The Suffolk County Volunteer Firefighter's Association, Inc.



S.O. Box 1463 Ronkonkoma, NY 11779

Organized 1886



Minutes – Meeting of the Suffolk County Volunteer Firefighter's Association May 28, 2024 - Holbrook

Meeting Called to order by President Vincent Ammirati at 8pm. Salute to the flag led by Sgt. At Arms William Mullane Moment of Silence for departed members followed by prayer by Chief Bailes.

Chief Reimo of the Holbrook Fire Department welcomed SCVFA to Holbrook.

First Vice President Giovanni Chiarelli thanked Chief Reimo for hosting our meeting this evening and for the wonderful meal. At this time Chief Reimo was presented with a Certificate of thanks from the Association.

Motion by Gary Stecker seconded by Frank Guarino to accept the minutes of the November meeting, Motion Carried.

Introduction of Guests & Past Association Presidents by Don Bracciodieta

Past Presidents in attendance were Jerry Owenburg, Frank Guarino and Robert Sutton.

Guests in attendance were:

Rudy A. Sunderman, Deputy Commissioner FRES
Scott Davonsky Executive Director Suffolk Fire Academy
Scott Thebold Vice President Suffolk Districts
Anthony LaFerrara, 1st Vice President State Chiefs
Joel Heilbrunn, President Babylon Town Vollies
Don Gleason, 2nd Vice President Burn Center
Mike Caron, FASNY Director
Juan Batta President Southern NY
Kevin McElyan President Nassau County Vollies
Jeff Bailes NYS Safety Officers
Doug Miller LIAFBA Vice President
Don Holupka LIAFBA, President
Marybeth Asbell, Suffolk Ladies
Stan Roberts, Islip Town Vollies

<u>Treasurer's report.</u> Bob McConville was excused, and his report was read. Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as read by John Stein, seconded by Don Gleason, Motion carried.

Bills/Correspondence - Jean Christensen

There are no bills.

Correspondence received was:

• Nassau County Wide Fire Muster Fundraiser is September 28, 2024

Report of Presidents:

President Vincent Ammirati

- SCVFA meeting at the Bayport FD March 26,2024
- Lithium ion battery seminar at the Patchogue village library March 28,2024
- Suffolk County Junior Association Meeting March 28,2024 Suffolk County fire Academy
- Selden Fire Department annual dinner at East Winds April 6,2024
- Memorial Service for Ex Captain Judy Helmen at the Coram Fire Department April 7,2024
- Visit Past president Peter Cincotta Hudson NY for his birthday. April 14,2024
- Brookhaven Fire police meeting Selden FD April 15,2024
- Islip Town Chief counsel meeting Holbrook FD April 16, 2024
- South Shore Volunteer Firefighters Association meeting Oceanside FD April 19,2024
- LAFASNY Meeting at the West Sayville Fire Department April 20,2024
- Northport FD annual installation of offices and dinner at the Huntington Crescent club April 20, 2024
- Bay Shore Benevolent Association meeting April 22,2024 speaking about the home.
- FASNY Home Trustees teams meeting April 23,2024
- Southern NY Volunteer Firefighters Association executive board meeting Port Chester New York, April 23, 2024
- Suffolk County Lithium-ion battery task force meeting Selden FD April 25,2024
- Long Island Day at the FASNY Home meeting Wantagh FD April 25,2024
- Long Island Benevolent Meeting Sag Harbor FD April 26,2024
- Suffolk County Vollies executive board meeting Center Moriches FD April 30,2024
- Suffolk County Memorial Service at the North Babylon Fire Company May 5,2024
- NY Firefighters Cancer Support golf outing and lunch Hauppauge FD May 6,2024
- Suffolk County Ladies installation of officers and Dinner Lindenhurst FD May 8,2024
- FASNY Trustees meeting Hudson NY May 10,2024
- LAFASNY meeting Hudson NY May 10,2024
- North Babylon Fire Company monthly meeting May 13,2024
- SCVFA seminar logistics meeting May 14,2024 Selden FD
- Suffolk County Fire District Association meeting at the Setauket FD May 15,2024
- Jacob's Light Beacon of Hope Award for Kristen Moon at the America Air power museum East Farmingdale NY May 17,2024
- Suffolk County EV seminar at the Selden FD May 18,2024
- Southern New York Memorial service and convention at the Spring Valley Fire Department Rocklin County May 18,2024
- Brookhaven town Memorial service Fireman's Park Ridge May 19,2024
- 50-year certificates for two members of the West Sayville Fire Department Edward Postel, and Paul Nelson
- Port Jefferson FD golf outing at the Harbor Hills Country Club Belle Terre Monday May 20,2024
- Lithium-ion battery Power Point at the Selden Civics Association meeting May 23,2024
- Wake Service for FASNY Home Member Emanule Sblendorio at the Charles J O'Shea funeral home East Meadow May 24,2024

