



SOUTHERN NEW YORK VOLUNTEER FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION. Inc.

Representing the Volunteer and Exempt Firemen of the Nine Southern Counties of

New York State Since 1896

Website www.snyvfa.org

Minutes of the October 7, 2023, General Membership meeting at Stony Point Fire Dept.

Meeting called to order at 8:00 p.m. by Juan Batta.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Donald Holupka

Invocation led by Vincent Ammirati

President Chuck Larkin welcomed us to Stony Point and thanked his kitchen committee for a job well done serving tonight's meal. President Batta thanked our host for an excellent meal and their hospitality.

Roll Call of Officers taken, and excuses noted. Motion to accept by M. DeVittorio and seconded by V. Ammirati, excuses noted Officers, Directors, and Committee Chairs, MOTION CARRIED.

A motion was made by R. McConville and seconded by R. Reid to accept the minutes the March, 2023 general meeting MOTION CARRIED.

Minutes of the Annual Convention May 20, 2023 in Hewlett were approved as mailed by R. McConville seconded by R. Reid. MOTION CARRIED.

Communications:

- Secretary McElynn reported he has received the Volunteer Firefighter Magazine.
- Letter from Central VFA in support of K. Holmes in support of his candidacy

Motion by J. Bailes, seconded by A. Tripp that communications take their regular course. MOTION CARRIED.

Bills read by Treasurer Roy Dahlen, motion by J. Bailes and seconded by V. Ammirati to pay the bills as read, MOTION CARRIED.

REPORT OF OFFICERS

President Juan Batta

- Thank you all for attending tonight's meeting and thank you to the Stony Point for hosting.
- I would like to thank Past President Robert Ottaviano for stepping up and filling the vacancy for the Sergeant at Arms position this year.
- I would like to thank all who attended our Installation Dinner at Leonard's Pilazzo in Great Neck on June 23rd. Also, thanks to all who supported our journal with your advertisements.
- Thank you all for electing me to the office of President and I look forward to working with the Officers and Directors as we move the Association forward. One of the ways we can Accomplish that is by increasing our membership, which difficult because we meet on Saturday nights. If every member present could bring one person to join our Association, we could double our attendance at meetings. If anybody has any ideas, please do not hesitate to contact me, or one of the Officers, or a member of the Membership Committee.
- I would like to apologize to those members from Rockland County that we couldn't be here when you protested the horrible decision that the D.A. handed down in the case of the fire that resulted in the death of Firefighter Lloyd. We had just found out about it 2 days before the actual event. I just hope that the Firefighters of Rockland County show up and vote this despicable person out when he runs for re-election, and when you do remember to wear your FD jacket or sweat shirt to show that you do vote.
- The last thing I'm sure you are all aware of is that one of our Chaplains, Robert Ruston's house caught fire. If there is anything we can do, please let us know.
- I also attended the following;
 - Westchester County Volunteer Firefighters Association meeting on July 9th at South Salem FD.
 - Nassau County Volunteer Firefighters Association Board meeting on July 11th at Baldwin Fire Headquarters.
 - Nassau County Firemen's Association general meeting on July 19th at Garden City Park FD.
 - Suffolk County Volunteer Firefighters Association meeting on July 25th at the Smithtown FD.
 - Long Island Exempts Association meeting on July 28th in Bay Shore.
 - FASNY Convention from August 8th – 13th in Niagara Falls.
 - South Shore Volunteer Fire Departments Association meeting on September 15th at Oceanside FD Headquarters.
 - Long Island Day at the Firemen's Home on September 17th.
 - Nassau County Steering Committee meeting on September 18th at Freeport FD Hose Co. 3
 - Nassau County Volunteer Firefighters Board meeting on September 20th at Baldwin FD Headquarters.
 - Westchester County Firemen's Association in Central Islip on September 26th
 - Executive Council of Firemanic Associations of Nassau County's Annual meeting on September 28th in South Farmingdale/

First Vice President Frank Guarino:

- The annual installation of Officers, Firefighter of the Year presentation and sinner will be held on Saturday October 21st at the Coram Fire Department. Cocktail hour begins at 6:00 pm followed by installation of officers, firefighter of the year presentation and dinner.
- The next SCVA meeting will e held on Wednesday, November 29th at the West Islip Fire Department, with dinner served at 7:00pm, followed by the meeting at 8:00 pm.

