

The Suffolk County Volunteer Firemen's Association, Inc.

P. O. Box 1463

Ronkonkoma, NY 11779

Organized 1886



***Minutes – Meeting of the Suffolk County Volunteer Firemen's Association
March 22, 2022 – Wading River Fire House***

Meeting Called to order by President Robert Sutton at 8pm
Salute to the flag led by Sgt. At Arms Don Braccioldieta
Prayer by Chaplain Joseph McCarthy

Chief Denise Gluck and 1st Asst Chief Kevin Berg of the Wading River Fire Dept Welcomed the SCVFA.
President Sutton Thanked Wading River Chiefs and members for hosting the meeting and serving dinner this evening. Second Vice President Vincent Ammirati presented the Chief with a Certificate of thanks.

President Sutton thanked the Wading River Fire Department for hosting tonight's membership meeting, it is greatly appreciated.

Bill Mullane made a motion to accept the January minutes as emailed out, seconded by Pete DePlinto Sr, all in favor.

Introduction of Guests & Association Past Presidents

- Past President Robert McConville
- Past President William Murray
- Past President Eugene Perry
- Past President Jerry Owenburg
- Frank Guarino
- Anthony LaFerrera, Director of NYS Association of Fire Chiefs
- Tim Deveny – Sgt at Arms – Suffolk County Fire Districts
- Carlton Raab – President – North Fork Association
- Russel Curley – President South Shore Volliers
- Gary Schaum – V-Board
- Pat Buckley – Acting Commissioner at FRES
- Stan Roberts – 3rd VP Islip Town FF Assoc.
- Jeff Bailes – NY Safety Officer
- Tom Kriklava – President Suffolk County Chiefs
- Don Holupla – Long Island Benevolent Association
- Doug Miller – Long Island Benevolent Association
- Eugene Perry – 2nd Vice President LAFASNY
- Marybeth Asbell – Suffolk County VFA Ladies Auxiliary
- Bill Mullane – President – Brookhaven Fire Police

Treasurer's Report was read by Treasurer Robert McConville and copy given to Secretary.

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Bills – None

Communication – Notices

- Firefighter Cancer Support Network mailed us a thank you.
- Nassau/Suffolk County looking for hospitality monies for NYS Fire 2022 Conference in Syracuse.
- Selden FD 90th Anniversary is April 2, 2022

Report of Presidents:

- President Sutton report is as follows:

John Masem Scholarship

June 1 is the deadline for this, so please get them in as soon as possible to Keith Vella.

50 Year Recognition Certificates

A 50-year recognition certificate is available for any member(s) of your department that has reached this momentous occasion. Please contact the Association secretary at suffolksecretary@gmail.com to obtain them.

Committee Members Needed

Committee members are needed for our existing committees, as well as newly formed ones. If you are interested, please provide us with your information on the committee sheet at the meeting sign-in table or see me after tonight's meeting.

Phone and E-Mail Notifications

Are you being notified of the Associations meetings and upcoming events? If you are not, please fill out you're your phone and E-Mail information on the information sheet at the meeting sign-in table.

Website

Please visit our website at www.scvfaonline.org for all forms as well as current information concerning events, activities, and postings.

2022 Membership Meetings

The next membership meeting will be held on Tuesday May 24, 2022, hosted by the Bay Shore Fire Department.

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The Association meeting dates are as follows

Meeting Date	Membership Meeting
May 24, 2022	Bay Shore Fire Department
July 26, 2022	Smithtown Fire Department
September 27, 2022	East Marion Fire Department
November 22 or 29, 2022	TO BE DETERMINED

For our future meetings, please reach out to your fellow Fire Department members and encourage them to join our Association, attend our meetings and be an active participant in it. All meeting dates and locations will be posted on our website and Facebook sites.

We are always interested in having any informative, interesting, and brief topics or presentations that can be held prior to our membership meetings. If any member has a topic/subject that they would like to have presented, or if you or someone that you know is interested in presenting, please let us know.

