

WESTERN NEW YORK VOLUNTEER FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION, INC.
LEGISLATIVE UPDATE
APRIL 14, 2013
J.W. JONES HALL
354 LEICESTER ST.
CALEDONIA, NY 14423

The Legislative Update was Called to Order by President DeMarco at 12:15 p.m. The session was turned over to Legislative Committee Chairman Robin Schott who introduced FASNY Legislative Liaison David Sweet and FASNY Legislative Representative Peter O'Connell. Also present was New York State Assembleman William Nojay who represents Livingston and parts of Monroe and Steuben Counties.

Chairman Schott reported that the New York State Fire Service Organizations met in December 2012 to set their joint Legislative agenda. The full text and explanations of the Legislative items maybe found on the FASNY website: www.fasny.com

We are listing here, the Legislative items and their Senate and Assembly numbers as of April 14, 2013. Legislative Representative, Peter O'Connell addressed and explained each of these items:

ISSUES OF UNITED CONCERN

Upholstered Furniture Safety Standards: A6557
Novelty Lighters: S933, A1011
Consolidated Amendments: S2229, A1874
Felony/Sex Offenders: S1885-A, A2318-A (note: articles on sex offenders appearing in newspapers should be sent to Legislative Chairman Robin Schott at: sch@aol.com)
Elimination of Exemption From Seat Belt Law: S3733, A5400
EMS Billing: S3262, A4113
Affordable Health Insurance for Volunteers: S3465

OTHER FASNY SCORE CARD ITEMS

Illegal Occupancy in Multi-Family Dwellings: A584
VFBL/AWBL Benefits for Disability: A485, S3589
VFBL – Expanded Cancer Coverage: A1552
VFBL Firehouse Fitness Programs: A4484, S3908
Job Protections in Declared Emergencies: S1604, A4099
EMS Exemption for Glucometry Test Fee: A6121, S4361
Fraudulent Labeling of Electrical Products: A1041, S3961
VFBL/AWBL Coverage for Non-Jurisdictional Response: A400, S3590
Revolving Loan Increase: S3728-A; A5120-A
LOSAP Tax Relief: S4379

Also addressed was “Mark’s Law” which has passed and stiffens penalties for causing injury or death to firemen, EMS and first responders. This is a part of the SAFER act.

FASNY Legislative Liaison David Sweet addressed remarks on the lack of funding for “required” training. Legislative Update conference concluded at 1:15 p.m.

President Anthony DeMarco Called the Regular Meeting to Order at 2:05 p.m. Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms Thad Gilbride pointed out the exits and then led the membership in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Chaplain Alan Way offered the Invocation. President DeMarco welcomed everyone to the meeting. A Motion to accept the Minutes of the previous session was made by William Kershner, Seconded by Alan Way. Carried.

Report of Secretary Timothy Tyrrell: Dan and I have been working every Tuesday at the office cleaning up old files and eliminating excessive paperwork. Dues notices have been sent to all fire service organizations and individual members. To date, we have received \$4500.00 in dues from 130 organizations and 192 members. We have a list of delinquent fire companies that we could use help in contacting. Jerry Gehrig and Jonathan McKnight have helped on this. There are five fire companies that have resigned from WNYVFA several fire companies are no longer listed on County lists. In 1999 we had 351 member fire companies and 2300 individual members. Dan has been working on the life member list. We have reduced the "missing" to just under 220 from an original fully paid 20 year life member list of 2100. The deceased members have been transferred to the Honor Roll and corrected addresses have been placed on the Active list. Our membership is dwindling. About 100 members will be removed from the Active list because they are deceased or dues notices have been returned as undeliverable. We have collected some back dues. Last year we had about 20 new members join WNYVFA. We need to get a membership drive underway, especially for fire companies. Dues are an important part of our income. There are 186 fire companies in the 11 Counties that are not members of WNYVFA.

Motion by Edward Tase, Seconded by Leon Randall to accept. Carried.

Report of Treasurer Thomas McLaughlin: Account Balances as of April 14, 2013.

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|-------------|-------------|
| Savings | \$ 4,762.06 |
| Checking | 5,665.05 |
| Scholarship | 1,627.37 |
| Total | \$12,054.47 |

Motion by Michael Delamere, Seconded by Robin Schott to accept. Carried.

