



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 January 6, 2024 General Membership meeting at West Babylon F.D.

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

Pledge of Allegiance led by Robert Ottaviano

Invocation led by Jon Wicks

Chief Steve Kasamilack welcomed us to West Babylon 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 O. Kohlmier and seconded by S. Klein, excuses noted Officers, Directors, and Committee Chairs, MOTION CARRIED.

A motion was made by J. DiFronzo and seconded by E. Schmidt to accept the minutes the October 7, 2023 general meeting MOTION CARRIED.

Communications:

- Secretary McElynn reported he has received the Volunteer Firefighter Magazine.
- Letters requesting endorsements for all FASNY candidates.
- Thank you, card, from J. Owenburg for his outgoing trustee's gift.

Motion by V. Ammariti, seconded by T. Underhill that communications take their regular course. MOTION CARRIED.

Bills read by Treasurer Roy Dahlen, motion by R. McConville and seconded by E. Schmidt 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 West Babylon FD for hosting this meeting and for the dinner served tonight.
- I would like to wish all of you a Happy New Year and I hope you all had a wonderful, safe, and healthy holiday season.
- Thank you to Kristina Moon for her moving presentation this evening.
- I would like to thank our Legislative Committee for all the hard work they put into our Legislative Agenda and fighting for our proposals – they will have more to report later in the meeting. Remember, our Legislative Conference will be held on Saturday, January 20th in Albertson.
- I would also like to thank the Dinner Committee for their work in securing the place for our Annual Installation Dinner, they will have a report also.
- Thank you to Robert McConville and Jerry Presta for the Juniors seminar hosted by the Hewlett FD on Sunday, November 19th. There were 163 juniors in attendance. Thanks also to Robert Sutton for his presentation on Lithium-ion batteries.
- I also attended the following
 - FASNY Board Meeting on October 13th at the Firefighters Home in Hudson.
 - Nassau County Firefighters Association's membership meeting on October 18th at Glen Cove.
 - Suffolk County Volunteer Firefighters Installation Dinner on October 21st at Coram FD
 - Hudson Valley Volunteer Firefighters Association membership meeting on October 22nd at the Saugerties FD.
 - Southern New York Volunteer Firefighters Association Legislative meeting on October 23rd via Zoom.
 - Long Island Association of Benevolent and Exempts meeting on October 27th at Selden FD.
 - FASNY Board meeting on November 2nd at the Hilton Garden Inn in Troy.
 - Southern New York Volunteer Firefighters Association caucus on November 4th at the Hilton Garden Inn, Troy.
 - FASNY legislative conference on November 5th at the Hilton Garden Inn in Troy.
 - FASNY Board meeting on November 5th at the Hilton Garden Inn in Troy.
 - Executive Council of Firemanic Association's meeting on November 9th at the Oceanside FD – Terrace Hose Co. 3
 - Southern New York Volunteer Firefighters Association's caucus on November 4th at the Hilton Garden Inn in Troy,
 - Nassau County Volunteer Firefighter's Association Ladies Auxiliary's installation Dinner at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Seaford.
 - Nassau County Firefighters Association Board meeting on November 15th at Baldwin FD Headquarters
 - South Shore Volunteer Fire Departments Association meeting on November 17th at South Farmingdale FD
 - Testimonial Dinner honoring Jerry Owenburg on November 18th at the Central Islip FD.

- Nassau County Junior Firefighters Association meeting, which was hosted by the Southern New York on November 18th at Hewlett FD.
- Southern New York Firefighters Association Board of Directors meeting on November 21st in Buchanan.
- FASNY Board meeting on December 1st at the Hyatt Place in Albany.

First Vice President Frank Guarino:

- Attended FASNY Board meeting on January 12, 2024.
- Attended Nassau County Firefighters Association meeting on January 17th.
- Attended Southern New York Legislative workshop in Albertson on January 20th.
- Attended Suffolk County Firefighters Association meeting on January 23rd.
- Attended South Fork VFA in Southold on January 24th.
- Attended Nassau County Fire Police Dinner on January 28th.
- Attended Long Island Fire Expo on February 2nd & 3rd.

Second Vice President Steven Klein:

- Vice President Klein thanked all for his nomination and election as 2nd Vice President and reminded membership to reach out to the Officers if you need something.

Treasurer Roy Dahlen read the activity and the balance of the Association funds that total \$46,602.52. Motion by J. DiFronzo, seconded by O. Kohlmier to accept the Treasurer's Report, MOTION CARRIED.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES

AUDIT:

No Report.

BY LAWS:

No Report.

BENEVOLENT & EXEMPT:

D. Holupka reported that the next meeting will be January 26th in East Farmingdale.

BUDGET:

No Report.

BURN AWARENESS:

J. Owenburg reported that the Suffolk Burn unit has been approved to use Pineapple Core in their burn treatment process, and it has been working.

CONVENTION:

It was reported that the 2024 convention will be held on May 18th at 5:00 pm hosted by the Hillcrest Fire Company in Spring Valley, Rockland County.

