

WESTERN NEW YORK VOLUNTEER FIREMAN'S ASSOCIATION, INC.

CONVENTION MEETING MINUTES

119TH ANNUAL CONVENTION

JULY 26-28, 2018

NORTH COLLINS MARION FRICANO PARK

11065 GOWANDA STATE ROAD

NORTH COLLINS, NEW YORK 14111

REGULAR MEETING

JULY 27, 2018

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

Convention General Chairman Stan Gretka called the meeting to order at 0912 hr.

Presentation of the colors by: None

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

Chaplain Robert Carncross offered the Invocation.

Introduction of Distinguished Guests:

FASNY President Kenneth Pienkowski who introduced the state Officers who were in attendance at the meeting.

President James Miller welcomed everyone.

Roll Call of the County Members of the Association:

Allegany Y ,Cattaraugus Y ,Chautauqua Y ,Erie Y ,Genesee Y ,Livingston Y ,
Monroe Y ,Niagara Y ,Orleans ,Steuben Y Wyoming Y .

A Motion by William Kershner Jr., seconded by Anthony Demarco III to accept the minutes of the previous session. Carried.

Report of Recording Secretary: Bruce Geschwender

No Report

Report of Financial Secretary: Penni Dysard:

Reported that there was a problem with the Postal Service concerning the original mailing out of the dues notices. Will be sending out a second mailing.

Dues are starting to come in. 60 members paid their dues on Thursday.

Motion by Neil Haseley, seconded by Tim Tyrell to accept. Carried.

Report of Treasurer:

Savings:	\$_ 2,869.40
Checking:	\$ 8,785.88

Scholarship: \$ 976.04

Total: \$ 12,631.32

Disbursements: \$ 0.00

Motion by Edward Tase Jr., seconded by Tony Demarco III to accept. Carried.

Communications: Bruce Geschwender:

Received several endorsements for Officers of the Association.

Received information and a schedule of events for the Southwestern Convention August 1 – 4, 2018 in Belmont.

Received the VFIS Spring 2018 Newsletter

Received the July/August Volunteer Firefighter from FASNY.

Received Information on Testimonial Dinner for David Wolf on August 18, 2018.

Received a copy of a letter sent to the Treasurer from the Memorial Scholarship Committee concerning the investment of Scholarship funds.

Received a thank you card from Molly Zurawski for the Scholarship she received.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Nominations Committee: Forrest Skelton

President – Christopher Pettit

1st Vice President – Michael Kislack Sr.

2nd Vice President –

Recording Secretary – Bruce Geschwender

Financial Secretary – Penni Dysard

Treasurer – Thomas McLaughlin

TRUSTEES:

Allegany – Wayne Butts

Cattaraugus – Dorothy Button

Chautauqua – Douglas Wood

Erie – David Nedell

Genesee – Kathy Wright

Livingston – Stanley MacWilliams

Monroe – Michael Lapinski

Niagara – Edward Dysard

Orleans – Nic Culver

Steuben – Chris Curry

Wyoming – Alice Biscaro

A motion was made by Bruce Mack and Seconded by Harold Wollaber II that the Secretary cast one vote in favor of the Officers Nominated. Motion was Carried.

First Vice President Chris Pettit assumed the Chair.

Trustees Report: Doug Wood:

Books were Audited everything was found in good order.

Seven Trustees Present today.

Bylaws Committee: William Kershner presented the following Amendment to the Western New York Volunteer Firemen's Association, Inc. Constitution/By-Laws.

ARTICLE III – Standing Committees

Section 22

The CONVENTION COMMITTEE, to consist of at least six (6) members to be made up of the previous year's Convention General Chairman, who will act as Chairman of the Committee, and three (3) upcoming convention General Chairman and two (2) appointed members who have served as convention general chairman and will be appointed by the President of the WNYVFA. The committee shall serve in an advisory capacity to the Local Convention Committee, and shall in no way interfere with the operation of the convention.

This Committee will also select a site for the annual convention as per the following: When a person is elected to the position of Second Vice President of the WNYVFA in July, he/she will have until the September meeting to select a convention site for the Annual Convention during the year as President of the WNYVFA. **The Host Company or Organization will also be required to execute a contract with the Western New York Volunteer Firemen's Association which will detail the duties and obligations of the Host Company or Organization, including but not limited to all meeting and/or convention expenses that will be the responsibility of the Host during the year and up to the Annual Convention. This contract would need to be executed no later than the September meeting of the Association.**

If the Fire Company of the Second Vice President does not wish to host the convention, then the Second Vice President will meet with the Convention Committee to select a host Fire Company or organization from the list of convention bids proposals on file with the Recording Secretary. Then the Convention Committee will submit the selection to the membership for approval at the January Meeting of the membership.

