

WESTERN NEW YORK VOLUNTEER FIREMEN’S ASSOCIATION, INC.

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
FRONTIER FIRE COMPANY HALL
2176 LIBERTY DRIVE
NIAGARA FALLS, NEW YORK
APRIL 02, 2017

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

President Bruce Mack called the meeting to order at 1400hr

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

Chaplain Alan Way offered the Invocation.

President Bruce Mack welcomed everyone.

A motion by William Busch, seconded by Tim Tyrell to accept the minutes of the previous session. Motion Carried.

Report of the Recording Secretary – Bruce Geschwender reminded all Committee Chairpersons to submit their reports in writing, so they can be entered correctly in the minutes,.

Motion was made by Andy Pilecki and seconded by ken fuller to accept the Recording Secretary’s report. Motion Carried.

Report of the Financial Secretary – Penni Dysard

Reported that the total dues collected as of April 02, 2017:

From 19 Fire Departments	\$,395.00
From 100 members	\$1,100.00
For a Total dues collected for 2017:	\$1,495.00

Motion by Robin Schott, seconded by Alan Way to accept the Financial Secretary’s report. Motion Carried.

Report of the Treasurer – Tom McLaughlin.

Savings: \$ 1,933.29

Checking:	\$ 2,930.93
Scholarship:	\$ 2,191.12
Total:	\$ 7,055.34
Disbursements:	\$ 2,650.00

Motion was made by Ken Fuller, seconded by Doug Hanes to accept the Treasurers report. Motion Carried.

Communications:

Received a request for a donation from the Western New York Exhibit Center.

Received an e-letter from the Steering Committee requesting their budgeted funding. The e-letter was forwarded to the Treasurer.

Received the FASNY Magazine – the Volunteer Fireman.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

First Vice President James Miller was called away on business, therefore President Mack retained the Chair

Trustees Report - Wayne Butts reported

There are Nine Trustees present for the meeting

He introduced Chris Curry from Steuben County

Bowling Committee – Tom McLaughlin

A preliminary report was given since he just received the results.

The Full report will be given at the June Meeting.

Budget & Program Book.

Program Book: no report.

Budget: Ed Dysard reported as of April 02, 2017 we reached 50.6% of our 2017 goal and received \$7,591.32

Bylaws Committee: William Kershner

There are TWO (2) proposed Amendments to the WNYVFA Constitution and ONE (1) proposed Amendment to the WNYVFA By-Laws.

Amendments to the WNYVFA Constitution are as follows:

ARTICLE IV – OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

Section II Paragraph one (1) currently reads:

There shall be elected a board of Trustees. This Board shall be composed of one(1) member of each County holding membership in this Association. This member shall be nominated by the County Firemen's Association, which they represent and reside in. The Secretary of that County Firemen's Association shall submit a certificate to the Secretary on WNYFVA stating that that County for such position has nominated the WNYVFA Trustee candidate. This certificate shall be submitted to the WNYVFA Recording Secretary prior to the annual meeting of the Association. In the event that the County Secretary fails to file such certificate, then the office shall be declared vacant.

Section II *proposed amendment to Paragraph one (1) sentences two (2) and three (3):*

This member can be nominated by the County Firemen's Association, County Fire Chief's Association, County Fire Advisory or other County Fire Organization deemed applicable by WNYVFA for which they represent and reside in. The Secretary of such County Association shall submit a certificate to the Secretary of WNYVFA stating that that County for such position has duly nominated the WNYVFA Trustee candidate.

ARTICLE VI – QUORUM

Section 1 as it currently reads:

Fifty (50) members of the Association will constitute a quorum for the purpose of conducting business at regular business meetings and the annual meeting.

Section 1 – proposed amendment:

Thirty-five (35) members of the Association will constitute a quorum for the purpose of conducting business at regular business meetings and the annual meeting.