Communications: Secretary Tyrrell listed the following communications:

- Northern Central and their June Convention
- FASNY-Ted Rosko thank you cards and letters.
- Fairville VFD hosting Northern Central Convention
- Southwestern Association of VF Program Book Ads.
- Firemen's Memorial Exhibit Center 2013 Fund Drive
- Blossom Fire Company regarding non-membership
- FASNY Legislative, Fireman of the Year Award and Convention Housing.
- Donation from Timothy Hill of Mount Morris.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Trustees Report: Chairman Ken Fuller reported 9 trustees present. Reported on the need for Trustees to go to their County meetings to help recruit fire service organizations and individual members. And, there were other issues being addressed.

Bowling: Chairman Thomas McLaughlin: No report.

Program Book: Chairman Edward Dysard reported that as of April 11, 2013 we are at 72.89% of the Budget Goal: Gross Sales to Date-\$54,469.95; Support Services of New York, Inc.-\$43,535.96; WNYVFA-\$10,933.99. There have been no complaints about our Solicitor. If fire companies are having any fund raising in their area, let Ed know and the Solicitor will stay out of your area.

Budget: Chairman Robert Walker: No report.

By-Laws: Chairman William Kershner. No suggestions submitted to date.

Convention: Chairman William D'Angelo reported that everything was in order with the 2013 Convention in Caledonia, NY. Local Chairman Ross Corser reported that Convention information was available at the registration table.

EMS: Chairwoman Crystal Fisher reported that 3 nominations had been received and letters for the convention EMS competition would be going out soon.

Explorer/Junior Firefighter: Chairwoman Beth Bennett reported that this group would be competing in waterball events on Friday, July 26, 2013.

Fireman of the Year: Chairwoman Barbara Barber reported that the Honorees in the various categories would be selected at the June 9, 2013 meeting.

Fire Officers: Harold Wollaber reported that a Fire Prevention Seminar would be held at 2:00 p.m., Thursday, July 25, 2013.

Fire Police: Chairwoman Jeni Corser reported that they would be selecting their Honoree very shortly.

Fire Prevention: Shirl Lanni reported.

History: Allen Beltz reported that they are accepting fire service organization patches, programs, photographs and any other information on fire service organizations.

Investment & Finance: Chairman Thomas McLaughlin reported: Scholarship account-\$1,627.36; Savings account-\$4,762.06; Past Presidents account-\$167.30; FASNY Credit Union CD's (7)-\$87,264.15; Checking Account-\$5,665.05: Total: \$99,485.92.

Legislative: Chairman Robin Schott noted that the Legislative Update conference had been held at 12:15 p.m. today. Information appears at the beginning of the April 14, 2013 Minutes

Memorial Scholarship: Chairman Tim Wolfanger submitted the following: All 2012 Scholarship Winners have been paid their respective awards totaling \$1,800.00. The mailings for 2013 were sent out in January with the post marked due date of April 1st. The committee will meet at Alexander Fire Hall on May 15th at 7:00 p.m. Donations totaling \$300 have been sent to the Treasurer.

Seconded Vice President Harold Wollaber assumed the Chair

Nominations: Chairman Forrest Skelton requested that nominations for the various offices be sent to him prior to the June 9th meeting and that County Associations get their respective County Trustee nominee to him at the same time. Copies of nominations are to be sent to the Secretary's office.

Nozzle Practice: Chairman Doug Wright reported that arrangements are all set with the Local committee and the waterball events will be held on the driveway adjacent to the convention meeting site.

Parade: Chairman Jack Hurlburt reported that the Parade would commence at 7:00 p.m. on Friday, July 26, 2013 with line-up at 6:30 p.m. The Parade will start on Route 36, about a half mile South of the J.W. Jones Hall convention site.

Past President's: Chairman Gerald Gehrig reported 9 past president's present at today's meeting and that 11 attended the dinner the previous Sunday.

President's Participation Award: Chairman Wayne Stanley was still looking for representatives from the following Counties: Allegany, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Genesee, Orleans and Steuben.

Public Relations: Chairman Stanley MacWilliams reported that he continues to gather material, information and photographs about fire service organizations for inclusion in "The Volunteer Firefighter."

Queen's Pageant: Barbara Eddy reported that the Queen and Princess had been participating in local events and the bowling tournament.

Resolutions: Chairman Michael Delamere reported that the resolutions for the Convention would be presented at the June 9, 2013 meeting.