Since the last membership meeting, I have attended the following meetings/events

- January 28, 2022 - The Suffolk County Fire Safety Educators meeting at the Central Islip Fire Department.
- February 3, 2022 - The Fire Chiefs Council of Smithtown at the Nesconset Fire Department.
- February 9, 2022 - The Suffolk County Ladies Auxiliary meeting, via ZOOM.
- February 11-13, 2022 - Attended the Long Island Metro Fire/EMS Expo at the Nassau Coliseum.
- February 15, 2022 - Jean Christensen, Don Braccioldieta and myself Met with the Chiefs of the Holtsville Fire Department for a preliminary meeting concerning our annual Memorial Service.
- February 16, 2022 - The Fire Chiefs Council of Babylon at the Copiague Fire Department.
- February 17, 2022 - The Suffolk County Fire District Officers Association at North Babylon Fire Company.
- February 18, 2022 - The Fire Chief's Council of Brookhaven Town at Middle Island Fire Department.
- February 19, 2022 - The fundraiser held by the Selden Fire Department.
- February 19, 2022 - Vice President Chiarelli and myself made 50 Year member presentations at the East Farmingdale Fire Company's annual Installation of Officers.
- February 22, 2022 - Attended the LODD services for Firefighter Jesse Gerhard.
- February 24, 2022 - The SCVFA Executive Board meeting at the Selden Fire Department.
- February 26, 2022 - The Southern New York Volunteer Firemen's Association meeting at the West Babylon Fire Department.
- February 28, 2022 - The Fire Chief's Council of Huntington's meeting at the Centerport Fire Department.
- March 3, 2022 - The Fire Chiefs Council of Smithtown at the Nissequogue Fire Department.
- March 5, 2022 - Attended the Installation of Officers of the Centereach Fire Department and presented a 50-year member certificate.
- March 6, 2022 - Attended Installation of Officers of the Fire District Officers Association of Suffolk County.
- March 9, 2022 - The Suffolk County Ladies Auxiliary meeting, at the Islip Town Firefighters Museum.
- March 11, 2022 - The Fire Chiefs Council of Brookhaven at the Medford Fire Department.
- March 16, 2022 - The Fire Chiefs Council of Babylon at the Deer Park Fire Department.
- March 21, 2022 - The Suffolk County Volunteer Firefighter's Burn Center Fund meeting, via ZOOM.

- 1st Vice President Peter Cincotta - **No Report**

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- 2nd Vice President Vinny Ammirati report
 - Legislative zoom meeting 2/16/2022
 - Fundraiser for Selden firefighter Jimmy Spatafora 02/19/2022
 - Wake service for Islip Firefighter Jesse Gerhard's 02/22/2022
 - Suffolk County Volunteer executive meeting
 - Selden FD
 - Southern New York membership meeting at the West Babylon February 26, 2022
 - President's meeting with all 4 president at the smithtown healthcare facility March 3, 2022
 - Suffolk County Fire District Installation Dinner March 6, 2022
 - Southern New York executive board meeting Great Neck FD March 9, 2022
 - President's meeting Selden Fire Department March 10, 2022
 - Legislative monthly zoom meeting March 16, 2022

Donations receive for the Hospitality Room as of 3/21/2022

East Northport

Fire Department

Lindenhurst Fire Department

Selden Fire Department Dixon engine company 3

Sayville Fire Department

Selden Fire Department

Mastic Chemical company number one

Town of Babylon volunteer Firemen's Association

- 3rd Vice President Cheech was absent but submitted the following report:

February

22 SCVFA meeting @ Selden

23 Lithium Ion Battery Seminar @ Mastic

24 SCVFA meeting @ Selden

26 Southern NY @ West Babylon

March

5 Huntington-Smithtown FPA Installation

10 SCVFA @ Selden

19 Brookhaven FD Installation

Annual Dinner – Looking for Fire Department host

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Audit – Audit Committee Closed Chase account, charging fees. Checking our other accounts making sure we have the right people on the accounts.

