session, three of our bills were passed: Blood glucose; Novelty Lighters; Increase for Low Interest Loans. Vetoed were: Sprinkler bill; Length of Service Awards Program (LOSAP); Job Protection. Invitations for the Outreach Program will go out this month to Local Legislators. WNYVFA Legislative Committee met with representatives of six other organizations on issues of United Concern. For further information check the FASNY website: www.fasny.com
Also, Vice President Biden joined Governor Cuomo for the unveiling of "Reimagining New York for a New Reality," a \$17 billion strategy; Building a World-Class Emergency Management and Response Network; Creating a Citizen First Responder Corps; Volunteer Fire Companies have been exempted, by IRS ruling, from having to provide Health Insurance for personnel who provide 30 hours or more of service in a week; Incentivize Local Governments to Share Services (Consolidation) to reduce costs.

Memorial Scholarship: Chairman Tim Wolfanger reported that scholarship information was included on dues notices and post cards sent to all members. Information and application forms are on the website: www.wnyvfa.org The deadline for submitting all applications and supporting documentation is April 1, 2014. We are also accepting donations from individuals and fire service organizations to support the scholarship fund. Scoring of applications is tentatively set for Wednesday, May 14, 2014 at Alexander Fire Hall. Checks for the 2013 recipients have been sent out.

Nominations: No report.

Nozzle Practice: Chairman Douglas Wright reported that everything was all set for the Friday, July 25, 2014 event.

Parade: Marc Kasprzak reported that everything was all set for the Friday evening, July 26, 2014 parade. Line up at 6:30 p.m., parade commences at 7:00 p.m.

Past President's: Chairman Anthony DeMarco reported 9 past president's were present.

President's Participation Award: No report.

Public Relations: Chairman Stanley MacWilliams reported this was a work in progress. The next FASNY magazine would be out shortly. Keep information coming into him on

the activities of the member organizations of W.N.Y.V.F.A.

Queen's Pageant: Barbara Eddy. No report.

Resolutions: No report.

Topics: No report.

2% Tax: Chairman Carl Veltri noted that reports to the State Comptroller's Office are due in February 2014.

Website: Chairman Tim Tyrrell reported that everything was up to date. If you have information to be placed on the website, get it to him as early as possible.

Northern Central Liaison: David Sweet reported that their next meeting would be Sunday, January 19, 2014 at Dresden, NY. 2:00 p.m.

Southwestern Liaison: Douglas Wood reported that their next meeting would be on February 23, 2014 at Wales Center Fire Company, 12300 Big Tree Road, Wales Center, NY. 2:00 p.m.

Steering: Chairman William Nichols reported that anyone interested in running for a FASNY office or committee must get their resumes and letters of endorsement in by April 1, 2014.

President Wendi Walker resumed the Chair

Motion by William Kershner to accept the Committee reports. Seconded by Norm Eberle. Carried.

FASNY Firemen's Home: Trustee David Wolf reported the Home census at 69. The members are settled in for the Winter and some trips have been cancelled due to snow storms. The nursing department wish list needs slings for the EZ-Lift. 40 slings at a cost of \$1,100; also 32 inch television's for members rooms at a cost of \$225 each. Requested that Home Trustee's contact information be placed on the Western website.

FASNY Director: David Sweet reported that "Recruit NY" would be held April 26 & 27, 2014. February 1st is the deadline for "Tuition Reimbursement for Spring Semester." Winter games will be held February 7-9, 2014 at Greek Peak Adventure Center in Cortland, NY. FASNY Awards nominations are due by March 15th. A Legislative Conference will be held at the Ontario County Training Center, Canandaigua, NY on February 22nd. EMS Seminar at Montour Falls March 1st & 2nd. Get Fire Department census information to FASNY. The FASNY Convention is scheduled for August 19th to 22nd in Albany, NY. A Fire Police Training Seminar is scheduled. Further information may be found on line at: www.fasny.com

Unfinished Business: None

New Business: Secretary Tyrrell encouraged everyone to work on recruiting new members and help in getting delinquent fire companies to pay their dues.

Good of the Order: Marc Kasprzak urged everyone to keep in closed contact with County and Local officials.

Tim Wolfanger, expressing personal comments, is glad we are working on recruiting activities. Do not want legislation that would take away older firemen from firefighting and EMS service.

William Kershner expressed concern with Assembly bill A02738 which would set "Minimum Standards for Rural Firefighting."

Robin Schott reported that there were many bills listed on the State website.

Guest list was read by First Vice President Harold Wollaber.

Sergeant-at-Arms: Donald Trzepacz reported attendance at 81.

Excused list read by Secretary Tim Tyrrell. Motion by William Kershner, Seconded by Gerald Gehrig to accept. Carried.

Benediction offered by Assistant Chaplain Robert Carncross.

Motion by David Wolf to Adjourn at 3:05 p.m. Seconded by Norm Eberle. Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel K. Evans
Assistant Secretary

Timothy A. Tyrrell
Secretary

NEXT MEETING
Sunday, April 6, 2014
Legislative Outreach – 12:00 noon
Regular Meeting – 2:00 p.m.
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