

# **WESTERN NEW YORK VOLUNTEER FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION, INC.**

## **LEGISLATIVE CLEARING HOUSE MINUTES**

**FRONTIER FIRE COMPANY**

**2176 LIBERTY DRIVE**

**NIAGARA FALLS, NEW YORK**

**SEPTEMBER 10, 2017**

Past President Bruce Mack called the meeting to order for the Legislative Clearing House at 1203hr and turned the meeting over to Robin Schott.

Robin went over the FASNY Scorecard:

Those that passed both Houses and waiting to be sent to the Governor for approval or veto by December 31, 2017 are:

Expanded cancer coverage.

Bills that are still in committee:

Illegal Modifications to Buildings

Fair Play cost recovery for Ambulance

Upholstered Furniture

VFBL/VAWBL Temporary Total Disability Increase

Prompt payment of VFBL Death Benefit

No bills introduced:

Fire Apparatus Lemon Law.

Robin stated that there are letters to be signed for sending to FASNY to present to the Governor in support of the Cancer Bill on the table in the back of the room.

A press conference will be held on Tuesday September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2017 with FASNY President Ken Pinkowski at Hutchinson Hose Station Two on Sheraton Drive, at 1100hr.

A motion was made by Andy Pilecki, seconded by Alan Way that the Association support the Cancer Bill. Motion Carried.

Robin then went over the bills to be brought up at the FASNY Legislative Conference in November for determination of support by WNYVFA:

Endangering the welfare of a First Responder by making illegal modifications.

Robin indicated that this will be referred to the FASNY Codes committee for reference.

The "Fair Play" cost recovery for fire department ambulance service.

Motion was made by Promo Biscaro, seconded by Ken Fuller that WNYVFA be a sponsor of the Bill. Motion Carried

Prohibits the use of chemical flame retardants on residential upholstered furniture

Motion was made by Mike Wutz, seconded by Penni Dyasrd that WNYVFA be a sponsor of the Bill. Motion Carried

Prompt payment of VFBL Death Benefit.

Motion was made by Ken Fuller, seconded by Robert Carncross that WNYVFA be a sponsor of the Bill. Motion Carried.

Fire Apparatus Lemon Law.

Motion was made by Ken Fuller, seconded by Wayne Butts to not support this Bill.

Motion carried.

Increase Tax Credit.

Motion was made by Alan Way, seconded by Ken Fuller that WNYVFA support the Increase in Tax Credit for Volunteer Emergency Responders.

Budget items for FASNY to pursue: Sales Tax Exemption for Life Safety Items, Emergency Services Low Interest Loan, Training Funding under OFPC.

Robin also stated that FASNY is looking into having LOSAP money be Federal Tax Exempt.

He also stated that more Volunteer Fire Companies need to apply for SAFER Grants instead of the grant going to the Cities.

The FASNY Legislative Conference will be November 4, 5 2017 at the Desmond Hotel.

Robin also stated that the National Fire Council has lowered its membership fee to \$15.00.

Session was adjourned at 1245hr. Thirty-Two members present.

WESTERN NEW YORK VOLUNTEER FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION, INC.  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
FRONTIER FIRE COMPANY HALL  
2176 LIBERTY DRIVE  
NIAGARA FALLS, NEW YORK  
SEPTEMBER 10, 2017

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

Past President Bruce Mack called the meeting to order at 1400hr and turned the meeting over to President James Miller.

Sergeant-at Arms Donald Trzepacz led the membership in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Chaplain Robert Carncross offered the Invocation.

President James Miller welcomed everyone.

A motion by Ken Fuller, seconded by Doug Wood to accept the minutes of the previous session. Motion Carried.

Report of the Recording Secretary – No Report.

Report of the Financial Secretary – Penni Dysard

Reported that the total dues collected as of July 29, 2017 are:

From 139 Fire Departments	\$3,375.00
From 145 members	\$1,475.00
For a Total dues collected of	\$4,850.00

Motion by Alan Way, seconded by Edward Tase to accept the Financial Secretary's report. Motion Carried.

Report of the Treasurer – Tom McLaughlin.

Savings:	\$ 4,723.54
Checking:	\$18,333.45
Scholarship:	\$ 536.16
Total:	\$23,593.15

Disbursements:                   \$ 6,854.85

Motion was made by Bruce Mack, seconded by Andy Pilecki to accept the Treasurers report. Motion Carried.

Communications:

Received a letter form the New York State Attorney General, stating that the Attorney General's Charities Bureau will hold a Symposium for not-for-profit organizations on Thursday September 14<sup>th</sup> 2017 from 8:15am – 12:30pm at the State University of Buffalo, Lippes Concert Hall (inside Slee Hall) 105 Slee Hall Amherst NY.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

First Vice President Chris Pettit assumed the Chair.

Trustees Report - Doug Wood reported

There are Seven Trustees present for the meeting

We now have a Trustee from Orleans County. There is now a Trustee from every member County.

Bowling Committee – Tom McLaughlin reported:

Winners for the 2017 Tournament are as follows:

#### FIREFIGHTER:

Singles:	Jim Brough
Combo:	Neil Wittsey
Doubles:	Eric Sickles / Doug Packman
Team:	Mt. Morris Fire Department

#### AUXILIARY:

Singles	Thomasina Wittsey
Combo:	Thomasina Wittsey
Doubles:	Thomasina Wittsey / Dawn Friedl
Team:	Brooks Hose Auxiliary

Working on 2018 Tournament, will have more information at the workshop in November.

Budget & Program Book.

Budget: Bob Walker presented the proposed budget. This will be voted on under new business.