Report of 1st Vice President Giovanni Chiarelli

- -working on Lithium-Ion Battery seminar
- -working on Journal
- -working with Lithium-Ion Battery Task Force

-meetings attended since last general meeting are as follows:

April 2024

- 14 20 FDIC in Indianapolis
- 25 Task Force @ Selden FD
- 27 Fire Police @ Holbrook FD
- 30 SCVFA @ Center Moriches FD

May 2024

- 2 Smithtown Chiefs @ Commack FD
- 5 SCVFA Memorial @ N Babylon FD
- 6 FF Cancer Support Golf Outing @ Windwatch
- 7 LAFASNY Installation @ Lindenhurst FD
- 9 ST Catherine Hospital First Responder Appreciation @ Napper Tandy's
- 11 Installation @ Smithtown FD
- 13 Thank you @ N Babylon FD
- 14 Seminar discussion @ Selden FD
- 17 Airport pick-up and prep at JFK and Selden FD
- 18 Seminar @ Selden FD
- 19 Airport drop off @ JFK
- 21 SCVFA @ Coram FD

Report of 2nd Vice President Dan Brooks -

- *March 28th Lithium-Ion Safety Program at Patchogue-Medford Library
- March 28th Suffolk County Volunteer Junior Firefighters Assoc at SCFA
- April 3rd FASNY Legislative Committee Meeting via Zoom
- April 6th Brookhaven Fire Department's Installation Banquet/50 Year Certificate
- April 12th Brookhaven Town Fire Chief's Council
- April 20th Suffolk County Ladies Aux LAFASNY Sectional Meeting at West Sayville
- April 21st Attended EMS Funeral Service for Bryant Ortiz
- April 23rd SCVFA Executive Board Meeting
- April 25th Suffolk County Fire/EMS Safety Officer's Meeting at Islip Museum
- April 26th Patchogue Fire Department's Installation Banquet/60 Year Certificate
- April 28th Brookhaven Town Chiefs and District's Joint Brunch
- May 5th SCVFA Memorial Day
- May 8th Ladies Auxiliary Installation Dinner
- May 10th Suffolk County Fire Chiefs Council
- May 18th SCVFA Seminar
- May 18th Shelter Island Fire Department's Installation Banquet/50 Year Certificate
- May 19th Brookhaven Town Volunteer Firefighter's Museum Memorial

Report of 3rd Vice President Don Bracciodieta

- April 15, 2024 BURN CENTER meeting Bohemia FD
- April 17, 2024 Babylon Town Chiefs North Lindenhurst FD
- April 20, 2024 LFASNY west Sayville FD
- April 25, 2024 lithium battery committee Meeting
- April 25, 2024 Long Island committee meeting Wantagh FD
- April 26, 2024Long Island Benevolent meeting Sag Harbor FD

May 5, 2024, Suffolk County (Fire Educators) general meeting company six Brentwood FD

May 8, 2024, Suffolk County ladies' insulation dinner, Lindenhurst FD

May 11, 2024 Smithtown installation general 50 year certificate for Fred Friedman and 35 year service Suffolk County educator's certificate

May 13, 2024 North Babylon thank you for holding memorial service certificate handed at General meeting

May 15, 2024 Babylon Chiefs at West Islip FD

May 18, 2024, southern New York Memorial service General meeting Hillcrest FD

Annual Dinner – Robert Sutton reported

Please save the date of Saturday October 19, 2024, for our annual dinner and Firefighter of the Year presentation. The event will once again be held at the Coram Fire Department, and the tickets are \$75.00 each. Please bring the dinner applications back to your respective Departments, for purchase. The Applications are also available on our website. If you have any questions at all, please contact Bob Sutton.