WNYVFA BY-LAWS

ARTICLE III – COMMITTEES

SECTION 8 as Paragraph one(1) currently reads:

The STEERING COMMITTEE shall consist of one member from each of the member counties of this Association. Each respective County shall appoint a member to serve for a five year term. An alternate member can be appointed to represent the County if the member is unable to attend a meeting. If an appointment cannot be made from a County, that seat will remain vacant until an appointment is made. The appointed members of this Committee shall select a Chairman, Co-Chairman and Secretary. Any appointed member must attend at least 75% of the meetings, rounded to the nearest whole number or be removed from the committee. If any appointed members become a FASNY of Firemen's Home elected official they may be replaced for the remaining term,

SECTION 8 proposed amendment to Paragraph one(1), Sentences one (1) and two (2):

The STEERING cOMMITTEE shall consist of one member from each of the member counties of this Association. A member from each County of the Association shall be appointed by the Cou nty Firemen’s Association, County Fire Chief’s Association, County Fire Advisory or another County Fire Organizatio deemed applicable by WNYVFA for wuich they represent and reside in and shall serve for a five-year term.

Convention Committee, Mike Kislack

Reported that everything in on track for the 2017 Convention.

Ems Committee: Wendi Walker – Letters to go out shortly for the Convention

Explorer/ Junior Firefighter Committee: No report

Fireman of the Year Committee: Doug Hanes

Several Applications have been received..

Fire Officers Committee: No Report

Fire Police Committee: Donald Trzepacz

Need to meet with the local committee

Fire Prevention Committee: Alan Way

Winners have been chosen. Only two (2) Counties participated this year.

WINNERS ARE:

5TH GRADE

1ST Lawson Alexander Drabik Harris Hill Elementary – Penfield

2nd Lilly Husband Scribner Road Elementary – Penfield

Outstanding in County Ava Anastasi – St. Peter’s Lutheran School –Sanborn

6TH GRADE

1ST Quinn Hoover Holy Ghost Lutheran – Niagara Falls

2nd Saege Hucks St. Peter’s Lutheran – Sanborn

Outstanding in County – Ava Heuser – Holy Ghost Lutheran – Niagara Falls

7TH GRADE

1st Ava Kuhn Martha Brown Middle – Fairport

Outstanding in County - Grace Tonemah – St Peter’s Lutheran – Sanborn

8TH GRADE

1ST Alyssa Schaeffer Bishop Kearney High School – Rochester

2ND Meghan Male Holy Ghost Lutheran – Niagara Falls

Outstanding in County Riley Stenzel Holy Ghost Lutheran – Niagara Falls

History Committee: No Report

Investment & Finance Committee: Tom McLaughlin reported:

Scholarship	\$ 2,191.12
Savings	\$ 1,933.29
Men’s Bowling	\$ 5,797.81
Women’s Bowling	\$ 1,008.00
Past Presidents	\$ 490.00
America Bonds	\$20,164.35
Balance 04/02/17	\$31,584.57
Scholarship savings	\$14,565.54
CD – 102	\$20,351.42
CD – 106	\$ 2,623.13
CD – 107	\$ 5,697.73
CD – 109	\$ 9,604.02
FASNY Checking	\$ 2,930.93
Total Association Assets	\$87,357.34

Legislative Committee: Robin Schott reported.

Five (5) committee members present.

Robin thanked all those who attended the Legislative Outreach session.

Memorial Scholarship Committee: Dan Evans reported

Only received one application so far

Second Vice President Chris Pettit assumed the Chair.

Nominations Committee: Forrest Skelton

Need letters of endorsement for all elected positions. Have received one Endorsement for the office of Second Vice President.

Nozzle Practice – Doug Wright reported

Everything coming along. Wood like to see good participation from the juniors.

Parade Committee James Dermody reported,

Parade looks good to go

Past Presidents Committee: Reported Nine Past Presidents present.

President Participation: Mike Norwood reported,

All records are up to date

Public Relations: No report

Queen's Pageant: No Report

Resolutions: Mike Delamere Read the Resolution:

WHEREAS, The 118th Annual Convention will be held in the Town of Wheatfield, New York on July 27th, 28th, and 29th 2017; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Western New York Volunteer Firemen's Association, through its officers, Board of Trustees, delegates, and members at the April 2nd Quarterly Meeting being held at the Frontier Fire Company Hall in Niagara Falls, New York, will not condone any improper conduct, malicious mischief, damage to property or irresponsible acts of any persons or groups attending the 118th Convention and will not intercede in behalf of anyone doing so, but will support the law enforcement agencies of the County of Niagara, and the State of New York; and be it further

RESOLVED, That members and delegates attending this Convention will do everything in their power to uphold the reputation of the Western New York Volunteer Fire Service, their own organizations, and themselves and that no improper incidents shall mar the 118th Annual Convention.

Topics: No Report

2% Tax: No Report

Website: Bruce Geschwender reported

The website is up to date.

