

WESTERN NEW YORK VOLUNTEER FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION
MINUTES OF THE 113th ANNUAL CONVENTION
THURSDAY, JULY 26, 2012
RIVER RECEPTION CENTER
MOUNT MORRIS, NEW YORK

President Gerald Gehrig Called the Meeting to Order at 9:03 a.m.

Sergeant-at-Arms Donald Trzepacz pointed out the exits.

Chaplain Alan Way offered the Invocation and Sergeant-at-Arms Donald Trzepacz led the membership in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

President Gehrig welcomed the delegates and members to the 113th annual convention of the Western New York Volunteer Firemen's Association. President Gehrig introduced the following Officials: Livingston County Fire Coordinator Kevin Niedermaier; Mount Morris Police Chief Ken Mignemi; Livingston County Under Sheriff James Szczeniak; Mount Morris Fire Chief Chris Young; Convention General Chairman Bill D'Angelo; Town of Mount Morris Supervisor Charles DiPasquale; FASNY President David Jacobowitz who introduced his officers and directors; and FASNY Firemen's Home Trustee Norm Eberle who introduced the Home Trustees.

First Vice President Tony DeMarco and Second Vice President Wendi Walker welcomed the delegates, members and guests.

Secretary Tim Tyrrell Called the Roll with the following Counties answering "Present": Allegany, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Erie, Genesee, Livingston, Monroe, Niagara, Orleans and Wyoming. Steuben County was absent.

Secretary's Report: Secretary Tyrrell hoped that everyone enjoys the Convention and that the Secretary's office is open today and Friday, but will be closed during the business meetings, memorial service and award ceremonies. Dues collected to this point in the year are: \$5,435.00. Also, we will need information for the 2012-13 Directory by the end of August.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Thomas McLaughlin submitted the Treasurer's Report with account balances as of June 30, 2012: Savings-\$7,466.50; Checking-\$2,078.45; Scholarship-\$4,045.52; Certificates of Deposit (7)-\$86,868.99; Past President's-\$312.07; Total-\$100,771.53. Motion by Leon Randall, Seconded by Jack Hurlburt to accept the Report. Carried

Trustee's Report: Chairman Harold Wollabe reported that 10 of the 11 Trustees were present and that the Treasurer's books had been audited and found to be in good order. Motion by David Parker, Seconded by Pete Martin to accept the report. Carried.

Nominations Committee: Chairman Forrest Skelton reported the following nominations for office for 2012-13:

President Anthony J. DeMarco

Assistant Secretary Daniel Evans

1st Vice President Wendi Walker
2nd Vice President Harold Wollaber
Secretary Timothy Tyrrell

Treasurer Thomas McLaughlin
Assistant Treasurer Jack Hurlburt

James Miller of Alden was nominated for 2nd Vice President. Mr. Miller declined the Nomination at this time for future consideration.

The following County Trustees were nominated: Allegany-Wayne Butts; Cattaraugus Larry Nagel; Chautauqua-Douglas Wood; Erie-Robert Carncross; Genesee-Kathy Wright; Livingston-Donald Taber; Monroe-Kenneth Fuller; Niagara-Edward Dysard; Orleans-Leon Randall; Steuben-no nomination received; Wyoming-Terry Snyder. The Secretary cast one ballot each for all Table Officers except Secretary. The President Cast one ballot for Secretary.

Convention Committee: Chairwoman Judy Comfort reported everything was going well and everyone was having a good time.

By-Laws Committee: Chairman William Kershner presented six proposed amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws:

1. Constitution Article IV-Regular Business Meetings to be set for the 2nd Sunday of January, April, June, September and November.
2. Constitution Article VII-Annual Meeting to be moved to Friday and Saturday.
3. By-Laws Article VI-Quorum to be set at 50 members.
4. Constitution Article III & V-Membership. To change Five Year Life Member to Five Year Member and Fully Paid Life Member to Twenty Year Fully Paid Life Member.
5. By-Laws Article IV-Duties and Privileges...To change Five Year Life Member to Five Year Member and Fully Paid Life Member to Twenty Year Fully Paid Life Member.
6. By-Laws Article V-Dues. Change Five Year Life Member to Five Year Member.