By-Laws - No Report

Candidate Campaign - Jerry Owenburg had no report

FASNY - Director Frank Guarino reported

- Meeting June 7-9, 2024
- Convention is August 6-11, 2024 in Niagara Falls
- June 4, 2024 will be doing scholarship presentation at the Selden Firehouse at 7pm.
- June 20, 2024 will be doing a scholarship presentation at the Setauket fire house at 7pm.
- Will be presenting three 50-year certificates at the North Babylon Fire house

With us tonight is Director Michael Caron who is running for 2nd Vice President of FASNY. Mike is traveling the state talking to members and asking for their support. Mike started with FASNY 12 years ago on the Legislative committee and 11 years as a Board of Director in August. He has served as the Audit Chairman, By-Law Chairman and served as liaison to 2% committee, Fire Prevention, Firefighter of the year plus numerous other committees. He was a resource to the Insurance committee. Mike hopes to help move FASNY along. Mike spoke on the OSHA 1810 and Recruitment and retention. Mike spoke about his life experiences – he has been on tv, radio and in newspaper articles. Mike is the only candidate running with business experience.

Home Trustees -Bob Sutton reported the following:

COVID

One member tested positive for COVID this week. All Members were tested last Thursday, and all were negative with that one exception.

Admissions

The current census is eighty-eight.

Applications in Process

There is currently one application that is complete and is awaiting the appropriate bed to become available. There are six applications that are in various stages of completion.

In House Ice Cream Machine

We are in the process of preparing the ice cream machine in the multi-Purpose Room. Still awaiting electrician quotes on wiring for the multi-purpose building machine.

Cornhole/Chili Cook-off Day at the Home

There will be another Cornhole/Chili Cook-Off Day at the Home which will be held on Saturday, October 5 More Information to follow.

As always, any donations of tee shirts, puzzles, games are always appreciated, if you have any to donate, please contact myself or Vinnie Ammirati.

Father Halpin Memorial Service - Bob Sutton

Thank you to all that attended our annual memorial Service which was held at the North Babylon Fire Company. Thank you to Ex-Chief Tony LaFerrara for his support in acquiring his Fire Company to host.

The Next memorial Service will be held on Sunday May 4, 2025. A host is needed, if any Department would be interested please contact me.

Long Island Day at the Firemen's Home – Jerry Owenburg reported:

Long Island Day is September 15^{th.} 12 noon is our memorial service with the parade to follow at 1pm. Following the parade is a BBQ. We are looking for fire dept bands to come up and entertain the residents. All is over by 3pm in plenty of time for you to head home.

Firefighter Cancer Support Network – Jerry Owenburg/Bob Sutton

Survivor social is June 2nd at the Islip Museum. June is Survivor month. If you plan to attend, please RSVP, it is from 2pm to 6pm.

Thank you for the donation for the golf outing.

Firefighter of the Year - John Manzi -

We have received six applications. John is still waiting on two score sheets, and he hope to finalize by the end of the week.

Headquarters - William Mullane/Don Bracciodieta

No report

Youth in the Fire Service - Keith Vella

June 15th is Suffolk Juniors meeting in Selden at 9am. All are invited to attend. This is the first meeting with the Juniors. They are appointing Jr Officers. Breakfast will be served.

FASNY and the Fire Academy have been speaking. Youth Day is August 30th and 31st. Lecture will be on 8/30 and hands on will be 8/31. No walk ons will be allowed. Waivers will go thru FASNY and the max is 200. Waiting on final work with attorneys if it can happened.

If we cannot have hands on at the Academy it will be moved off County property.

John A. Masem Sr. Scholarship - Keith Vella

Received two applications. The deadline is June 1st. You can email, mail or hand deliver to Keith by June 1st. We only have one acceptable application.

<u>Legislative</u> – Jerry Owenburg/Dan Brooks

Jerry Reported that Suffolk met on April 18th and reappointed Edward McGrath, Kevin McQueeney and Nicholas Luparella as member of the Suffolk County FRES Commission.