By-Laws –

There is one (1) proposed addition & one (1) proposed change to the Associations Constitution & By-Laws, which will be read off and voted on tonight under new business. Copies of these two proposals have been made available at the last Membership meeting, via E-Mail and are also available tonight.

Candidate Campaign – Robert McConville reported

- Gene Perry running for First Vice President of FASNY
- Looking for Trustee for Firemen's Home – send resume to Bob McConville.

Credentials – Dan Brooks reported

109 Individuals are paid

67 individuals still owe

96 departments are paid

39 departments still owe

4 organizations paid

7 organizations still owe

FASNY – 2nd Vice President Eugene Perry

- The deadline has passed for all FASNY awards. The respective committees have until April 15th to choose their winners. The Gerard J. Buckenmeyer FASNY Volunteer Scholarship received 90 applications.
- Vice President Perry presented a FASNY Certificate to the Medford Fire Department for their 100th Anniversary this year. He also presented a AFASNY 50-year Certificate to Michael Schiebel of the Brookhaven Fire Department. The Selden Fire Department is celebrating their 90th Anniversary this year and he will be presenting them with a FASNY Certificate on April 2nd. If you have any members that have 50 years of Service or your department is 100 years old, FASNY will recognize them. There is now a form on the FASNY website where you can request these. You can find the form under the Awards Tab.
- The 40th Anniversary FASNY EMS Seminar at the NYS Fire Academy in Montour Falls was a success. We are looking forward to the EMS Committee bringing us notable speakers in the future for both the EMS Conference in Selden as well as the Seminar. This is an extremely uncomplicated way to gain both your Core as well CME Credits in one place.
- The 150th Annual FASNY Convention will be held August 10-13 at the Tarrytown House Estate in Tarrytown, NY. There will be a Golf Outing at the Sprain Lake & Dunwoodie Golf Courses in Yonkers, NY on Monday August 8th. The cost is \$135 per golfer; Gene has application with him tonight and they are also on the FASNY Website under the Events Tab. There is a limit of 36 foursomes per golf course. Our Annual Scholarship Raffle will be Friday night, August 12th along with our normal raffle, there will be a live auction for larger prizes. There will be a 150th Anniversary Parade on Saturday August 13th in conjunction with the Tarrytown Fire Department. The parade will begin at 1pm, go through the Village of Tarrytown and end on the waterfront where all refreshments will be complementary. If anyone would like to participate in

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the parade, please contact Scott Weaver at sweaver@tarrytownfd.org. FASNY is producing a 150th Anniversary commemorative history book. The book will be available at Convention.

- RecruitNY, the Statewide weekend for recruitment of Volunteer Firefighters is April 23 & 24. To date we have over 450 departments that have signed up to open their doors either on one of both days. All the information on how to run a successful recruitment event can be found on the RecruitNY website RecruitNY.org.
- FASNY has sent out a Volunteer census to all Departments in the State. This is used for data for our Safer Grant we received for Recruitment and Retention. All Departments are encouraged to fill this out and return to the FASNY office.
- Plans are now being made for the rededication of the historic marker in Auburn, NY, the site of the first FASNY Convention, the event is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, October 1st, which is the actual date of the first Convention. More information will be forthcoming.
- FASNY will have Youth Days and Recruitment events across the State in the Spring and Summer. Dates and locations will be announced shortly.