Second Vice President Steven Klein:

- Vice President Klein was excused from the meeting.

Treasurer Roy Dahlen read the activity and the balance of the Association funds that total \$52,901.90. Motion by J. DaRocha, seconded by D. Holupka to accept the Treasurer's Report, MOTION CARRIED.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES

AUDIT:

Progress. The committee asked all who receive checks to cash them in a timely manner.

BY LAWS:

No Report.

BENEVOLENT & EXEMPT:

D. Holupka reported that the next meeting will be October 27th in Selden. He all reminded all Benevolent Associations to check their address listing sheets and ensure Zip Codes are correct. You may be missing out on money you are entitled to.

BUDGET:

No Report.

BURN AWARENESS:

There was a lengthy discussion regarding the Nassau University Medical Center's burn unit. The members of the Foundation are very concerned that the burn center may be shut down due to fiscal problems. The foundation members have been meeting with County Officials about this. No action from our committee is required at this time.

CONVENTION:

It was reported that the 2024 convention will be held on May 18th hosted by the Hillcrest Fire Company in Spring Valley, Rockland County.

CREDENTIALS:

T. Tripp reported that this evening;

Total Present: 33

Member/Delegates from Nassau: 16

Member/Delegates from Suffolk: 8

Member/Delegates from Westchester: 2

Member / Delegates from Rockland: 1

Members from Nassau: 0

Members from Suffolk: 0

Members from Westchester: 0

Members from NYC: 0

Guests: 6 – From Rockland County VFA

DINNER:

There was discussion about changing the venue for the dinner. The committee investigated, and booked the Nassau County Bar Association in Mineola on Friday evening, May 31st with the cocktail hour beginning at 7:00 pm. The cost per person will be \$85.00 including a sit-down dinner and open bar throughout. More information on this will be posted. PLEASE support our journal as this is the only fundraising, we do in the year.

EMS:

No Report.

FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR:

Chairman Sutton reported that applications are available on our website for all awards. The deadline for submissions is March 15th for all awards. So far, we have no applications.

FIRE POLICE:

J. Wicks reported the following.

The State meeting will be held in Hagerman next Sunday.

FIRE PREVENTION:

D, Bracciolieta reported that October is Fire Prevention Month.

MEMBERSHIP:

R. McConville reported that dues notices went out and are coming in slowly.

LAWS AND LEGISLATION:

M. DeVittorio reported that we did not have a good year in Albany this year. The FASNY Legislative Conference weekend is November 3rd in Troy. Looking for a good turnout. Our committee will be meeting with the State committee pushing our agenda and ensure we get credit for legislation we propose. One of the big bills coming up is the reform of the VFBL law.

PUBLIC RELATIONS & WEB SITE DEVELOPMENT:

Kevin McElynn reported that he made several submissions for The Volunteer magazine, and the website has been updated in recently. If anyone has anything either for the magazine or website, please contact him. Please use the kmcelynn@gmail.com email address as there has been problems with the SNY email address. Also, the general membership minutes are available on the website for your reference.

RESOLUTIONS:

No Report.

SAFETY OFFICERS:

J Bailes reported the following

- Nationally certified Safety Officer & Health & Safety Officer classes are held throughout the year at local locations.
- The Pro Board National Certification first and foremost, provides that you have demonstrated proficiency and an ability to do the job in accordance with nationally recognized peer-developed standards. In addition, it provides for a common yardstick and a level playing field for all fire service personnel regardless of your status as a career or volunteer, or the size of your department. Your sense of achievement will be recognized by peers and you will be honored wherever you go in the fire service. In addition, the creditability of your fire service organizations is certainly enhanced by having members certified to the national consensus standards.
- National Certification Incident Safety Officer;
 - Any day, anytime and anywhere
 - Low price of \$325, no one gets paid. Supplemented by Sponsors.
 - Class, review, and exam in one day.
 - Guaranteed to pass or money refunded
 - Scheduled Class November 5th in Bohemia
 - Conference
 - Spring Valley October 8, 2023
 - ISO Class
 - Rockland County Training Center ISO class February 17, 2023.
 - Contact Jeff at 631-495-1313 for numerous additional ISO & HSO classes.

