

WESTERN NEW YORK VOLUNTEER FIREMAN'S ASSOCIATION, INC.

CONVENTION MEETING MINUTES

120TH ANNUAL CONVENTION

JULY 25-27, 2019

CAMBRIA FIRE COMPANY HALL

4631 CAMBRIA-WILSON ROAD

LOCKPORT, NEW YORK 14092

REGULAR MEETING

JULY 27, 2018

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

Convention General Chairman Wendi Walker called the meeting to order at 0900 hr.

Presentation of the colors by: United States Air Force Reserve Colorguard

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:

New York State Senator Robert Ort gave a few remarks concerning legislation.

New York State Assemblyman Morinello gave a few remarks concerning legislation.

Niagara County Undersheriff Filicetti gave a few remarks.

FASNY President Steve Klein gave a few words concerning the fire service, he then introduced the Officers of FASNY in attendance. He reminded all in attendance of the FASNY Convention in August.

Niagara County Legislator David Godfrey, Chairman of the County Safety Committee, gave a few words.

Wayne Butts President of the Board of Trustees reported on the Home and introduced the Trustees present.

A representative of the American Lung Association gave a few words concerning the Stair Climber.

President Chris Pettit welcomed everyone.

Roll Call of the County Members of the Association:

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

A Motion by David Nedell, seconded by James Miller to accept the minutes of the previous session. Carried.

Report of Recording Secretary: Bruce Geschwender

No Report

Report of Financial Secretary: Penni Dysard:

Reported dues collected to date from 83 Fire Companies, 102 Members total \$5,168.00

Motion by Wendi Walker, seconded by John Tompson to accept. Carried.

Report of Treasurer:

Savings:	\$_ 5,288.96
Checking:	\$ 4,243.11
Scholarship:	\$ 467.12
Total:	\$ 9,999.19

Disbursements: \$ 2,127.00

Motion by Tim Tyrell, seconded by Ed Tase Jr. to accept. Carried.

Communications: Bruce Geschwender:

Received information and a schedule of events for the Southwestern Convention August 1 – 3, 2019.

Received the VFIS Spring 2019 Newsletter

Received the July/August Volunteer Firefighter from FASNY.

Received 1st Responder Newspaper.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Nominations Committee: Forrest Skelton

President – Michael Kislack

1st Vice President – William Kershner Jr.

2nd Vice President – Chris Curry

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 –

Steuben –

Wyoming – Alice Biscaro

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

First Vice President Michael Kislack assumed the Chair.

Trustees Report: Doug Wood:

Books were Audited everything was found in good order.

Still need the Queen's Books..

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

ARTICLE III – Membership

Section IV

ADD: Individual members shall be defined as any individual who served as a duly elected delegate or other individual accepted as a member upon completion of a membership application and paying an initiation fee and first year's dues as outlined in ARTICLE IV of this Association's By-Laws.

ARTICLE V – STANDING COMMITTEES

ADD Y. Fire Officers

Under the By – Laws:

ARTICLE I – DUTIES OF OFFICERS

SECTION 1 – PRESIDENT **ADD and Y) Fire Officers.**

ARTICLE III – STANDING COMMITTEES

SECTION 16 – AUDIT COMMITTEE

After the first sentence **ADD: They shall audit all the financials of the Association including but not limited to the books of the Secretary, Treasurer, Bowling and Program Book Committees twice a year. The first audit should take place on a time set forth by the *Committee on the Thursday of the Convention.***

SECTION 27

The FIRE OFFICERS COMMITTEE shall consist of at least five (5) members whose duties will be to work with the Host Committee to arrange appropriate guest speaker(s) and/or seminars providing fire protection and suppression training for our membership at the Annual Convention.

ARTICLE IV – DUTIES AND PRIVILEGES OF MEMBERS, FIVE YEAR MEMBERS, FULLY PAID LIFE MEMBERS, AND DELEGATES

SECTION 6 ADD

All individual members must maintain membership in a respective Fire Company or Fire Department, or Exempt Volunteer Firemen’s Association, or Firemen’s Benevolent Association, or organizations thereof, Volunteer Ambulance Services, including organizations striving to enhance the fire service of New York State and all those other Volunteer Fire Organizations who comply with the By-Laws of this Association at all times in order to retain membership privileges in the Western New York Volunteer Firefighter’s Association.

