

WESTERN NEW YORK VOLUNTEER FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
JANUARY 15, 2012  
VETERANS BUILDING, ELM STREET  
MT. MORRIS, NEWYORK

President Gerald Gehrig Called the Meeting to Order at 2:00 p.m.

Sergeant-at-Arms Donald Trzepacz pointed out the exits and then led the membership in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Chaplain Alan Way offered the Invocation.

President Gehrig welcomed everyone.

A Motion to accept the Minutes of the previous session was made by William Kershner, Seconded by Douglas Wright and Carried.

Report of Secretary Timothy Tyrrell

- Minutes of the previous session had been posted on the website and mailed.
- 2012 dues notices were sent to the fire service organizations. To date \$1100.00 has been received and four fire companies have paid back dues.
- In 2011 \$4715 in dues were collected. We should collect \$4725 in fire organization dues and \$3750 from individual members.
- We have 315 fire service organizations, down from 340.
- 2061 members have been removed from the membership list since 2007. We currently have 788 dues paying members.
- 55 fire service organizations owe over \$8050 in back dues and four have paid back dues totaling \$535.
- We sent out 2050 post cards to the fully paid life members. 400 were returned as not deliverable and 55 were returned with 'deceased' notation.
- We are reviewing and updating the Constitution and By-Laws for placement on the website.
- Jules Mack's contract for website service is up for renewal.
- We are looking for old program books and directories to put into our reference archive from the 1980's and back.
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Report of Assistant Secretary Daniel Evans

- Addressed the topic of nearly 2100 fully paid life members and distributed packets containing the names and last known addresses of 400 "missing" fully paid life members and soliciting help in determining the status of these individuals.
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- Reported on the injury to Scholarship committee member Richard Dutton who is also regional representative on the State Fire Police Association. Richard is at Erie County Medical Center.

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Report of Treasurer Thomas McLaughlin

- Account Balances as of January 15, 2012:
  - Savings \$ 1,865.58
  - Checking \$13,515.28
  - Scholarship \$ 3,307.88
  - Total \$18,688.74

- Hired a new Certified Public Accounting (CPA) firm located in Perry, NY.

Motion to accept the Treasurer's report by Ross Corser, Seconded by Al Taylor. Carried.

Communications: Secretary Tyrrell

- Christmas cards, Northern Central, FASNY, Southwestern, FASNY Program Book ad, and endorsement for Kenneth Pienkowski for 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President of FASNY.

First Vice President Tony DeMarco assumed the Chair

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

Trustees: Chairman Harold Wollaber reported eight (8) trustees present.

Bowling: Chairman Thomas McLaughlin reported that the bowling tournament Applications had been mailed. The Tournament would be held in Lancaster, NY on February 18<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup>. The tournament is open to anyone who is A member of a fire organization that belongs to the WNYVFA.

Budget & Program Book: Chairman Edward Dysard reported that we are at 33.3% of the Budget goal.

Gross sales to date:	\$19,981.00
Guaranteed Integrity, Inc.	\$14,803.25
WNYVFA share	\$ 4,995.25

- There have been no complaints about our solicitor.
- Any fire company or fire department having a fund raiser should let the chairman, committee member or officer know so that our solicitor will stay out of your area.

By-Laws: Chairman William Kershner reported that the committee was reviewing Information regarding Quorum and the Annual Meeting.

Convention: Chairwoman Judy Comfort reported that the Local Committee was doing Well

Local Committee: Chairman William D'Angelo thanked everyone for coming to the meeting and encourage everyone to attend the Convention at Mt. Morris July 25-28, 2012.

EMS: Chairwoman Crystal Fisher reported that letters for the EMS competition were Being sent out soon.

Explorer/Junior Firefighter: Chairwoman Beth Bennett-No report.

Fireman of the Year: Chairwoman Barbara Barber reported that letters were being sent Out. The deadline for nominations is February 25, 2012. Reported on the passing Of committee member Thomas Trzepacz in December.

Fire Officers: Chairman Harold Wollaber reported that a Power Point presentation of the Home at Hudson and a Rope and Rescue Class were being scheduled for the after-noon of Thursday, July 26, 2012.

Fire Police: Chairwoman Jeni Corser reported that letters for Fire Police of the Year Were sent out. Nominations are due by the end of February. Reported on the Passing of committee co-chairman Carl W. Meyers in November.

Fire Prevention: Chairwoman Shirl Lanni reported that Fire Prevention Essay's had been Submitted from three Counties-Wyoming, Monroe and Livingston.

History: Chairman Frank Wilczak asked that fire organizations send him copies of Their Installation and memorial programs and fire company history related Information

Investment & Finance: Chairman Thomas McLaughlin reported

- Scholarship account	\$ 3,307.88
Savings account	1,865.58
Past President's account	312.07
Total as of 1/15/12	\$ 5,485.53
- FASNY Credit Union accounts (7)	
- Scholarship account	\$ 20,153.71
Six (6) Certificates of Deposit	66,363.21
Checking account	13,515.28
Total as of 1/15/12	\$ 100,032.20
Total amount as of 1/15/12	\$ 105,517.73

- Legislative: David Sweet and Robin Schott reported on:
- New "Fire Service Laws of the State of New York" are available by
  - Calling the FASNY office at 1-800-2FASNY2
  - FASNY Outreach Seminars are scheduled for:
    - Cuba, NY on February 12, 2012 at 12:00 noon
    - Mt. Morris, NY on April 15, 2012 at 12:00 noon
  - Brady Bill regarding Line-of-Duty deaths
  - Bailout bill seeking regulation relief
  - Reviewing the law regarding "Move Over" for emergency service personnel
  - Illegal occupancy in multi-unit dwellings
  - Legislative Agenda can be found on the FASNY website and includes FASNY
  - Bills and score card. [www.fasny.com](http://www.fasny.com)

Second Vice President Wendi Walker assumed the Chair

Memorial Scholarship: Chairman Tim Wolfanger reported that mailings were going out. That scholarship application deadline will be April 16, 2012 and judging will be On May 16, 2012 at Alexander Fire Hall. The application forms and rules will Be on the Association website and information will be sent to Public Relations Chairman Stanley MacWilliams.