Program Book: Ed Dysard reported as of August 31, 2017 we reached 100% of our 2017 goal and received \$15,000.00.

Bylaws Committee: No Report.

Convention Committee, combined with the Local Convention Committee: Report given by Mike Kislack.

Finalizing 2017 convention.

Jim Miller reported he is working on setting up committees for the 2018 Convention.

Ems Committee: Ronda Skelton reported that everything went well.

Explorer/ Junior Firefighter Committee: No report

Fireman of the Year Committee: No Report

Fire Officers Committee: No Report

Fire Police Committee: Donald Trzepacz reported that the Fire Police Seminar on Friday July 28<sup>th</sup> and thirty-five in attendance. The Fire Police Training did not take place after the Seminar, as no one signed up for it.

The Fire Police Officer of the Year was presented Saturday morning to Lawrence Amacher of the Pekin Fire Company, of Niagara County.

Fire Prevention Committee: No report

History Committee: Frank Wilczak presented a report.

Several Fire Companies celebrated anniversary's this Year:

150 Years: Mayville

100 Years: Irving, Silver Creek, Getzville,

75 Years: Allentown, Alma, Twin District, Lewiston # 2, South Lockport

50 Years: North Corning

Investment & Finance Committee: Tom McLaughlin reported:

Scholarship	\$ 536.16
Savings	\$ 7,723.54
Men's Bowling	\$ 150.00
Women's Bowling	\$ 150.00

Past Presidents	\$ 740.00
Amenica Bonds	\$21,450.90
BALANCE 08/31/17	\$27,750.69

Scholarship savings	\$14,579.99
CD – 106	\$ 2,630.29
CD – 107	\$ 5,713.28
CD – 109	\$ 9,625.47
TOTAL	\$32,549.03
FASNY Checking	\$18,333.45
Total Association Assets	\$78,633.17

Legislative Committee: Robin Schott

See Legislative Clearing House Minutes

Memorial Scholarship Committee: No Report.

Second Vice President Mike Kislack assumed the Chair

Nominations Committee: Forrest Skelton reported that he now has the letters of endorsement that were not available at the Convention. We have a Trustee from Orleans County

Nozzle Practice – Doug Wright reported that there was a minimum of 150 spectators present to watch the tournament. There were Twelve (12) Teams and Two (2) Junior Teams participating.

Winners were:

	SENIORS	JUNIORS
Hydrant Hook-up	1. Sheldon	1. Shawnee 1
	2. Shawnee 2	2. Shawnee 2
	3. Shawnee 1	
	4. Jamison Road	
Hose replacement	1. Mt. Morris	1. Shawnee 2
	2. Sheldon	2. Shawnee 1
	3. Jamison Road	

	4. Slamin Salmons	
Water Ball	1. Jamison Road	1. Shawnee 2
	2. Shawnee Adams	2. Shawnee 1
	3. Wendleville	
	4. Slamin Salmons	

Winner of the Hotchkiss Trophy was Sheldon:

Parade Committee: No Report

Past Presidents Committee: Reported ten Past Presidents present.

President Participation: Mike Norwood reported as follows for the Award:

Third Place	Adams
Second Place	Frontier
First Place	St. Johnsburg.

Public Relations: Stan MacWilliams reported that information on the Convention has been sent to the State Magazine.

Queen's Pageant: The new Queen and Princess were Introduced

Resolutions: No Report

Topics: Working on next year.

2% Tax: Tony Demarco: The FASNY seminar on the 2% Tax was the most attended of the Convention.

Website: Up to date. A question raised concerning the committees listed on the website. The Committees will be updated when the Directory is completed.

Northern Central Liaison: Dave Sweet reported their Banquet will be October 21 at the VFW in Palmyra.

Southwestern Liaison: Will be holding a reorganization meeting soon.

Steering: Will meet in North Collins on November 12<sup>th</sup> at 1300hr..

Delegates to Southwestern: No Report

President James Miller resumed the Chair.

Motion was made by Alan Way, seconded by Ken Fuller to accept the committee reports. Motion Carried.

FASNY Firemen's Home: Trustee Alan Way gave a report:

There are 80 residents to date, will be voting on a few more in the near future.  
The new pavilion has been completed.

FASNY Director: Ed Tase Jr. reported on the FASNY convention.

The proposed amendment to the FASNY by-laws was **defeated**.

This will be relooked at.

Unfinished Business: None

New Business: The Proposed budget:

Motion was made by Bruce Mack, seconded by Tony Demarco to approve the proposed budget for 2017-2018.

Motion Carried.

A question was raised concerning the Cancer Bill.

Ed Tase explained the concessions that had to be made to the Bill to get it passed by both houses of the Legislature, and how it would be financed.

Good of the Organization:

The Officers present at this meeting, who were not in attendance at the Testimonial Dinner were sworn in.

The Guest list was read by Second Vice President Michael Kislack.

Sergeant-at-Arms Donald Trzepacz reported the Attendance:

This meeting Fortysix Members,.

The Excused List consisting of seven members was read by Recording Secretary Bruce Geschwender.

Motion was made by Ken Fuller, seconded by Alan Way to accept the Excused List.  
Motion Carried

The Benediction was offered by Chaplain Robert Carncross.

Motion was made by Alan Way, seconded by Ronda Skelton to adjourn. Motion Carried.

Meeting Adjourned at 1500hr.

Respectfully submitted Bruce Geschwender, Recording Secretary.

Next Meeting will be November 12<sup>th</sup> 2017 at the North Collins Fire Training Center, 10543 Main Street, North Collins, NY 14111.