CREDENTIALS:

T. Tripp reported that this evening;
Total Present: 42
Member/Delegates from Nassau: 29
Member/Delegates from Suffolk: 11
Member/Delegates from Westchester: 1
Member / Delegates from Rockland: 0
Members from Nassau: 0
Members from Suffolk: 0
Members from Westchester: 0
Members from NYC: 0
Guests: 1 – From The Billy Moon Foundation.

DINNER:

K. McElynn reported for the committee that the 2024 Installation Dinner will be held at the Nassau County Bar Association in Mineola. This will be a sit-down dinner, with cocktail half hour, and open bar from 7:00 pm to 11:00 pm. Tickets are \$85.00 per person (see flier). There will also be a journal and everyone is asked to support this due to being our only fundraiser. Invitations and raffle tickets will be mailed out shortly. Please support this fundraiser.

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 that the Nassau County Fire Police dinner will be on January 28th at Verdi's in Westbury and there are still tickets available.

FIRE PREVENTION:

No Report.

MEMBERSHIP:

No Report.

LAWS AND LEGISLATION:

M. DeVittorio reported that we did not have a good year in Albany last year. The Southern New York Clearing House will be in Albertson on January 20th beginning at 8:00 am. All attending is asked to attend in Class "A" uniform the committee is investigating Senate Bill # 6273 & Assembly Bill # 7219 regarding awarding 3 years buy back toward the pensions for Civil Service Employees.

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:

No Report.

STEERING:

No Report.

WAYS & MEANS: J. Wicks reported.

We collected \$149.00 on the 50/50 tonight. Winner received \$75.00

YOUTH FIREMATIC ORGANIZATIONS:

- J. Presta reported:
 - Our last meeting was on November 19th at Hewlett FD. There were 163 juniors present. Southern New York sponsored the meeting. Bob Sutton spoke about the dangers related with E-Batteries and the firefighting hazards they create.
 - The 1st phase of the NCJFA App is now complete and will be released tomorrow at their annual meeting.
 - Our 18th Installation Dinner is on Saturday, January 13th at 4:30 pm where the 2024 Officers will be installed.
 - We are fully booked for our 2024 Exchange trip from August 16th to August 24th. We are now taking spots for standby. On November 5th, we had a meeting in East Norwich with Marcell about the itinerary. More details to follow. Benno Graze from Korb Germany is in NY and will be at the installation dinner.
 - The Association was asked to come up with a few trainings for juniors at the buff show in February. We will be running 2 days of training. Stop the Bleed and Narcan training will be held at the show. Check out the State Chiefs website for more information & registration.
 - Our trainings are fully booked for 2024, we will be running two one day programs, Female juniors in the fire service, Narcan training, Stop the Bleed and of course our Camp Fahrenheit 516 the week of July 22nd. Details can be found on our website.
 - Our next meeting is Sunday January 8th in New Hyde Park. Elections will be held.

CHAPEL FUNDRAISING:

No report.

Motion by R. McConville and seconded by N. Brigandi to accept the committee reports, MOTION CARRIED.

FASNY OFFICER'S REPORTS:

Vice President Perry reported on several items regarding FASNY:

- On behalf of the FASNY Presidents and Board of Directors a Happy “Fire Safe” New Year.
- Patrick Perry has been appointed to the FASNY Museum board.
- FASNY’s Volunteer Firefighter Magazine is a gold award winner in the MarCom Awards which honors excellence in Marketing and Communication while recognizing the creativity, hard work, and generosity of Industry Professionals.
- OFPC has published its rules and regulations for the roll,out of the Firefighter Training stipend that was approved in the 2023-24 State Budget. Our legislative team has read through it and it will be making comments before the commend period ends on 1/28/24. The rules as of this point will provide a stipend to any Firefighter in good standing who successfully completes FF1, Basic Exterior Firefighter Operations and Fire Officer 1 on or after August 31, 2023. There is also paperwork that the Fire Department has to complete annually for their members to be eligible for the stipend.
- OSHA has again rewritten the Fire Brigade Standard which NIOSH intends to adopt after the 90-day comment period. FASNY along with the State Chiefs, Districts and Coordinators met last week to try and get ahead of this. I do not know how any strictly volunteer department with no paid staff or administration is going to even come close to meeting these.
- The Annual FASNY EMS Seminar will be held January 26 & 27, 2024 at the Selden FD. You can register on the FASNY website.
- FASNY will be at the Long Island Metro Show February 2-4 at the Nassau Coliseum.
- FASNY winter games will also be on February 2-4, 2024 at Greek Peek in Cortland, NY.
- RecruitNY weekend is April 14 & 15, 2024. A kickoff press conference will be held February 1st at the Nassau County Firefighters Museum. FASNY is asking all firefighters and fire departments to display red lights during the month of March. The event dubbed “Light the State Red” is being promoted to the Governor to light State landmarks Red for support of the Volunteer Fire Service.

Director DaRocha

- No Report

Director Krummenacker

- No Report.

FIREFIGHTER'S HOME:

Trustee Ammirati reported the following.