They met again on May 21, 2024 and reappointed Timothy Duckham and Vincent Bologna Jr as a member of the Suffolk County Fire Rescue and Emergency Medical Services and Preparedness. Kyle McCarthy and Alan Berkowitz were appointed as alternate members.

Dan reported a lot is moving ahead – time & service – Buy back. Tax breaks – you don't have to live in the district you volunteer in.

Lithium Ion – Governor is pushing ahead.

Scott stated to get information on the stipend – it is a state program. Chief must submit demographic form.

<u>Credentials</u> – Tom Prendergast – May 10th he sent out second notices,

total of 98 of which 9 returned; 2 wrote to withdraw from organization and 7 have paid their dues.

December 1st he will be sending out 2025 notices.

Membership - Tom Prendergast - no report.

EMS/REMSCO – Tom Prendergast -

Movie – EMS in Crisis on July 11, 2024 6pm at the Theatre Three in Port Jefferson

EMS Conference April 27, 2024

70 EMT - 26 Paramedics - 9 Nurses - 4 MD's - 10 Instructors and 6 other

Representative to State Emergency Medical Service Council - Paul Mara - Paramedic - Nesconsett

CPR Awards TBD October 2024

Fire Police - Frank Guarino

Tom Prendergast reported that Brookhaven Town meets June 17th

Frank reported that the state has a Zoom meeting on July 24th from 7-10pm You must pre-register.

September 25th is 2nd class meeting/training on Zoom at 7pm – 10pm Again you must pre-register.

October 19, 2024 peru FD NYSVFPA meeting

September 14th 9am is Fire Police Fiend Day

Resolutions - None - Gene Perry is excused tonight.

Radio Committee - Anthony Sullo stated that they did not meet.

Sickness - Our Chaplain, Joe McCarthy fell, broke ribs and hurt his knee - keep him in your prayers

Steering - Jerry Owenburg

Gene Perry is running for President of FASNY

SCVFA Parade & Drill

July 13th Hosted by Farmingville –

Lindenhurst is this Saturday at 10am

Town of Islip Parade will be in Sayville but it starts in West Sayville.

State Drill & Parade will be in Central Islip

Babylon Town Parade is tentative for 9/21

<u>Training & Education</u> — Giovanni Chiarelli thanked those who attended our seminar. He read list of departments that attended. It was an awesome seminar and he wished that more attended. Thank you to Hi-Tech Fire & Safety, and Tesler who brought a vehicle to the seminar.

William Reilly Journal - Giovanni Chiarelli

Ads are coming in, he has about a dozen right now. Forms are on the table. Please submit your ad in PDF form. A reminder this is our fundraiser for our Scholarship awards.

<u>Publicity & Public relations & Website</u> – Dan Brooks / Roger Putnam

There is nothing new – all up to date. Please submit if your department wants to put anything on Facebook.

Ways & Means - William Mullane reported that we collected \$220 and \$110 will go to the winner.

<u>Lithium Ion Battery</u> - Bob Sutton reported they are moving along.

The Lithium-Ion Battery Task Force has been very active, in mailing presentations throughout the County. If anyone knows of a civic group, local library or any other group that would be interested in a presentation, please let us know the particulars.

The following presentations are scheduled

June 10: At the West Sayville Fire Department, 80 Main St, West Sayville, NY 11796 – 7:00 PM July 9: At the Sayville Library, 88 Greene Ave, Sayville, NY 11782 – 7:00 PM

July 18: at the Summer-Field Home Owners Association, located at the 74 Summerfield Drive, Holtsville, NY 11742 – 6:00 PM

Fire Prevention - Don Bracciodieta

- Next membership meeting for Fire, Suffolk Educators is September 6, 2024, at the Nesconset FD. Dinner is at 7pm with a meeting to follow.
- June NFPA Fire prevention announcement will be out for theme for fire prevention for this year.
- Fire prevention is right around the corner if anybody needs anything from educators for their fire prevention, day, please let us know.
- For fire prevention if you have not done it already put an education display for lithium batteries.
- Everyone have a great summer, stay safe.
- Please like us on Facebook and you will get daily updates on fire prevention reports daily.
- "Let's all remember there is no honor in fighting a fire that could've been prevented through education.

