

WESTERN NEW YORK VOLUNTEER FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION, INC.

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
SEPTEMBER 9, 2013
J.W. JONES HALL
354 LEICESTER ST.
CALEDONIA, NY 14423

Jr. Past President Anthony DeMarco III, pointed out the exits and Called the Meeting to Order at 2:01 p.m.

Chaplain Alan Way offered the Invocation and Jr. Past President DeMarco led the membership in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Jr. Past President Anthony DeMarco III, thanked everyone who had assisted and supported him and the Caledonia Fire Department during his term as President of the Association. He then turned the gavel over to President Wendi Walker.

President Walker called upon Past President and Home Trustee David Wolf to swear in to office Trustees Kathy Wright and John Totter. During the previous evenings Testimonial and Installation of Officers, the following were installed: Past President Robert Walker installed his daughter Wendi Walker, who is the first woman to serve as President of the Western New York Volunteer Firemen's Association. Past President David Wolf installed the following: 1st Vice President-Harold Wollaber; 2nd Vice President-Darrin Harter; Secretary-Timothy Tyrrell; Assistant Secretary-Daniel Evans; Treasurer-Thomas McLaughlin; Assistant Treasurer-Jack Hurlburt; Chaplain-Alan Way; Assistant Chaplain Robert Carncross; Trustees: Douglas Wood; Robert Carncross; Stanley MacWilliams; Kenneth Fuller; Edward Dysard and Terry Snyder.

Motion to accept the Minutes of the previous session was made by Alan Way, Seconded by William Kershner. Carried.

Report of Secretary Timothy Tyrrell: The 2013-14 Directory is being readied for print. We hope all of the information is correct as we had very little input for it. We are working on the mailing of informational post cards to be sent to the 20 year fully paid life members. We have a list of about 1450. Also, we are working on the dues notices to be sent out to fire companies and dues paying members with meeting and convention information. Committee chairs should notify the Secretary's office on their needs for envelopes and labels so that we will have them at the November 10th meeting. Call: (H) 716-694-4279 or e-mail jyrd549@aol.com. We have received \$6250 in dues money for 2013, about a 50% response. 20 year fully paid life membership certificates were sent to 22 of 40 members who were current in their dues. We had 175 members and delegates registered at the convention and picked up 15 new members. Motion by Gerald Gehrig, Seconded by Douglas Wright to accept the report. Carried.

Report of Treasurer Thomas McLaughlin: Account balances as of August 31,2013.

Savings	\$ 437.29
Checking	11,060.37
Scholarship	1,983.44
Total	\$ 13,481.10

Total Disbursements: \$ 5,396.51
Motion by Ken Fuller, Seconded by Pete Casey to accept. Carried.

Communications: Secretary Tyrrell reported that Northern Central Volunteer Firemen's Association's annual banquet would be held on October 19th at Geneva, NY.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

First Vice President Harold Wollaber assumed the Chair

Trustees Report: Chairman Ken Fuller reported 8 trustees present and that they had met at 11:00 a.m. today to Audit the financial records. All were in order.

Bowling Committee: Chairman Tom McLaughlin reported that the 2014 Bowling Tournament would be held at Rapids Bowling Lanes on Niagara Falls Blvd., Niagara Falls, NY. They would be preparing the mailing of information at the November meeting of the Association.

Budget Committee: Chairman Robert Walker presented the 2013-14 Budget listing the following:

Anticipated Expenses	\$ 10,401.00
Convention Expenses	5,500.00
Committee Expenses	16,810.00
Delegate Expenses	1,350.00
Total Expenses	\$ 34,061.00

Total Anticipated Income \$ 34,061.00

Program Book: Chairman Ed Dysard reported week 7, ending 9/8/13 that 7.3% of the budget goal had been reached. Gross sales-\$6,223.50; Support Services of New York-\$4,979.20; WNYVFA share-\$1,244.30. There have been no complaints about our solicitor. Any fire company or department having any fundraising in their area should notify Ed or any committee member and we will have our solicitor stay out of your area. (c) 716-946-1094 or e-mail edwardo011781@aol.com.

Constitution & By-laws: Chairman William Kershner reported that the two changes introduced at the Convention in July were approved. The Amended Constitution & By-laws are on our website: www.wnyvfa.org. He was working on a couple of new proposed changes to be introduced later.

Convention Committee: Local Co-chair Jeni Corser reported that they had a great year and that they were turning the reins over to Wendi Walker and the St. Johnsburg Convention Committee.

EMS Committee: Rhonda Skelton reported that their committee would meet at 1:00 p.m. at the November 10th meeting. They are updating rules for the EMS competitions.