- Health & Safety Officer
 - Many classes all year round
 - \$425 for exam
 - Class, review and exam in 1 day,
 - Guaranteed to pass or money refunded.

Thank you all for supporting our fundraiser. Stay safe, healthy, keep hydrated & get home safe.

STEERING:

No Report.

WAYS & MEANS: J. Wicks reported.

There will be a dark horse tonight.

YOUTH FIREMATIC ORGANIZATIONS:

- Our last meeting was on September 24th in Elmont. The young Marines were the speakers, they spoke on Leadership. 172 juniors were in attendance.
- The week of July 24th, the 8th annual Camp Farenheight 516 was held at the FSA. There were 45 campers from 26 Departments. Include 2 from Suffolk and 1 from Queens. This year the 2nd floor tower was brought into the curriculum. Graduation was held at the Plainview FD Headquarters on Friday. Great time was had by all.
- The County Officers participated in 2 opening ceremonies. On July 17th, we opened for the Mets game. On September 11th, we did the pledge of allegiance for the 9/11 ceremony for the Town of North Hempstead.
- On September 17th, at the Firemen's Home, 136 juniors participated in the annual day. A great time was had by all with a BBQ lunch.
- The FASNY Museum of Firefighting now has a display of the association on display with its history and all the activities including the camp and the all-female board swearing in. We have also been asked to work on some junior projects with them.
- The NCJFA app is coming along and is hoping to be released at one of our meetings next year. The target is January 8th or April 21st meetings. More information to follow.
- We had our one-day specialty training on October 1st at the FSA. Basement fires and Flashover simulator. 33 juniors attended with 2 juniors from Suffolk. FSA day is October 22nd. All Are welcome to attend with no minimum age or limit on participants. All of Southern NY members are welcome.
- The Board of Directors will be attending a meeting at Smithtown FD on October 19th at 8:00 pm where we will do a presentation on starting an Association and answer any questions they might have.
- The NCJFA is now on Tik Tok, yes you heard it right – Tick Tok. The account name is Nassau. Juniors. Follow us and see what's going on, there are videos from our training from last Sunday.
- Our next meeting will be on November 19th in Hewlett. The speaker will be from Southern NY. Details to follow. All welcome.

CHAPEL FUNDRAISING:

No report.

Motion by A. Tripp and seconded by O, Kohlmier to accept the committee reports, MOTION CARRIED.

FASNY OFFICER'S REPORTS:

Vice President Perry reported on several items regarding FASNY

- The FASNY convention in Niagara Falls was a complete success. The convention committee did an excellent job, and all who attended had an enjoyable time.
- Congratulations to new FASNY Director Thomas Arsenault and Trustees Robert Outhouse, Vincent Ammariti and Robert Sutton.
- Plans are already being made for the convention next year which will again be in Niagara Falls.
- The New York State Firefighters memorial ceremony will be on October 10th in Albany. Unfortunately, there will be 29 names added to the wall including Islip Firefighter & FDNY member William Moon II, and FDNY member Jesse Gerhard. I was given the honor of placing the wreath along the President of the Professional Firefighters Association. For those who cannot attend, you will be able to view it online.
- The FASNY Legislative Conference will be held November 3-5 at the Hilton Garden Inn in Troy. Pre-registration and housing arrangements can be made on line through the FASNY website.
- There will be a FASNY Webinar on Handling Hybrid Incidents on Wednesday October 11th. You must register through the website to attend.
- There was an email sent out to the membership regarding a new member benefit with Amazon Business Prime. This benefit allows FASNY members to make purchases without having a personal account. You can use FASNY's account number. This is for material purchases only. You will not be able to access subscription services such as TV & Movies.
- FASNY dues renewal notices will be beginning going out for 2024 in November. When you fill out your paperwork for membership renewal, please provide your email address so that you can be contacted by FASNY, FASNY will never give your information to any outside source.