Audit - no report

Suffolk County Chiefs - no report

NYS Fire Chief's Council - Anthony LaFerrera

- NYSAFC 118th Annual Conference & Fire 2024 Expo.
- Schedule of Fire and EMS Programs.
- OnCenter Syracuse, NY Wednesday June 12 through Saturday June 15, 2024.
- Schedule of Fire and EMS Programs.

Hands on Training and Educational Programs Start on Wednesday June 12, 2024, full conference and exhibits start on Thursday June 13, 2024, at 3pm.

Schedule Events, hotel information along with Even Registration and Hands on Training Registration (additional fee) forms are on our website.

This year's keynote address will be on Thursday, June 13, 2024, 2pm-3pm. "Cornerstones of Leadership" on and off the fireground. FDNY Deputy Assistant Chief and Chief of Safety Frank Leeb.

New York State Volunteer Firefighter training stipend.

National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) to National Emergency Response Information System (NERIS).

Transitioning from NFIRS to NERIS in 2024. This platform is poised to replace the existing legacy NFIRS, marking a significant stride in enhancing incident reporting capabilities. When will this happen? The USFA plans to fully transition to the new platform sometime in 2025. On how it is going to work along with training go to the United States Fire Administration website,

There is a proposed by-law change this year.

NYSAFC Voting & Election Guidelines

Voting for the proposed changes to the Constitution and the election of officers (if necessary) will take place during the 118th Annual Conference in Syracuse, NY at the OnCenter – Room 8 on Friday, June 14, 2024 from 1-3pm and Saturday June 15, 2024 from 9-11am You must be an Active Member (dues paid 30 days prior to the Annual meeting), have joined the association 90 days prior to the Annual Meeting and have government photo identifications with you to vote on association matters.

How many people must die before we act? (In 2023 155) (as of May 28, 224 (52). How many is finally too many? **Fire Sprinklers Saves Lives.** The elderly disabled and everyone else would have ti me to evacuate a fire if sprinklers are in place. While recent deaths were in older homes and would not have impacted the proposed change in code to install home fire sprinklers in new construction there are new tax benefits available to building owners to retrofit commercial buildings with fire sprinklers. All forms and applications are available on our website @ www.nysfirechiefs.com.

Suffolk County Association of Fire Districts – Scott Thebold

Battery Task force is working hard – setting up to teach government. Recovery bill – is not using – look into this.

EMS Week was last week – Congrats to all.

Working on OSHA 1910 – there are flyers on the table

Next meeting is August 14th in Mattituck -

Suffolk County FRES Deputy Commissioner Rudy Sunderman reported:

- Census 10,000 volunteer fire / 2700 EMS
- FRES delivered three babies recently
- They hired three new dispatchers
- Hiring two new Fire Marshalls.
- They are now emailing info to Departments please send PDF
- He is working closely with Chief Devonsky
- Garden Apartments are in the final stage DEC
- Active Chiefs training 66 attended
- Working closely with county attorney and FASNY on the Youth program in August.

<u>Suffolk County VEEB Board</u> – Gary Schaum was absent – Scott Devonsky gave the following report

- For those departments scheduled for the 2024 LIRR Safety & Awareness drill at the SCVFA, the drill is aimed at emergency personnel who may be called to respond to an incident involving the LIRR. This program consists of a three-hour class, including half (1/2) hour safety briefing and discussion followed by a scenario based hands-on evolution utilizing the LIRR Railcar props. The drill will concentrate on the proper safety precautions, communications and operational tactics that must be taken during situations involving railcar emergencies SCBA and hose lines will be utilized. Fire Police and EMS are encouraged to attend.
- SCFA Basic Exterior Firefighter Operations (BEFO) Interior Fire Operations (Firefighter 1) and Fire Officer 1 completed after August 31, 2023, are eligible for the NYS Training stipend. Upon completion of each course, the rosters are submitted to NYS and appear on the students NYS training record. We encourage your members to apply for the stipends. Please note the stipends are taxable.
- All Field sessions begin at 7pm. Be sure to hydrate before the drill and properly rehab based on drill type, level of exertion and weather conditions- cooling, rest and hydration are necessary to work safely.
- Please review the training bulletin that was sent out and is posed on our website regarding "Firefighter Cancer Prevention gross Decon".
- The SCFA is offering Water Rescue Awareness and Water Rescue Operations courses. Any department interested should contact the SCFA for specific course information

