

WESTERN NEW YORK VOLUNTEER FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
APRIL 15, 2012
VETERANS BUILDING, ELM STREET
MT. MORRIS, NEW YORK

LEGISLATIVE OUTREACH PROGRAM

This meeting was called to order at 12:15 pm and Edward Tase, Chairman of the Legislative Committee, introduced the guests: Peter O'Connell, Assemblywoman Jane Corwin, Senator Catherine Young, and Annie Chwenco, representing Senator Patrick Gallivan.

Robin Schott hosted the seminar which covered laws on the State agenda and their status. Among the subjects were: Rope law; health care; job protection; VFBL/VAWBL; reform; cost recovery for ambulances; illegal occupancy law; 9-1-1 surcharge law and utility reduction law. Pete O'Connell, Ed Tase and Marc Kasprzak further explained the laws and their status. Jane Corwin, Catherine Young and Annie Chwenco each spoke on the laws and their stance on them. Seminar concluded at 1:25 pm.

Timothy Tyrrell, Secretary

REGULAR MEETING

President Gerald Gehrig Called the Meeting to Order at 2:00 pm. Chaplain Alan Way offered the Invocation. In calling upon Assistant Sergeant-At-Arms Thad Gilbride to lead the membership in the Pledge of Allegiance, President Gehrig noted that the Pledge was originally written by Francis Bellamy of Mt. Morris, NY in 1892. Assistant Sergeant-At-Arms Gilbride then pointed out the exits.

President Gehrig welcomed everyone to the meeting and reported that Mark Frazon had resigned as Assistant Sergeant-At-Arms and that Thad Gilbride had been appointed to fill this position.

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

Report of Treasurer: Thomas McLaughlin. Reported Account Balances as of April 15, 2012: Savings-\$6,451.12; Checking-\$9,137.43; Scholarship-\$3,750.31. Total-\$19,338.86. Motion by Leon Randall, Seconded by Kenneth Fuller to accept the Treasurer's report. Carried.

Report of Secretary: Timothy Tyrrell. Reported 2012 dues notices have been sent to fire service organizations and individual members. 155 fire service organizations and 205 individual members have paid. \$4,100.00 has been collected and deposited into the bank account. Six (6) fire service organizations have sent notices that they wanted to be dropped from the rolls. Assistant Secretary Dan Evans has been working on the

Constitution and By-Laws to properly incorporate the five amendments approved at the July 2011 convention. Spelling and grammar corrections have been made. We are working on old membership record files to consolidate and clean them up. We are working on establishing the status of 401 missing fully paid life members and we thank the members who are so generously assisting us on this project. We have a note pad at the table for address, phone and email changes. We have purchased a new laserjet copier that is cheaper to operate to replace the old, worn out one.

Communications: Secretary Tyrrell listed a number of correspondence received including information on: Testimonial Dinner for retiring Home Trustee Norm Eberle, Saturday, October 13, 2012. Information: Robin Schott 585-370-2887 or email SCHOTT50@AOL.COM

First Vice President Tony DeMarco assumed the Chair

Trustees: Leon Randall reported nine (9) Trustees present.

Bowling: Chairman Thomas McLaughlin reported on a very successful tournament, submitted a list of winners and noted that prize checks were being mailed.

Program Book: Chairman Edward Dysard reported that we are at 49.7% of the Budget goal. Gross sales to date-\$29,821.00; Guaranteed Integrity Inc.-\$22,201.25; WNYVFA share-\$7,455.25.

By-Laws: Chairman William Kershner reported that the committee was working on three (3) proposed amendments:

1. Constitution Article VI-Regular Business Meeting. "The Regular Business Meetings of the Association shall be denoted as the quarterly meetings of the Executive Committee on the 2nd Sunday of the months of January, April, June and September as well as the November Work Shop Meeting." Delete-"actual dates of such meetings to be determined in concurrence with the Association Executive Committee and the current local committee."
2. Constitution Article VII-Annual Meeting. Section 1-"The Annual Meeting of the Association will be held on the fourth Friday and succeeding days in July....."
3. By-Laws Article VI-Quorum. Section 1-"Fifty (50) members of the Association will constitute a quorum for purposes of conducting business at regular business meetings and the annual meeting."

Convention: Chairwoman Judy Comfort has met with the local committee.

Local Committee: Chairman William D'Angelo noted that Mt. Morris wants to put on a Convention that will be remembered and that all information is on the Mt. Morris website: www.mountmorrisfd.com

EMS: Chairwoman Crystal Fisher reported information has been mailed out to fire service organizations.

Explorer/Junior Firefighter: Chairwoman Beth Bennett reported that the Water ball and Efficiency events would be held on Friday, July 27th.

Fireman of the Year: Chairwoman Barbara Barber reported that the Honorees had been selected and information was being sent to the Honorees.

Fire Officers: Chairman Harold Wollaber. No report.

Fire Police: Ross Corser reported that the Honoree had been selected.

Fire Prevention: Chairwoman Shirl Lanni reported that four (4) Counties had participated (Livingston, Monroe, Niagara and Wyoming). Winners had been selected and prizes awarded. Also, they are looking for a new Essay Judge.

History: Chairman Frank Wilczak reported that he has received seven (7) anniversary programs and several other items from fire company's for the Historian's file.

Investment and Finance: Chairman Thomas McLaughlin reported: Scholarship account-\$3,750.31; Savings account-\$6,451.12; Past President's account-\$312.07. Total as of 4/15/12 of \$10,513.50. Also, FASNY Credit Union accounts (7): Scholarship-\$20,176.32; Six (6) Certificates of Deposit-\$66,529.09; Checking account-\$9,137.43. Total as of 4/15/12 of \$95,842.84. Total amount of all accounts as of 4/15/12-\$106,356.34.