Director DaRocha

- Reminded all members that there will be 2 candidates who are looking to be nominated for the office of 2nd Vice President of FASNY at Convention 2024
 - Director Kenneth Holmes
 - Director Michael Caron.
- Both of whom are in the room this evening.

Director Krummenacker

- No Report.

FIREMEN'S HOME:

Trustee Ammirati reported the following.

- I am pleased to report that I have been elected as a Trustee on a write in ballot to fill the open seat.
- We are taking care of 88 members. For the first time in a long while, there is a waiting list to get in to the Home.
- A Cornhole tournament was held today at the Firemen's home and a great time was had by all who attended. 1st Place was awarded to Jerry Owenburg & Tom Rothdiener, and 2nd place was awarded to Marsha Holland & Doug Van Etten.
- Legislative weekend in Troy coming up soon – November 3-5 in Troy.
- The Christmas tree lighting will be held on December 3rd and will be available online.
- Thanks to all who made the trip up for Long Island Day.
- Also, special thanks to John Matthews and Don Fitzgerald for bringing for bringing J Co. to the FASNY Home, and he appreciates all the respect shown to Peter.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

- R. McConville requested \$400.00 stipend to provide refreshments at the Juniors Seminar. Motion by K. McElynn, seconded by A. Outhouse. MOTION CARRIED.
- Chief John Laura presented a proposal to the Legislative Committee to be investigated, and brought to the table at the Legislative weekend. The purpose of this legislation would be to charge Alarm companies a fee for every false alarm we respond to at their customers homes or business. Chairman DeVittorio advised that he would bring it to the meeting to draft legislation.
- M. DeVittorio reported that Westchester County is proposing legislation to make Con Edison liable for any delayed responses to utility requests by an Incident Commander. He then made a motion to add this to the agenda at the Legislative Conference, seconded by R. McConville. MOTION CARRIED.
- J. Wicks reported that they are pushing for Fire Departments to switch to electric powered fire apparatus. He made a motion that this NOT be on the scorecard. Second by J. DaRocha. MOTION CARRIED.
- J Bailes motioned for the Association to purchase 1 - \$100 raffle ticket to support the Safety Officers Association. Second by F. Guarino. MOTION CARRIED.

GOOD AND WELFARE:

None.

Next General Meeting will be on January 6, 2024 at the West Babylon Fire Department. Next board meeting of the Association will be November 21 at Buchanan Fire Department, 3159 Albany Post Road, Buchanan, NY 10511 - Dinner will be served at 7:00 pm, and meeting immediately to follow.

Closing Prayer lead by J. Wicks

Motion for adjournment made by V. Ammariti and seconded by O. Kohlmier at 9:39 p.m.,
MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully Submitted By.

Kevin P. McElynn

Kevin P. McElynn
Secretary



*To All our Members
The Officers & Board of Directors
Wish You and Your Families
Happy Holidays
And best Wishes
For a Very Happy & Safe New Year
Thank you for all you do for our Association!*



MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS:

October 7, 2023 – Stony Point FD

January 6, 2024 – West Babylon FD

March 23, 2024 – Glen Cove FD

May 18, 2024 – ANNUAL MEETING – Hillcrest Fire Co. – Spring Valley, Rockland County

BOARD MEETINGS:

November 21, 2023 – Buchanan FD

February 26, 2024 – Merrick – Empire Hose Co. 3

April 23, 2024 – Portchester FD – Hose Co. # 5.

All meetings start with dinner at 7:00 pm. General meetings begin at 8:00 pm

Board meetings begin right after the meal.

2024 Installation Dinner

Friday May 31, 2024 -

Cocktail Hour Begins at 7:00 pm

Sit Down Dinner with Open Bar

At

The Nassau County Bar Association

15th & West Streets

Mineola, NY 11501

Tickets - \$ 85.00 Per Person

SNYVFA LEGISLATIVE WORKSHOP

Saturday January 20, 2024

Albertson Fire Department

100 I.U. Willets Road

Albertson

8:00 Continental Breakfast

9:00 Meeting Begins

All Members attend in Class "A" Uniform