Nominations: Chairman Forrest Skelton-No report.

Nozzle Practice: Chairman Douglas Wright-No report

Parade: Chairman Jack Hurlburt reported that he had met with the Local committee And everything is set.

Past President's: Chairman Primo Biscaro reported seven (7) Past President's and One (1) Junior Past President present!

President's Participation: Chairman Wayne Stanley-No report

Public Relations: Chairman Stanley MacWilliams reported that he is always looking For information and that the deadline for submission of articles for the next Issue of the "The Volunteer Firefighter" is February 1, 2012.

Queen's Pageant: Chairwoman Sarah Bobo reported that the Queen and Princess have Been attending various events and will be at the Bowling Tournament in February.

Resolutions: Chairman Michael Delamere-No report.

Topics: Chairman Donald Gavenda-No report.

2% Tax: Chairman Carl Veltri-No report.

Website: Tim Tyrrell reported that the contract with Jules Mack was renewed for \$600.00 per year and that the Associations Constitution and By-Law updates would be going onto the website.

Northern Central Liaison: David Sweet reported that their Convention was tentatively Set for June 2<sup>nd</sup> and hosted by the Brockport Exempts. Their next meeting will Be on Sunday, April 22, 2012, 1:00 p.m. at Dresden, NY.

Southwestern Liaison: Robert Hinz reported that their next meeting will be on Sunday, February 12, 2012 at Cuba, NY.

Steering: Chairman William Nichols reported that the officers would remain the same.

- FASNY Hospitality room will be hosted by Erie, Niagara, Monroe Counties
- And Southwestern and Western New York Volunteer Firemen's Associations.
- The Committee will meet at the Alexander Fire Hall on March 3, 2012 to
- Interview candidates for Trustee to the Firemen's Home to replace retirint
- Trustee Norm Eberle
- Will request funds for the FASNY Program Book ad at the April 15<sup>th</sup> meeting.

President Gerald Gehrig resumed the Chair

Motion by Leon Randal to accept Committee reports. 2nd by Jack Hurlburt.Carried.

Firemen's Home" Trustee Norm Eberle reported that everything was going well at The Home with 71 to 72 members. They had a fantastic Christmas and they are constantly taking applications. The Trustees have been warned that if they are not doing Their jobs, they will be replaced. There are two (2) from Western New York, who are Residents of the Home.

We need a candidate from our area for Trustee to the Home. The Trustees have a New "Power Point" presentation on the Home.

Unfinished Business: None

New Business: None

Good of the Order:

Robert Wilson offered suggestions and spoke on:

- Turning off cell phones during meetings-Tent City needs fire extinguishers
- Encourage younger people to become involved with the Association.
- Fire Prevention Education
- Consolidation of fire stations in New York State in the next five years.

Jeni Corser reported:

- Donald Trzepacz is new Co-chairman of the Fire Police Committee
- Ross Corser is the temporary Area Fire Police Director on the State Fire Police Association until Richard Dutton comes back

David Sweet identified a number of FASNY Membership Benefits:

- Negotiating with various vendors for discount programs.
- accidental Death Benefit, Magazine, Awards, Training, Scholarships, Conventions, legislation, Legal, Firemen's Home and Museum.
- Individual annual dues-\$15.00
- All Company individual dues-\$10.00 Total Benefit Costs: \$212.67
- Safer Grant for reimbursement to volunteer firemen attending and completing programs at Community Colleges.
- Statewide Recruitment and Retention open house at Fire Companies is set for April 21 and 22, 2012. FASNY has Public Relations information.
- FASNY Awards Committees need more applications for the various awards.

Judy Comfort reported on the injury to a member at the 2011 Convention in Warsaw. Tim Tyrrell will review the insurance policy regarding coverage to members.

Guest List: was read by Second Vice President Wendi Walker.

Excused List was read by Secretary Tim Tyrrell. Motion by William Kershner, Seconded by Alan Way to accept. Carried.

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

Chaplain: Alan Way offered the Benediction.

Motion by Robin Schott to Adjourn at 3:31 p.m. Seconded by Judy Comfort. Carried.

We report with Deep Sadness the passing of: Carl W. Meyers, Fire Police Committee –  
Bowmansville Thomas Trzepacz, Fireman of the Year Committee-Bowmansville  
Warren Rathke, Topics Committee-Wrights Corners

The next meeting of the Western New York Volunteer Firemen's Association will be:  
Sunday, April 15, 2012 2:00 p.m. at the Veterans Building Elm Street Mt. Morris, NY  
The FASNY Outreach Seminar will be held at 12:00 noon the same day

Respectfully submitted,

Timothy Tyrrell  
Secretary

Daniel K. Evans  
Assistant Secretary

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