This will be voted on under New Business on July 28, 2018.

Convention Committee: Michael Kislack

Reported that everything is on schedule and coming along good.

Legislative Committee: Robin Schott

No Report

Steering Committee: Wayne Butts

No Report

Presidents Participation Committee: Mike Norwood

No Report

Fire Prevention Committee: No Report

Investment & Finance: Tom McLaughlin

Scholarship Account	\$ 976.04
Savings Account	\$ 2,869.40
Men's Bowling Account	\$ 150.00
Women's Bowling Account	\$ 150.00
Past President's Account	\$ 520.00
American Fund Account	\$ 42,415.60
Balance on 6/30/18	\$ 47,081.04

FASNY Credit Union

Scholarship Account	\$ 14,609.17
CD – 106	\$ 2,644.78
CD – 107	\$ 5,744.77
TOTAL	\$ 22,998.72
FASNY Checking Account	\$ 8,785.88
TOTAL of Association on 6-30-18	\$ 78,865.64

\$10,000.00 from the Scholarship account will be added to the American Fund Account.

Second Vice President Chris Pettit assumed the Chair.

Program Book: Ed Dysard Reported

As of 7/20/18 reached 76.0% of goal, the Association has received \$11,408.40.

He reported that he has the contract for next year from a new vendor, will be acted on tomorrow.

Budget Committee: Robert Walker

Committee budget requests need to be turned in by the end of the Convention or by August 5th at the latest.

History Committee: No Report

Public Relations Committee: Stan MacWilliam A

Thanked the membership for the opportunity to serve.

He also stated that he takes great pride in the articles on the association that are submitted to the Volunteer Firefighter Magazine that provide an up to date view of what is going on in the Association, it's members and activities while providing an interest to all members past and present to keep up their membership.

Memorial Scholarship Committee: Tim Wolfanger

Reported that the Committee awarded nine scholarships this year totaling \$1,950.00.

The Scholarship winners are:

Jacob Spayer, Erik Scharlou, Hallie Dworzanski, Molly Zurawski, and Nicholas Culver.

Fire Officers Committee: Anthony Demarco

Training will be offered from 1000hr to 1400hr.

Topics Committee: No Report

Nozzle Practice Committee: Doug Wright

Registration will be Saturday at 1100 hr, will start at noon.

President James Miller resumed the Chair:

Motion by Harold Wollaber Jr., Seconded by William Kershner Jr. to accept the committee reports. Motion Carried

Guest: A representative of the Evans Agency gave a presentation on the Cancer Bill Coverage, What will be covered and what will not be covered. There are only estimates at this point what the coverage will cost. Several companies are submitting proposals.

Sergeant at arms Donald Trzepacz reported attendance at 75.

FASNY OFFICERS addressed the convention.

President Ken Pienkowski introduced the FASNY officers present. First Vice President Steven Klein spoke on the Cancer Bill, Director Ed Tase Jr. spoke on the FASNY Convention to be held August 10 to 12, 2018 in Syracuse.

Firemen's Home Trustees President David Schmidt introduced the home Trustees present, he then reported on the activities at the Home.

Motion was made by Tim Tyrell, Seconded by Chris Curry to recess the meeting until Saturday.

Motion Carried.

Meeting recessed at 1015 hr.

119TH ANNUAL CONVENTION

JULY 28, 2018

MEMORIAL SERVICE

Chaplain Robert Carncross conducted the annual Western New York Volunteer Firemen's Association Memorial Service.

SERVICE AWARDS PROGRAM

The following awards were given out Saturday morning following the Memorial Service:

EMS PROVIDER of the Year:	Nate Hare	Churchville Fire Department
FIRE POLICE of the Year	Paul E. Lawton	North Collins Fire Company
FIREMEN of the Year	Marc Adamburger	Cayuga Hose Company
1 – 5 Year Service	Anthony Drybala	Varysburg Fire Department
5 – 20 Year Service	Duston Colkitt	Strykersville Fire Department
21 - 35 Year Service	John Pike	Caledonia Fire Department
31 - 50 Year Service	Diana Carson	Caledonia Fire Department
50 + Year Service	Stanley MacWilliams	Caledonia Fire Department

REGULAR MEETING

JULY 28, 2018

Sergeant at Arms Donald Trzepacz pointed out the exits.