Topics: Chairman Donald Gavenda reported that he was working on topics for the convention meeting.

2% Tax: Chairman Carl Veltri had no report at this time.

Website: Chairman Tim Tyrrell reported that the website had been 'hacked' and that measure's were being taken to correct the problem and that new pass words were being put into place.

Northern Central Liaison: David Sweet reported that their next meeting would be on Sunday, April 21st at Fairville (Rt. 88 between Sodus and Newark) with the Legislative conference at 12:30 p.m. Their Convention would be on June 15th at Fairville starting at 9:00 a.m. It is just one day.

Southwestern: Robert Carncross reported that their Convention would be at Westfield August 1-3, 2013.

Steering: Chairman William Nichols reported that nominations for the various offices and committees are due to FASNY office by May 1, 2013.

President Anthony DeMarco resumed the Chair

Motion by William Kershner, Seconded by Leon Randall to accept the committee reports. Carried.

Unfinished Business: Any suggested changes for the 2015 WNYVFA convention needed to be forwarded to By-Law committee chairman William Kershner.

New Business: None

FASNY: Present today were: 2nd Vice President Ken Pienkowski: Director's David Sweet and Edward Tase; Trustees: David Schmidt, Alan Way, Wayne Butts and David Wolf;; Past Trustee Norm Eberle; Past President's Carl Veltri and Michael Wutz: Past Director William Nichols; Past Sgt-at-Arms Zip Kraemer

David Sweet reported on Youth in the Fire Service and the need for these organizations to sign up with FASNY at www.fasny.com and the need for fire organizations to submit the Volunteer Profile for all new volunteer firefighters. This is a part of the SAFER grant. He also reported on the sudden passing of Director Richard Webster from Onondaga County. Michael Caron has been appointed to complete this term of office. FASNY must charge sales tax unless they have a sales tax exemption form on file. April 27th and 28th has been designated as Firefighter Recruitment days in New York State. Fire Service Organizations are encouraged to have an open house for the purpose of recruiting new members, both regular and junior's. Those participating should register this information, by email, to FASNY.

Beth Bennett reported that the Youth In The Fire Service training program would be held on Thursday, August 22nd at the Town of Colony Training Center. Limited to 80 kids. The Youth Group Awards winner had been selected.

Director Edward Tase listed the schedule of events for the FASNY Convention. The detailed information can be found at www.fasny.com

2nd Vice President Ken Pienkowski thanked all for the support to FASNY in the loss of a Trustee and Director in recent months. The Tuesday night dinner Honoring the Past

Presidents will be held at the Headquarters Hotel. Reservations at \$55.00. Also, noted the tuition assistance for new firefighters attending New York State Community Colleges.

FASNY Firemen's Home: Trustee David Wolf reported the home census is currently at 70 with 2 applications being processed. Over 9 donations to the Home had been received from WNYVFA members. The Home had a wish list for a new lift. The cost is \$6,890. A fire company has donated \$5,800 which leaves \$1,090 to be raised. The lift is used to safely lift individuals and without injuring employees. Summer trips are being planned and the members are ready to get out and Sectional organizations are booking weekends to come and entertain the members.

Good of the Organization: It was reported that WNYVFA Steering Committee member Robert Bruce-Brown, Wyoming, NY had passed away recently. That Past President Gerard Buckenmeyer had returned home after a lengthy stay in a health care facility and Rev. Wayne Jagow was doing very well after having two knee replacement surgeries.

Guest List was read by: Second Vice President Harold Wollaber.

Sergeant-at-Arms reported attendance at 69 members, delegates and guests.

Excused List read by Secretary Tyrrell. Motion by William Kershner, Seconded by ? to accept. Carried.

Benediction was offered by Chaplain Alan Way.

Motion to Adjourn at 3:14 p.m. by William Kershner, Seconded by Leon Randall. Carried.

Next Regular Meeting Will Be Held On:

Sunday, June 9, 2013

2:00 p.m.

J.W. Jones Hall

354 Leicester St.

Caledonia, NY

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel Evans
Assistant Secretary

Timothy Tyrrell
Secretary

A note: Officers, Trustees and Committee Chairs are directed to submit their written reports to the Secretary prior to the start of the meeting. This will assure that the meeting Minutes are complete, concise and accurate.