Explorer/Jr. Firefighter: Forrest Skelton reported that three Junior teams had completed at the July convention Nozzle Practice events.

Fireman of the Year Committee: Ken Fuller reported that nominations for each of the various categories were down this year.

Fire Officers Committee: Anthony DeMarco reported on the Fire Prevention seminar held on Thursday afternoon during the July convention.

Fire Police Committee: Jeni Corser reported that she was ‘retiring’ as Chairwoman after many years of service. Also, that the Fire Police seminar and competition during the Convention had to be moved to Mumford and that the Caledonia Police Chief served as the speaker at the seminar.

Fire Prevention Committee: Alan Way reported that they were ‘gearing up’ for the coming year.

History Committee: Chairman Frank Wilczak. No report.

Investment & Finance Committee: Chairman Tom McLaughlin reported as of 8/13/31 the following:

Savings	\$ 437.29
Scholarship	1,983.44
Past President’s	669.40
FASNY Credit Union CD’s (7)	87,389.17
Checking	11,060.37
Total	\$101,539.67

Legislative Committee: Chairman Robin Schott reported that the Legislative Conference would be held on November 2nd and 3rd at the Desmond Hotel in Albany, NY. He had also chaired the WNYVFA Legislative update at 12:15 p.m. today. Noted that six bills had been approved by both Houses of the State Legislature and would be going to the Governor for hopeful signature. During the 45 minute conference he reviewed 17 bills that appeared on the FASNY Legislative agenda. We had a ‘good year’ and that this was the second year of the two-year Legislative session. The 32 people attending the Legislative conference approved Motions for WNYVFA to co-sponsor: “Flammability standards-soft furnishings; Felony/Sex Offenders; Illegal modifications in multi-family dwellings; VFBL expanded cancer coverage. And, to take off of the agenda: Elimination of exemption from seat belt law; EMS billing. Those bills going to the Governor for signature are: VFBL firehouse fitness program; Job protection in declared emergency; EMS exemption for glucometry test fee; Fraudulent labeling of electrical products; VFBL/AWBL coverage for non-jurisdictional response; Revolving loan increase; LOSAP tax relief. He thanked Kirby Hannan and Associates for their long time service as our Legislative Advocate working on behalf of FASNY. Legislative updates may be found on the FASNY website: www.fasny.com. He also noted that Ken Pienkowski, FASNY Vice President and Michael Caron, FASNY Director were present at today’s meetings.

Memorial Scholarship Committee: Jr. Past President Anthony DeMarco turned over a check that had been presented to him during the previous evenings testimonial in His Honor.

Second Vice President Darrin Harter assumed the Chair

Nominations Committee: Chairman Forrest Skelton. No report. Assistant Secretary Dan Evans inquired if any information had been received regarding the nominations for Trustees from Cattaraugus and Steuben Counties. Nothing had been received as of today.

Nozzle Practice Committee: Chairman Douglas Wright. No report.

Parade Committee: Chairman Jack Hurlburt reported on the Convention parade results: The parade, at Caledonia, started on time and lasted about an hour with 26 fire departments; two musical units; one junior fire department and two ladies auxiliaries. This year’s overall winner was Stafford Fire Department. We stayed under budget.

Past President’s Committee: Gerald Gehrig reported nine past presidents present and that past president San Norris had returned home after a hospital stay.

President's Participation Committee: Marcia Tyrrell reported the top ten fire companies earning points and that first place, with 205 points and the traveling trophy went to Cambria Fire Company from Niagara County.

Public Relations Committee: Chairman Stanley MacWilliams reported that the recently completed Convention information would be appearing in the next edition of "The Volunteer Firefighter." Information for the following edition is due to him by October 1st.

Queen's Pageant Committee: Chairwoman Barbara Eddy reported that the 2013-14 Queen, Shelby Siegmann, a 9th grade student at Starpoint High School; Princess Hallee Dworzanski, 12, a 8th grade student at Niagara-Wheatfield Middle School; and Little Lady, Kylee Jones, 6, a student at West Street Elementary School were Crowned on Saturday, September 7, 2013 at the annual WNYVFA Testimonial Dinner at the J.W. Jones Hall, Caledonia, NY. The 2013 Royalty represents the St. Johnsbury Fire Company. The 2012-13 Queen, Alyssa Anderson and Princess, Morgan Hallett gave their farewell speeches before crowning the incoming Royalty.

Resolutions Committee: Chairman Michael Delamere. No report.

Topics Committee: Chairman Donald Gavenda, No. report.