ADD: SECTION 7:

The Executive Committee will be empowered to remove or suspend members due to malfeasance including but not limited to actions deemed detrimental to the association including but not limited to any failure to support this Association’s Officers and/or constitution and By-Laws.

These will be voted on under New Business on Saturday July 27, 2019.

Convention Committee: Wendi Walker

Reported that everything is on schedule and coming along good.

Legislative Committee: Robin Schott

Gave a report on the bills that passed this session.

Steering Committee: Wayne Butts

Sent endorsement to FASNY, hospitality room is all set.

Presidents Participation Committee: Mike Norwood

No Report

Fire Prevention Committee: No Report

Investment & Finance: Tom McLaughlin

Scholarship Account	\$ 467.12
Savings Account	\$ 5,288.96
Men’s Bowling Account	\$ 150.00
Women’s Bowling Account	\$ 150.00
Past President’s Account	\$ 400.00
American Fund Account	\$ 59,946.34

Balance on 6/30/18	\$ 61,402.42
FASNY Credit Union	
Scholarship Account	\$ 4,615.99
CD – 106	\$ 2,659.36
CD – 107	\$ 5,776.43
TOTAL	\$ 13,051.78
FASNY Checking Account	\$ 4,243.11
TOTAL of Association on 6-30-19	\$ 78,697.31

Second Vice President William Kershner Jr. assumed the Chair.

Program Book: Ed Dysard Reported

As of 7/24/19 reached 135.80% of goal, the Association has received \$20,370.65.

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 MacWilliams

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 two scholarships this year totaling \$1,000.00.

The Scholarship winners are:

Alexandria Speyer – Holland High school, and Delaney Peck – Livonia High School.

Fire Officers Committee: Anthony Demarco III Everything is all set.

Topics Committee: No Report

Nozzle Practice Committee: Doug Wright

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

President Chris Pettit resumed the Chair:

Motion by Tim Tyrell, Seconded by Harold Wollaber Jr. to accept the committee reports.

Motion Carried

There are eight (8) Past Presidents present for this Meeting

Sergeant at arms Donald Trzepacz reported attendance at 63.

FASNY OFFICERS addressed the convention.

President Steve Klein introduced the FASNY officers present. Reminded everyone present of the FASNY Convention to be held August 8 to 11, 2019 in Syracuse.

Motion was made by David Sweet, Seconded by Tom McLaughlin to recess the meeting until Saturday.

Motion Carried.

Meeting recessed at 1020 hr.

120TH ANNUAL CONVENTION

JULY 27, 2019

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:	Christopher Tracey	Brighton Fire Company # 5
FIRE POLICE of the Year	Richard Clement	Fairport Fire Department
FIREMEN of the Year	Dakota Spink	Perry Fire Department
1 – 5 Year Service	John Green	Strykersville Fire Company
6 – 20 Year Service	Robert Jake	Caledona Fire Department
21 - 35 Year Service	Glenn Camuto	Dansville Fire Department
36 - 50 Year Service	Jay Meyers	Attica Fire Department
50 + Year Service	Edward Bauerlein	Reserve Hose Fire Company

REGULAR MEETING

JULY 27, 2019

Sergeant at Arms Donald Trzepacz pointed out the exits.

President Chris Pettit called the meeting to order at 1110hr.

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS

First Vice President Michael Kislack assumed the chair:

Bowling Committee: Thomas McLaughlin

The Site for next year has not been determined as yet.

Explorer/Junior Firefighter Committee: Ed Tase Jr. reported on both of the FASNY youth days.

Fire Police Committee: Donald Trzepacz

Reported that sixteen (16) attended the Seminar on Accident Investigation. No contest this year

EMS Committee: Al Kornowitz

First Place: St. Johnsburg # 2

Second Place: Churchville

Third Place Doyle Hose

Past Presidents Committee: Marc Kasprzak:

Ten (10) Past Presidents attended the Past Presidents Dinner.