Home Trustees – President of Trustees Jerry Owenburg

- We are taking care of 72 Brothers and Sisters. None in the hospital
- No Covid cases – all to do with our Staff. If any organization or anyone wants to sponsor a meal for the Members and to Thank the Staff, call the home to pick a meal. Call 1-800-479-7695
- Just voted 5 new members into the home. 5 more active applications. Two coming in next week.
- We would like to thank all that have donated to the Home. If you wish to donate to something specific call me and I will give you a list (Some examples: Small Change, Train Club and Chapel Fund)
- Anyone looking to donate any Model Train items, Arts and Craft items, clothing, or anything, call me. I will get them up to the Members.
- If you want to Adopt a member form on line, as little as make sure the Member gets cards for Birthday and holiday cards. Memorial bricks available form on-line.
- We had a chili cook off of the Members. The winner will represent us at the Brown's Brewery Chili Cook Off in Albany. The winner was Billy Rosenhagen's recipe. We are waiting for a new date.
- We now have info and temp. scanners for employees and visitors. Front entrance takes your temperature and ID and some questions.
- Softball is on July 30 and 31. Registration on FASNY website under events \$250 per team.
- March activities will be filled with Irish events. March 18 Jameson & GingerAle day.
- Anyone looking into a Nursing Home give us a call. We can walk you through the paperwork and a tuff decision. We would like you to go to the Firemen's Home of course, but can give you the questions you need to ask and people to see when making that hard decision. Please let all know to be eligible to be a member in the Firemen's Home you need One-Year in the Volunteer Fire service – Firefighters, Ladies Auxiliary, EMS Personnel, and spouses.
- Our Firemen's Home is 130 years old this year.

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Father Halpin Memorial Service -President Robert Sutton

Our next Memorial Service is scheduled for Sunday May 1, 2022. At this time, The Holtsville Fire Department will serve as the host Department. Please have all names of those Department members & Ladies Auxiliary members who have passed away from April 16, 2021, up to April 15, 2022. Please send this information to our Co-Chairperson Jean Christensen at suffolksecretary@gmail.com.

Firefighter Cancer Support Network – Jerry Owenburg

- May 9th – Golf Outing
- Looking for sponsors for the Golf outing
- Fire Marshall's are doing a shoot off to benefit the Support Network.

Firefighter of the Year – John Manzi/John Masem

Deadline was extended to April 1st. Have received 11 applications to date.

Fire Prevention: Don Bracciodieta

- Next membership meeting is Friday March 25th at the Brookhaven Fire house. Dinner 7pm meeting 8pm
- Topics to focus on for March are
 - Reduction of combustibles
 - Wildland/Urban Interface – Annual NYS burn ban takes effect March 16th – May 14th
- Closing Doors, Smoke Alarms, Exit Plans/Drills
- Lithium Ion Batteries
- Product recalls
- National Weeks/Days in March:

National 311 Day – March 11th

Daylight Savings Day Begins – March 13th The Phrase "Change Your Clocks, Change Your Batteries" is still a very relevant message for many new Yorkers with non-10 year battery smoke and carbon monoxide alarms.

National Fire Incident Reporting (NFIRS) Week – March 14th-18th

Data is extremely important part of all things we do related to fire and life safety education and response! Follow this link for information regarding ways in which we can improve our data collection and sharing.

National Common Courtesy Day – March 21st

American Diabetes Association Alert Day – March 22nd

- Please like us on Facebook and you will get daily updates on fire prevention reports daily
- You can email us for any questions scfsea@suffolkfireeducators.com
- Save the Date: The New York State Office of Fire Prevention & Control and the New York State Association of Fire Chiefs are excited to announce that the 48th Fire & Life Safety Educators' Conference has been officially scheduled to take place May 13th-15th at the New York State Academy of Fire Science in Montour Falls, New York!!! This year's theme will be "risk Reduction is everyone's Function" and will focus

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on bringing together multiple professions and community partners to collectively reduce risk in their communities. The call for presenters and registration information will be distributed in the near future. We look forward to seeing you all in person again for this exciting educational opportunity.

Let's all remember there is no honor in fighting a fire that could've been prevented through education".

Headquarters – 2n Vice President Vinny Ammirati
Seven checks received to date for hospitality room

John A. Masem Sr Scholarship – Keith Vella
Committee changed the way scholarships are submitted.
Adding child/grandchild/sibling of member/ going to trade school.
Website provides all details of requirements.

Legislative – Jerry Owenburg
No Report

Long Island Day at the Home – Jerry Owenburg

- Long Island Day is September 18, 2022 all welcome – Families, Friends – Bands – Juniors and Ladies. Parade 1pm. BBQ after parade. Tours of Home are hopeful. Firefighter Museum is open.