- One staff member tested positive for COVID this week. There was no exposure to any members and the individual is home on quarantine.
- Our current census is 88 which includes four members in the hospital.
- There are currently 6 applications that have been completed and are awaiting beds to become available. There are 7 applications that are in various stages of completion.
- The current MDS coordinator has decided to retire effective 2/15/24.,
- Preparation for site work on the barn demolition for the new maintenance building. Efforts are underway to empty out the barn.
- The sidewalk lights leading to the Multipurpose building have been completed and are operational.

NEW YORK STATE ASSOCIATION OF FIRE CHIEFS:

- Director Tripp gave the following report;
 - Greetings and Happy New Year from the New York State Association of Fire Chiefs.
 - We are very excited to be hosting the Long Island Expo along with our partners the Islip Town Fire Museum. The Expo will be held on February 2, 3 & 4 at the Nassau Veterans Memorial Coliseum. We will be having over 115 vendors on hand as well as educational seminars. The seminars will be on Friday from 3:00 to 6:00 PM, Saturday from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm and Sunday from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm. Show hours are – Friday- 3:00 to 7:00 pm – Saturday from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm & Sunday from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm.
 - More information is available in our website – nysfirechiefs.com

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- None.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Motion by N. Brigandi, seconded by C. DiStefano to send Vice President Guarino to the Nassau County Fire Police Dinner. MOTION CARRIED.

GOOD AND WELFARE:

- It was reported that long time member Carl Boegel from Rockville Centre is in the hospital and not doing well. Please keep him in your thoughts and prayers
- It was reported that Past President Cincotta is doing well at the Firefighters Home.
- J. Owenburg thanked all for his testimonial dinner and gift.

Next General Meeting will be on March 23rd at the Glen Cove Fire Department. Next board meeting of the Association will be via ZOOM on February 26th. Link will be sent to Board members.

Closing Prayer lead by V. Ammirati

Motion for adjournment made by O. Kohlmier and seconded by S. Klein at 9:50 p.m., MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully Submitted By.

Kevin P. McElynn

Kevin P. McElynn
Secretary

UPCOMING MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS:

March 23, 2024 – Glen Cove FD

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

BOARD MEETINGS:

February 26, 2024 – Via Zoom

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.



SOUTHERN NEW YORK VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER'S ASSOCIATION, Inc.

**Representing the Volunteer and Exempt Firefighters of the Nine Southern Counties of
New York State – Since 1896**

**THE 127TH DINNER
& FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR CEREMONY**
And Ladies Auxiliary Annual Dinner will be held on
Friday May 31, 2024
At
THE NASSAU COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION
15th & West Street – Mineola, NY
7:00 pm

Tickets - \$85.00 Per Person
Dinner Choices: Filet Mignon, Chicken Cordon Bleu or Salmon

Enclosed are 5 Raffles - \$5.00 Each
Please forward all sold raffles to Kevin McElynn
Please make checks payable to S.N.Y.V.F.A.

Please purchase your tickets no later than May 11, 2024
Dinner Tickets will not be mailed

Kevin McElynn
So. N.Y. Firefighters Association – Dinner Committee
1600 Grand Ave. #M3 – Baldwin, NY 11510
Tel: 516-492-8860

***Remember; The Journal Ads and
raffles are the one and only fund raisers
for the Southern N.Y. Volunteer
Firefighters Association***

Please accept my reservations for: PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

_____ Reservations at \$85.00 per person. I enclose \$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

Signature: _____

Organization: _____



SOUTHERN NEW YORK VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER'S ASSOCIATION, Inc.

**Representing the Volunteer and Exempt Firefighters of the Nine Southern Counties of
New York State – Since 1896**

Dear Friend of Southern N.Y. Firefighters Association:

We cordially invite you to participate in our journal program to help us offset the cost of our Annual Dinner. We will be distributing these programs to all the Fire Departments and members within the Southern New York region and also to our advertisers. The cost of participating in our journal will be as follows:

_____ FULL PAGE \$100 _____ HALF PAGE \$75.00
_____ QUARTER PAGE \$50.00

Name of Organization or Business: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone Number: () _____

Contact Name: _____

Please make checks payable to **S.N.Y.V.F.A.** All advertisements **MUST** be received by
May 1, 2024

Please forward all ads and checks to:

**Kevin McElynn
1600 Grand Avenue
Apartment M3
Baldwin, New York 11510**

You may attach artwork or email it to kmcelynn@gmail.com .Artwork must be in either Word, pdf, or jpeg format to be printed.

Remember: The journal ads and raffles are the one and only fundraiser for the Southern New York Volunteer Firefighters Association.

THANK YOU – The Dinner Committee

In an effort to cut back on expenses, it was agreed that we can email minutes, notices and general information.

I have received several requests from members to receive these documents through email. This is NOT a requirement. If you would still like to receive a hard copy of these documents, we will continue to do so.

Thanks to those who have contacted me with their email addresses. This is the first newsletter that will be sent electronically to those who requested it! THANK YOU.

With the costs of printing and postage ever increasing, every penny we can save would benefit the Association.

Again, if you would like your communications by email, all you have to do is provide me with the email address you would like them sent to, and you will be entered on our database.

**Thank You,
Kevin P. McElynn
Secretary
kmcelynn@gmail.com**