Second Vice President William Kershner Jr. assumed the Chair:

Queen's Pageant Committee: Barb Eddy

The Queens have been present during the convention

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 120th 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 Alan Way. 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 Ed Tase 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 Evens. Motion Carried

RESOLUTION No. 4

WHEREAS, The Officers, Trustees & Members of the Western New York Volunteer Firemen's Association are assembled at the 120th Annual Convention in Cambria, 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:

Board of Director	Donald Farrell
Board of Director	Jose DiRoser
Board of Director	Andrew Pilecki
Trustee Firemen's Home	Douglas VanEtten
Trustee Firemen's Home	Peter Cincotta
Trustee Firemen's Home	Dennis Eikhoff
Trustee Firemen's Home	Marilyn Schrader

Respectfully submitted Michael Delamere, seconded by Harold Wollaber Jr.. 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	Christopher Pettit
First Vice President	Michael Kislack
Second Vice President	William Kershner Jr.
Junior Past President	James Miller
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, Michael Delamere, Seconded by Harold Wollaber Jr. Motion Carried

RESOLUTION No. 6

WHEREAS, This 120th 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 Wendi Walker, Secretary Joanne Wollaber, Treasurer Courtney Dysard, Ladies Program Mary Korkuc, and the entire convention committee; and to all other individuals who contributed in any way to make this, the 120th Annual Convention, a huge success.

Respectfully submitted Michael Delamere, seconded by Doug Wood Motion Carried.

2% Tax Committee: 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 12th Dresden

October 19th Banquet Palmyra VFW

January 25th Ontario County Public Safety Training – Legislative Out Reach

April Open

June Convention Open 1st or 3rd Weekend

Southwestern Liaison: no report

President Chris Pettit resume the Chair.

Motion was made by Michael Delamere, seconded by Greg Nicholes to accept the committee reports. Motion Carried.

FASNY Firemen's Home Trustee: report already given.

FASNY Director report already given

Unfinished Business: NONE

New Business:

Motion was made by Donald Trzepacz, seconded by Wayne Butts to accept the amendments to the By-laws as presented. Motion Carried.

Good of the Organization:

Motion was made by Wendi Walker, Seconded by Harold Wollaber Jr. to set aside a page in the minutes of this convention in memory of Past Presidents Gerard Buckenmeyer and Lynn Miller and past Monroe County Trustee Kenneth Fuller. Motion Carried.

The following names were presented for Paid Life Members:

Alan Beltz, Rick Crego, Christopher Curry, David Flynn, Terry Hoover, Gerald Lute, Mary Murray, Ronald Pratt, Christopher Pettit, Thomas Puerner, Alan Roots, Michael Schultz, Mary Siler, Frank Smith, Ryan Whitmore, Jack Williams, Jeff Wolak, Jason Wolfanger, Douglas Wood, and Vernon Zuch II.

Motion was made by Thomas McLaughlin, seconded by Michael Delamere to accept the proposed names as Paid Life Members of the WNYVFA.

The Convention next year will be held in Wheatfield, NY at the St. Johnsbury Fire Company, the letter in on file in the Secretary's Office. July 23, 24, 25, 2020

Motion was made by Marc Kasprzak, Seconded by Harold Wollaber II to accept the invitation from the St Johnsbury Fire Company to host the 2020 WNYVFA Convention. Motion Carried

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Sergeant at Arms Donald Trzepacz announced the attendance at the various activities during the Convention. May Day Seminar - 36, Niagara County Driving Simulator – 19, Fire Police Seminar – 16, Memorial Service – 46, Awards Ceremony – 84, Nozzle Practice – 119.

Sergeant-at-Arms Donald Trzepacz reported attendance.

Closing Meeting 47 Members, Delegates.

Excused List read by Recording Secretary Bruce Geschwender.

Motion by Alan Way, Seconded by Wayne Butts to accept. Carried.

Benediction offered by Asst. Chaplain Alan Way

Motion by David Schmidt, seconded by Wane Buttw to adjourn. Carried

Meeting adjourned at 1150 hr.

Respectfully Submitted Bruce Geschwender, Recording Secretary.

Next Meeting: September 8, 2019 Cambria Fire Company Hall.

WNYFVA Legislative Clearing House 1200hr, Meeting 1400hr.