Membership – Dan Brooks
No report

Publicity – Vinny Ammirati
No report

EMS/REMSCO – Tom Prendergast
Tom Prendergast discussed topics that were discussed at the last REMSCO meeting and made these available to the membership.

Resolutions were read by Eugene Perry

Resolution #1 – BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Association extends its sincere thanks to the Wading River Fire Department for hosting tonight's meeting. Motion by Peter DiPinto seconded by Anthony Sullo.

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Resolution #2 – BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Association extends its sincere thanks to the Selden Fire Department for hosting our February Executive Board Meeting. Motion by Bob McConville seconded by William Murray.

Sickness –

Peter Cincotta is in rehab.
Larry Montrose
Jimmy Spatafore from Selden

Steering – PP Robert McConville
FASNY Election for First Vice President

S.C.V.F.A. Parade & Drill

Copague July 9th - Parade 6pm

Training & Education – Giovanni Chiarelli & John Masem

Our first seminar is scheduled for Saturday May 14, 2022, at the Selden Fire Department. Third Vice President Chiarelli will have more details under his report. Please bring back the flyer back to your departments and urge them to attend this very informative Seminar. This also a fundraiser of sorts for the Association, so please help us to promote this important event.

William Reilly Journal – Giovanni Chiarelli
No Report

Ways and Means – Don Braccioldieta
No Report

Website -Roger Putnam
No Report

Youth in the Fire Service – Keith Vella
Hoping to hold three Youth Days.

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Suffolk County Fire Chiefs Council – Tom Kriklava gave the following report

- Scholarship Seminar, Aircraft emergencies 2.0 scheduled for 3/25/22 at St. Joseph's College in Patchogue. Poor responses at this point.
- Scholarships available to graduating high school seniors who are immediate family members of Suffolk County Volunteer Firefighters. Scholarships are also available to volunteer firefighters and EMS personnel for continuing education. Application on website deadline 4/30/2022.
- Senate Bill S4547A regulates of accessory dwelling units removed from gov budget, bill attached.
- Assembly bill A9292 use of Marijuana and fire service sponsored by Assy. DeStefano – bill attached.
- Assembly Bill A8191 – making 911 a public holiday – sponS5747A sponsored by Assy. Lawler – bill attached.
- EMS cost recovery bill – has been placed in the senate budget, will be reviewed for submission to the Governor's Budget.
- Anthony Laferrara running for 2nd VP for NYS Chiefs. Need to have dues paid up one month prior to elections.
- PSEG task force meeting held Thursday March 17, Representatives from Suffolk, Nassau and PSEG present. Discussed response ETA by PSEG, updated ETA by suggestions to PSEG, Notification system, need for timely notification of issues involving PSEG, discussion on recent flag arch issue. Recommendation of a hybrid meeting to enable more attendees.
- Change in Council officers, Mike Barry (Medford) 2nd VP, Kevin Fitzpatrick (Smithtown) Sgt at Arms, Rob Macaluso (Deer Park) Recording Secretary.
- Next meeting in Cutchogue May 13th.

Suffolk County Association of Fire Districts - Bob McConville reported

- Installation was held on March 6th.
- Tom Richardson was Commissioner of the Year
- Next meeting May 19th in Hauppauge.

Suffolk County FRES – Acting Commissioner Beckley reported:

- One on one meetings between the FRES Staff and Acting Commissioner continue.
- EOC Construction continues. Waiting on some procedural items to occur before we can move forward. We project that it will be completed by May. We do have a plan in place in case construction is held up and we need a large-scale activation during hurricane season.
- We still have at home test kits available to Fire/EMS agencies. Requests can be made through the FRES website. You will be sent an email with a pickup date from one of our weekly PODS.
- I met last week with the Chief Deputy County Executive to provide her with a list of initiatives FRES would be concentrating on over the next two years of the administration.