2% Tax Committee: Chairman Carl Veltri. Nothing to report at this time.

Website Committee: Chairman Timothy Tyrrell reported that they were preparing to put the updated Constitution & By-laws and the dates, times and location for the 2013-14 meetings and convention on the website.

Northern Central Liaison: David Sweet reported their next meeting will be held at 12:00 noon on September 22nd at West Webster Fire Hall and their annual banquet would be at Club 86 in Geneva on October 19th.

Southwestern Liaison: Douglas Wood reported their next meeting would be on Sunday, September 22nd at Westfield Fire Hall.

Steering Committee: Chairman William Nichols reported that the Joint Hospitality room at the FASNY convention was a great success and that April 1st was the new deadline for submitting recommendations/endorsements for FASNY positions.

President Wendi Walker resumed the Chair

Motion by Forrest Skelton, Seconded by Douglas Wright to accept the Committee reports. Carried.

FASNY Firemen's Home: Trustee David Wolf reported the Home census at 68. A representative from the Hertz Supply Company will be providing a quote for new beds for Home members. An estimated 1000 visitors participated in the Home activities during the softball tournament. 33 teams participated. Five Home members attended the FASNY convention in Albany, NY and had a great time. One home member, who was very overweight, lost 85 pounds and is now able to go on trips and outings. He is very happy thanks to the Home staff members. At the reorganizational meeting of the Home Trustees, the following officers were elected: Carl Steffen, President; David Blair, Vice President; Walter Geidel, Secretary.

FASNY: Director David Sweet. The 141st FASNY Convention was held in Albany, NY. Fire Prevention Week is October 6th to 12th. FASNY is offering a number of resources and tips on-line.

FASNY will no longer be sponsoring fire prevention contests. Local fire departments can obtain materials at www.preventfireny.com for use. The Fall semester deadline for FASNY HELP is quickly approaching with the deadline of October 1st. Empire State College courses are now eligible. The Fall Legislative conference will be November 2nd & 3rd at the Desmond Hotel. Reservations can be made by calling 1-800-448-3500 and mention "Legislative Block" and Code 1202MQ to receive a rate of \$115/night/room. There will be On Site Training:

October 8, 2013, Buffalo, NY-"Natural Disasters, Are We Really Ready?"

October 22, 2013, Tonawanda, NY-"Solar Awareness and Operational Safety."

Feedback is requested on the recent FASNY Convention. Programs went very well.

Unfinished Business: None.

New Business: Motion by David Wolf, Seconded by Primo Biscaro to approve the 2013-14 WNYVFA Budget. Carried.

Good of the Order: Michael Wutz suggested looking into a Credit Union for our checking account to avoid monthly service charges.

Secretary Tyrrell and Jeni Corser would work on preparing badges for the new officers of the Association.

Guest List read by: Second Vice President Darrin Harter.

Sergeant-at-Arms: Secretary Tim Tyrrell reported attendance: 27-delegates and members signed in for the Legislative conference. 46-delegates and members signed in for the Regular meeting. There were actually more people in attendance, but a number had failed to sign the registration book!

Excused List was read by Secretary Tyrrell. Motion by William Kershner, Seconded by Douglas Wright to approve. Carried.

Benediction offered by Chaplain Alan Way.

Motion by Thomas McLaughlin to Adjourn at 3:00 p.m. Seconded by William Kershner. Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel K. Evans
Assistant Secretary

Timothy A. Tyrrell
Secretary

Special Note from Chaplain Alan Way

If a Department or Exempt Association loses a member, you do not have to wait until late Spring to add the name to the Necrology List. You can send in a name at any time to Alan C. Way, Chaplain, 73 Frazier Street, Brockport, NY 14420-1643 or at acway@Rochester.rr.com or by calling 585-637-6127. I will enter all names as I receive them as I already have the 2014 Memorial Service necrology list started.

NEXT MEETING

Sunday, November 10, 2013

2:00 p.m.

St. Johnsburg Fire Company

7165 Ward Road (Rte 429 – one mile South of Niagara Falls Blvd. Rte.62)

North Tonawanda, NY 14120

(This is also the “Workshop” meeting)

MEETING AND CONVENTION SCHEDULE FOR 2014

Sunday, January 12, 2014 – 2:00 p.m.

Sunday, April 6, 2014 – 2:00 p.m.

(Legislative Conference – 12:00 noon)

Sunday, June 8, 2014 – 2:00 p.m.

Wednesday July 23 to Saturday July 26 – Convention

Sunday, September 14, 2014 – 2:00 p.m.

(Legislative Conference – 12:00 noon)

www.wnyvfa.org