President James Miller called the meeting to order at 1118hr.

Sergeant at Arms Donald Trzepacz lead the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

First Vice President Chris Pettit assumed the chair:

Bowling Committee: Thomas McLaughlin

Reported that the checks have been sent out.

Explorer/Junior Firefighter Committee: No Report

Fire Police Committee: Donald Trzepacz

Reported that Thirty (27) members attended the Fire Police Seminar on Friday.

EMS Committee: Chris Pettit:

First Place: St. Johnsburg # 2

Second Place: St. Johnsburg # 1

Third Place Churchville

Past Presidents Committee: Anthony Demarco:

Eleven (11) Past Presidents attended the Convention.

Second Vice President Michael Kislack assumed the Chair:

Queen's Pageant Committee:

The Queens are selling tickets.

Resolutions Committee: Michael Delamere presented the following Resolutions:

RESOLUTION No. 1

WHEREAS, Our infinite Father, in His Divine wisdom during the past year, removed from life several members of the Western New York Volunteer Firemen's Association; and

WHEREAS, These fine persons have made splendid contributions to their respective communities having served as volunteer firefighters; and

WHEREAS, It is not to pass judgement upon termination of their stay among us, even though our feelings of loss are most acute; and

WHEREAS, It is fitting and proper at this time to pay our respect to their memory, and extend our sincere sympathy to their families; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That there shall be set aside a page in the official proceedings of this, the 118th Convention, and that the names of those members of this Association deceased during the past year shall be inscribed thereon.

Respectfully Submitted Michael Delamere, seconded by Bruce Mack. Motion Carried.

RESOLUTION No. 2

WHEREAS, This Association, through its Legislative program, has promoted such legislation beneficial to the Volunteer Fire Service during the past year; and

WHEREAS, Several persons have contributed with their consideration of this program; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That this Association extend its sincere thanks to the Honorable Andrew Cuomo, Governor of the State of New York; all members of the State Senate and Assembly; Robin Schott, Chairman of the Legislative Committee of the Firemen's Association of the State of New York and Chairman of the Legislative Committee of this Association; all members who attended regional legislative conferences; and all other persons who assisted in any way with our legislative program during the year.

Respectfully Submitted Michael Delamere, seconded by William Kershner Jr.. Motion carried

RESOLUTION No. 3

WHEREAS, Much good can be accomplished by favorable impression given to the general public by means of television, radio, and the press; and

WHEREAS, Whenever this Association has held a convention we have had harmonious relationships with the newspaper reporters, and area radio and television personalities; and

WHEREAS, As in the past, this year is no exception; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the thanks and gratitude of this Association be extended to all newspapers, radio and television stations, and various periodicals for their services to all volunteer firefighters of Western New York.

Respectfully submitted Michael Delamere, seconded by David Sweet. Motion Carried

RESOLUTION No. 4

WHEREAS, The Officers, Trustees & Members of the Western New York Volunteer Firemen's Association are assembled at the 119th Annual Convention in North Collins, New York; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the members endorse and pledge our full support to the following candidates for office in the Firemen's Association of the State of New York:

President	Steven Klein
1 st Vice President	John P. Farrell Jr.
2 nd Vice President	Edward Tase Jr.
Board of Director	Laurie Hanse
Board of Director	Michael Krummenacker
Trustee Firemen's Home	Anthony Demarco III
Trustee Firemen's Home	Michael DeVittorio
Trustee Firemen's Home	Gerard Owenburg
Trustee Firemen's Home	Martin Thomas

Respectfully submitted Michael Delamere, seconded by David Schmidt. Motion Carried.

RESOLUTION No. 5

WHEREAS, The Officers, Trustees, and Committee members of the Western New York Volunteer Firemen's Association have served the membership well and faithfully during the past year; and

WHEREAS, They have given freely of their time, money, and ability in order to further the interest of the Volunteer Firefighters; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the members and delegates, assembled here today, **extend a rising vote of thanks** to:

President	James Miller
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First Vice President	Christopher Pettit
Second Vice President	Michael Kislack
Junior Past President	Bruce Mack
Financial Secretary	Penni Dysard
Recording Secretary	Bruce Geschwender
Treasurer	Thomas McLaughlin
Chaplain	Robert Carncross
Assistant Chaplain	Alan Way
Sergeant-at-Arms	Donald Trzepacz
Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms	Doug Wright

And

The Board of Trustees, each Committee Chairman and all committee members of the Western New York Volunteer Firemen's Association.