Following explanation and discussion a Motion by Harold Wollaber, Seconded by Leon Randall to Postpone with Instructions for further review, item number 2- Constitution Article VII-Annual Meeting. Carried. The remaining items would be voted on at Friday's meeting.

Parade Committee: Chairman Jack Hurlurt reported that 54 units had registered for the parade and that prizes would be presented at the Hospitality Tent after the parade.

Legislative Committee:

Bowling Committee: Chairman Thomas McLaughlin reported that all prize money from the 2012 tournament had been mailed out. The 2013 tournament would be held at "Bowl-A-Roll" Lanes in Rochester, NY.

Queen's Pageant Committee: Chairwoman Sarah Bobo reported that the Queen and Princess were available for fire service events.

President's Participation Award: Chairman Wayne Stanley reported that sign-in books were at each event and points are awarded. Individuals must print names legibly to get credit.

Nozzle Practice Committee: Chairman Doug Wright reported that registration would start at 11:00 a.m. at Tent City on Friday and team events will commence at 12:00 noon.

Investment & Finance Committee: Chairman Thomas McLaughlin gave a detailed accounting of all financial accounts with total assets of \$100,771.53.

Budget & Program Book Committee: Budget-Chairman Robert Walker stated all budget requests need to be submitted by the end of August. Program Book-Chairman Edward Dysard reported that as of July 25, 2012, 70.11% of the Budget goal had been reached with the following detail: Gross sales to date-\$41,551.00; Guaranteed Intergrity, Inc.-\$30,933.25; WNYVFA share-\$10,617.25. He further reported that the solicitor went out of business. The committee met with a new solicitor on July 24, 2012 and a contractual agreement is being prepared.

Fire Prevention Committee: Chairwoman Shirl Lanni had no report.

Historical Committee: Chairman Frank Wilczak reported that the WNYVFA Convention was last held in Mount Morris in 1951, 61 years ago. He listed fire companies that were celebrating their 75th, 100th and 125th anniversaries in 2012 and that he was collecting fire company badges and books for the historical file.

Public Relations Committee: Chairman Stanley MacWilliams reported that this committee was "a work in progress." He was looking for information for "The Volunteer Firefighter." Requested that articles and photographs be sent to him, but that email photo's don't reproduce very well.

Memorial Scholarship Committee: Daniel Evans, reporting for Chairman Tim Wolfanger, Noted that \$1800 in scholarship's, in Memory of Past Secretary John Hann, were awarded in 2012 to: Justin Monagno, Churchville-Chili H.S.-\$800; Keri Hollenbeck, Lockport H.S.-\$550; and Marvin Morris, Williamsville North H.S.-\$450. That \$515 in donations had been received and turned over to the Treasurer.

Explorer/Junior Firefighter Committee: Chairwoman Beth Bennett reported that everything was set for Friday's events.

2nd Vice President Wendi Walker read the names of FASNY Officers, Directors, Trustees, Fire Police and Past Presidents of WNYVFA that were present.

1st Vice President Tony DeMarco announced that changes to the 2012-13 Directory are due to him before the end of August.

Sergeant-at-Arms Donald Trzepazc reported that 96 delegates, members and guests were present for the morning session.

Jr. Past President Primo Biscaro reported that the Past President's dinner would be held at 6:30 p.m. this evening.

Trustee Leon Randall presented a question to FASNY President David Jacobowitz regarding conventions of other Sectional Associations. President Jacobowitz noted that "we are steeped in tradition" and we need to change idea's on how we do things.

Steering Committee: Chairman William Nichols reported a split of \$90. 1st prize-\$40; 2nd prize-\$30; 3rd prize-\$20.

Benediction was offered by Chaplain Alan Way.

Motion by Wayne Stanley, Seconded by Beth Bennett to Adjourn at 10:18 a.m. Carried.

Topics Committee: Chairman Donald Gavenda presented Dan Walsh from the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation who gave a power point presentation on: "Outside Burning-Open Fires." 6NYCRR Part 215. This 35 minute seminar noted that open burning is illegal, but with the following exceptions: cooking or processing foods; small camp fires (3 feet high and 4 feet x 4 feet base); agricultural waste; smudge pots; ceremonial or celebratory; explosive or dangerous materials.

Call 585-226-5317

DEC website

dewalsh@gw.dec.state.ny.us

<http://www.dec.ny.gov>

<http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/32060.html>

<http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/58519.html>