Legislative: Chairman Edward Tase introduced William Timkey who provided an update on the SAFER grant program, which is a recruitment program for new volunteer firefighters that provides financial assistance for those attending two-year college programs. FASNY will release information as a public service announcement on June 4, 2012. Further information is available at the FASNY website: www.fasny.com go to "HELP"

Ed reported that the FASNY Legislative update conference will be held November 3rd and 4th in Albany, NY.

Second Vice President Wendi Walker assumed the Chair

Memorial Scholarship: Chairman Tim Wolfanger expressed the committee's appreciation for donations received and that five of the six 2011 scholarship recipients have been sent their award. Also, that scholarship applications for 2012 are due by April 16, 2012 and that \$1,800.00 is budgeted for this year. For a scholarship application to be accepted, the individual, or parent must be a member in good standing, of the WNYVFA or Auxiliary.

Nominations: Chairman Forrest Skelton reported that letters for nominations and endorsements are due by the June 10, 2012 meeting.

Nozzle Practice: Chairman Douglas Wright reported that the trophies and plaques have been ordered and all is ready for Friday, July 27th.

Parade: Chairman Jack Hurlburt reported all is ready and the parade will line-up at Main and Elm streets at 6:00 pm and commence at 7:00 pm. The parade will proceed North on Main street to Tent City.

Past President's: Chairman Primo Biscaro reported that 8 Past President's and 1 Junior Past President were present.

President's Participation: Chairman Wayne Stanley reported that the committee needs representation from each County.

Public Relations: Chairman Stanley MacWilliams reported that everything is going well and that information for the next edition of FASNY's "The Volunteer Firefighter" magazine has been submitted.

Queens Pageant: Chairwoman Sarah Bobo. No report.

Resolutions: Chairman Michael Delamere reported that his committee will prepare resolutions for 100th Anniversary celebrations and other significant events if they are notified in advance.

Topic's: Chairman Donald Gavenda. No report.

2% Tax: Chairman Carl Veltri. No report.

Website: Tim Tyrrell reported that the updated Constitution and By-Laws, Minutes of the January 15th meeting and Queen's Pageant participants have been placed on the website. www.WNYVFA.org

Northern Central Liaison: David Sweet reported that their next meeting will be on Sunday, April 22, 2012 at Dresden. Legislative Outreach at 1:00 p.m. and regular meeting at 2:30 pm. Their Convention will be on June 2, 2012 at Brockport on West Ave.

Southwestern Liaison: Douglas Wood reported that their next meeting will be on Sunday, April 22, 2012, 2:00p.m. at Westfield.

Steering: Chairman William Nichols reported that the committee has endorsed the following for FASNY office: President-Jim Burns; 1st Vice President-Bob McConville; Director-Brian McQueen; Home Trustees-Thomas McKinney, Ted

Rosko, Jr. and Alan Way. Two candidates are running for 2nd Vice President. No endorsement was made: Kenneth Pienkowski and Carl Steffen.

FASNY: Director David Sweet reported that: "Recruit New York" will be held across the State on April 21st and 22nd. FASNY would like to hear from fire companies on the SAFER grant program. Looking for a few "Actors" for ABC. www.fasny.com go to "Auditions". FASNY Convention, August 16th to 18th at the old Holiday Inn, Liverpool, NY The 16th is "Training Day." New benefits for FASNY members: 10% discount at Staples; 10% discount at BJ's; Delta Dental Services. FASNY Board has approved several By-Law changes and include: Terminology to avoid conflict with State Laws; All amendments must be submitted to committee for review prior to the convention; Nomination petitions to be filed with the Secretary prior to the convention; Provisions for filling officer vacancies for the unexpired term at the next convention; Going back to previous method for filling unexpired terms of Directors and/or Trustees. Also, addressed issue regarding "Quorum" if business is continued at another time. And, \$7 million is available in the low interest loan program.

Youth In The Fire Service: Beth Bennett needs information for website. She also gave information regarding YITFS training at the FASNY Convention on Thursday, August 16th.

President Gerald Gehrig resumed the Chair

Motion by Alan Way, Seconded by David Wolf to accept committee reports. Carried.

FASNY Firemen's Home: Trustee Norm Eberle reported everything was going well at the Home.

Unfinished Business: None.

New Business: Motion by David Schmidt, Seconded by Kenneth Fuller to accept the Steering Committee report on FASNY Officer, Director and Trustee endorsements with the exception of Second Vice President. Carried.

Good of the Organization: Past President Michael Wutz reported, with Deep Sadness, the passing of Richard E. Dutton, Scholarship Committee member and Regional State Fire Police Director, from Tonawanda, NY.

Guest List: Was read by Second Vice President, Wendi Walker.

Excused List: Was read by Secretary Tim Tyrrell. Motion by William Kershner, Seconded by Ross Corser to accept. Carried.

Assistant Sergeant-At-Arms: Thad Gilbride announced attendance at 130.

Chaplain: Alan Way offered the Benediction.

Motion by Kenneth Fuller to Adjourn at 3:25 pm. Seconded by William McGuire.
Carried.

The next meeting of the Western New York Volunteer Firemen's Association will
be:

Sunday, June 10, 2012
2:00 p.m.
Veterans Building
Elm Street
Mt. Morris, NY

Respectfully submitted,

Timothy Tyrrell
Secretary

Daniel K. Evans
Assistant Secretary

www.WNYVFA.org

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