Respectfully submitted, as amended, Michael Delamere, Seconded by Primo Biscaro.

Motion Carried.

RESOLUTION No. 6

WHEREAS, This 119th Annual Convention of the Western New York Volunteer Firemen's Association has, in every way, been another outstanding success; and

WHEREAS, Much time and effort has been extended with plans and arrangements in order to make this possible, including the Quarterly Executive Committee meetings held throughout this past year; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Association, **by a rising ovation**, extend its sincere thanks to the Convention General Chairmen Stan Gretka, Secretary Kristine Miller, Treasurer Al Kornowitz, and the entire convention committee; and to all other individuals who contributed in any way to make this, the 119th Annual Convention, a huge success.

Respectfully submitted Michael Delamere, seconded by Anthony Demarco III. Motion Carried.

2% Tax Committee: Anthony Demarco: Seminar at FASNY on Saturday August 11th

Fire Officers Committee: Anthony Demarco: No Report

Website Committee: Bruce Geschwender: Everything is up to date.

North Central Liaison: David Sweet

Reported on the proposed meeting dates and places for North Central:

September 16th St Paul Blvd.

October 20th Banquet Palmyra VFW

January 20 th	Eldridge
February 9 th	Ontario County Public Safety Training – Legislative Out Reach
April 14 th	West Webster
June 7 th & 8 th	Convention West Webster

Reported on the date of their Convention: August 2 – 4, 2018 in Belmont.

President James Miller resume the Chair.

Motion was made by Anthony Demarco III, seconded by Windi Walker to accept the committee reports. Motion Carried.

FASNY Firemen's Home Trustee: David Schmidt.

Reiterated what he reported at the meeting on Friday.

FASNY Director Diana Pfersick

Reported on the upcoming FASNY Convention August 9 – 12 2018 in Syracuse, and the Legislative Conference in November to be held in Troy, NY.

Unfinished Business:

The report of the Past Presidents was given by Bruce Mack. This was discussed.

A motion was made by Bruce Mack, Seconded by Harold Wollaber II that the membership in the Western New York Volunteer Firemen's Association of Darrin Harter, and Jennifer Harter be revoked, and that they be banned from any and all functions associated with the Western New York Volunteer Firemen' Association. Motion Carried.

The Recording Secretary was directed to notify the parties of this action by Certified Mail.

A motion was made by Bruce Mack, seconded by Michael Delamere to reopen the Nomination of Officers. Motion Carried.

The name of William Kershner Jr. was placed in nomination for the office of Second Vice President of WNYVFA. As there were no other nominations the Secretary was directed to cast on ballot for William Kershner Jr. for the office of Second Vice President of this Association.

New Business:

The contract with the new solicitor was presented to the members present. A discussion followed.

Motion was made by Edward Dysard, seconded by Tom Mclaughlin to accept the contract from the new solicitor, Campaign Headquarters. Motion Carried.

Motion was made by Anthony Demarco III, seconded by Harold Wollaber II to accept the amendment to the By-laws as presented. Motion Carried.

Good of the Organization:

The following names were presented for Paid Life Members:

Robert Courdey, Ken Steen, Mary Beth Bray, and Jim Comfort.

Motion was made by Neil Haseley, seconded by Chris Curry to accept the proposed names as Paid Life Members of the WNYVFA.

The Convention next year will be held in Cambria, NY the letter in on file in the Secretary's Office.
July 25, 26, 27, 2019

Motion was made by Bruce Mack, Seconded by Wendi Walker to accept the invitation from the Cambria Fire Company to host the 2019 WNYVFA Convention. Motion Carried

Sergeant at Arms Donald Trzepacz announced the attendance at the various activities during the Convention.

Sergeant-at-Arms Donald Trzepacz reported attendance.

53 Members, Delegates,

Excused List read by Recording Secretary Bruce Geschwender.

Motion by Bruce Mack, Seconded by Wendi Walker to accept. Carried.

Benediction offered by Chaplain Robert Carncross

Motion by Wendi Walker, seconded by Doug Woods to adjourn. Carried

Meeting adjourned at 1250 hr.

Respectfully Submitted Bruce Geschwender, Recording Secretary.

Next Meeting: September 16, 2018 North Collins Fire Dept. Training Center.

WNYFVA Legislative Clearing House 1200hr, Meeting 1400hr.