Northern Central Liaison: Dave Sweet reported

their next meeting is April 23 at Moyers Corners # 1

Convention is June 2nd & 3rd at Himrod, NY.

MCVFA is sponsoring a bus to the 125th anniversary of the Fireman's Home.

Southwestern Liaison: Next meeting April 9th at West Valley

Steering: Wayne Butts reported

FASNY Hospitality – The Association will have a Single Room at the Holiday Inn for the Convention.

The Steering Committee Recommends Edward Tase Jr. for the position of 2nd Vice President of FASNY.

Looking for a candidate for Dave Wolf's position on the Board of Trustees for the Firemen's Home in 2018.

Delegates to Southwestern: Report was read.

President Bruce Mack 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 Wayne Butts gave a report.

86 members are in the home.

Softball Tournament is back on for September.

Working on the 125th Anniversary

FASNY Director: Ed Tase Jr.

Reported the FASNY Convention will be by August 9-12 in Syracuse. Will be in Syracuse for the next three years.

Recruit NY weekend is April 29 & 30.

The 2017 Fire Service Law Book is now available price is \$26.00

Unfinished Business: None

New Business:

Motion was made by Mike Delamere, seconded by William Kershner Jr. to adopt the Resolution and post copies at all convention activity sites.

Motion Carried.

Motion was made by Mike Wutz, Seconded by Ken Fuller to accept the Recommendation of the Steering Committee of Edward Tase Jr. for Second Vice President of FASNY.

Motion Carried

Good of the Organization:

A Motion was made by Mike Wutz, Seconded by Robert Carncross to give the Western New York Exhibit Center a donation of \$50.00.

Motion Carried.

The Guest list was read by Second Vice President Chris Pettit

Sergeant-at-Arms Donald Trzepacz reported the Attendance: as 84 Members, Delegates and Guests

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

Motion was made by Ken Fuller, seconded by James Dermody to accept the Excused List. Motion Carried

The Benediction was offered by Chaplain Alan Way

A moment of silence was observed for Past President John O'Neil

Motion was made by Ken Fuller, seconded by Doug Wood to adjourn. Motion Carried.

Meeting Adjourned at 1445hr.

Respectfully submitted Bruce Geschwender, Recording Secretary.

Next Meeting will be June 11th 2017 at the Frontier Fire Hall 2176 Liberty Drive, Niagara Falls, NY 14304 starting at 1400hr

The Meeting will be preceded by the Legislative Update at 1200hr.

Legislative Update

Frontier Fire Hall

April 2, 2017

President Bruce Mack called the Session to order at 1210pm and turned the Chair over to Legislative Chairman Robin Schott.

Robin Started the Legislative update with the latest film by FASNY concerning Cancer in the Volunteer Fire Service.

Robin then went over the 2017 Legislative Scorecard as of 03/07/2017

ISSUES OF UNITED CONCERNS:

1. Expanded Cancer Coverage – Passed the Senate – In Assembly Committee
2. “Fair Play” cost recovery for fire department ambulance service
In Committee in both the Senate and Assembly
3. Endangering the welfare of a first responder by making illegal modifications
In Committee in both the Senate and the Assembly
4. VFBL/VAWBL Temporary Total Disability Increase
In Committee in both the Senate and the Assembly.
5. Fire Apparatus Lemon Law – Has not been introduced in either House
6. Prohibits the use of chemical flame retardants on residential upholstered Furniture.
In Committee in both the Senate and the Assembly

OTHER FASNY ITEMS:

7. Prompt payment of VFBL Death Benefit – Passed the Senate – In Assembly Committee.

Listed below are the Bill Numbers:

- | | |
|--|------------------|
| 1. Senate – S1411 | Assembly – A711 |
| 2. Senate – S363 | Assembly – A3100 |
| 3. Senate – S773 | Assembly – A1691 |
| 4. Senate – S3904 | Assembly – A6367 |
| 5. No Senate or Assembly bill numbers at this time | |
| 6. Senate – S742 | Assembly – A3 |

7. Senate – S1195

Assembly – A1451

Also included is inclusion in the 2017/2018 Budget of additional funding for Firefighter 1 Training.

Also Increase of the Tax Credit from \$200 to \$400 per year and Sales Tax Exemption for Life Safety Items for household use.

Robin also had available copies of the AFG Grant Program Overview from Congressman Chris Collins office.