- National Certification Exams (Pro-Board) to be held at the SCFA Fire Officer 1 (august 10_, Firefighter 1 (October 26) and Firefighter 2 (September 7) Visit our website or social media pages for further information.
- The Suffolk County Fire Academy will be offering a Basic Exterior Fire Operations (BEFO_course exclusively to members of fire department junior/youth/explorer programs. Chiefs or advisors should contact Chief Andrew Dinkel adinkel@scfa-li.org for further information
- Save the Dat e- Women in the Fire Service Saturday, November 9, 2024 more information forthcoming.
- Capital Projects lights paving concrete out front is redone. Curbing by the taxpayers, new road in front of taxpayers thank you to FRES.
- Contacted by Southampton Press in January to follow firefighter 1 program article is out this week 10 pages Good Opportunity for Recruitment and Retention.

Suffolk County Ladies Auxiliary - Vice President Marybeth Asbell reported the following.

- May 8th was our installation dinner thank you to all those who attended. Officers for 24/25 are President Doreene DeRuiter, Vice President Marybeth Asbell, Corresponding Secretary Lori Zatorski, Recording Secretary Jean Christensen, Treasurer Ann Marie St John.
- June 12th will be out lottery scratch off drawing.
- Thank you for all your hard work on the beautiful memorial service held in North Babylon.
- Next meeting is June 12 in West Islip.

<u>Suffolk County Firefighters Burn Center</u> – Don Gleason reported they had the Shotgun Shoot thank you to those who supported. We need more representatives – REMEMBER THIS IS YOUR BURN CENTER! They meet the 3rd Monday of the Month. Next meeting is June 17th.

Suffolk County Safety Officer's - Don Bracciodieta - No Report

Long Island Benevolent – Don reported that July 1st should get check from state. They raised rates so you should get more money. A benevolent Treasurer in Nassau stole money – DA is holding off, looking for restitution. Be sure to do your audits. Trustee – Members should be checking the books.

Litigation against insurance company -40 benevolent have opted in. If you are a benevolent member, be sure your street listing s are correct. July 26, Friday is the next meeting, tentative for Huntington Manor.

Southern NY VFA – Juan Batta

Thank you, President Vinny, for all that you do.

The last meeting was at Hillcrest – Jack Blum spoke on OSHA> Congratulations to Don Bracciodieta, new Director.

Dinner is on Friday night 7pm. Thank you for the journal ads. SNY Is putting together a letter regarding 1910. Next board meeting is June 26 in Selden. Next membership meeting is in October.

North Fork VFA -no report

Babylon Town VFA – no Report

Nassau County – President Kevin reported on their Muster on September 28th 10am – 5pm at Nassau Fire Museum. Looking for a lot of fire trucks. It is a lot of work to make this a success. Looking for support - donations – sponsorships.

Islip Town VFA

June 19th is the next meeting at the Islip Museum. Award for states will be given out.

South Shore -

Next meeting is June 21 in Carle Place – Dinner 7pm – meeting 7:30pm. They have a new President. Guest Speaker will be Fred Robinson from Oceanside Fire Department.

Old Business - None

New Business - None

Good and Welfare -

Islip Town Museum – Chili cook off/muster flyer will be out next month. The date is October 5th. Jerry Owenburg ran into Mary Reilly today and she looks great. She said to tell everyone hello. Vinny reported that him and some members from Selden visited Peter for his Birthday and he is doing goo. The Suffolk Ladies also had some members go up another day and celebrated Peter's 60th birthday. Peter was a bell ringer at the member service at the Home in May.

<u>Dark Horse</u> – Winner was Chief Bailes of \$110

Next membership meeting is July 23, 2024 – Smithtown River Property Next Executive Board meeting is June 25, 2024 – Bay Shore

Closing Prayer said by Chief Bailes.

Motion to adjourn by Peter Colli seconded by Jeff Bailes, motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jean Chus to

Jean Christensen

Secretary