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- Preliminary talks have begun with the Fire Academy on a new contract. Good, productive meeting with SCFA and County's Budget Office for visioning.
- FRES continues to prioritize new initiatives with an emphasis on recruitment and retention.
- We are in the process of working with our partners, including the SCFA for an open house event in June. The pilot Fall 2021 event was a success, and we are looking to build upon that success.
- I was approached by Assemblyman Durso on rolling out my idea for Vets to Volleys on a statewide level.
- Additional initiatives that our staff is working on include the creation of a Citizens Preparedness Academy for People with Differing Abilities. Looking to hold this at Town of Islip Fire Museum.
- FRES continues to work towards state accreditation for our Office of Emergency Management.
- Drone Consortium survey is included in our WatchOps Brief. We are looking to build a consortium so we can standardize best practices in the county and increase operational capabilities.
- Myself and FM2 Kuethan were appointed to the NY WIMA Board.
- FRES Support Legislator McCaffrey for Recruit NY Event.
- I will be speaking at NY Association of Fire Districts conference on May 6th regarding Recruitment and Retention.
- PSEG Task Force meeting held on 3/17. Lots of good communication occurred and we will continue to meet and address issues on both sides.

Suffolk County VEEB Bard – Gary Schaum gave the following report

- Marine Fire Fighting, Ladder Ops, Engine Ops, EMS Leadership, Brush Truck Ops, EVOC & Fire Police posted on open enroll
- Working on National Certification testing for Firefighter 1 and both Instructor 1 and 2 with OFPC. Possible Firefighter 1 National test day date in July.
- Field opens April 1st.
- Our New SCFA Course Catalog is posted on website and was emailed to all Chiefs.
- New Intro to Fire Police Officer class rolled out last month went well.
- Please visit our website and Facebook for new updates and current events daily @ www.scfa-li.org

Suffolk County VFA Ladies Auxiliary –President Marybeth Asbell reported

- Holding lottery fundraiser
- Next meeting April 13 in Holbrook
- May will be installation banquet in Holbrook
- Plan on attending Memorial Service.

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Suffolk County Fire Police - Bill Mullane reported

- 266 people signed up for refresher
- April 12 refresher in Riverhead

Suffolk County Firefighters Burn Center Fund –

April 9th at Brookhaven Museum they are doing an envelope stuffing detail at 1pm.
Once a quarter they are visiting fire houses.

Suffolk County Safety Officers –

- FDSOA
They had a successful conference in January.
Next Conference is January 2023 in Florida
Wellness Wednesday on YouTube
ISO Classes offered.
- New York State Safety Officers virtual April 16, 10am BBP Certificate issued. In person at Olcott Fire Dept, Olcott NY
Hazardous Energy and Rehab on You Tube
Tailboard Talk every Tuesday at 8pm on zoom
Assoc of Fire Districts will be holding classes throughout NYS on safety officers.
Free ISO classes offered
- Suffolk County Safety Officers
April 26, 2022, TBA at 8pm
Safety Officer Mutual Aid Program
- Nassau County Safety Officers last Wednesday, TBA at 8pm

Southern NY VFA –

- Next meeting is March 26th in Merrick

NYS Fire Chief's – Anthony LaFerrara gave report –

- Fire Show was excellent – 2023 hopefully in February – Education part was very successful.

See attachments for EMS Cost Recovery Bill, Assembly Bill A9292 and Assembly Bill A8191

Long Island Benevolent

- May – Best Accounting practices seminar.
- Next meeting April 28th – 7pm in Bellmore.

North Fork VFA – next meeting April 27 in Mattituck

Babylon Town VFA – next meeting is May

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Islip Town VFA – June meeting will be on Fire Island.

Old Business – None

New Business

- Motion by Gene Perry seconded by Jerry Owenburg to give \$100 donation for Hospitality room at the State Chiefs.
- Past President Gene Perry and Past President Robert McConville delivered a 100-year Certificate to St. James Fd.
- Bob McConville discussed firefighter recruitment/retention committee at the NYS level.
- Gene Perry stated that the EMS Cost Recovery is in the Senate Budget. 2 Senate Bills being created to give crisis responders blue lights.
- Jerry Owenburg stated that Firefighters Alliance is trying to gain monies representing fire depts and should be watched. FASNY wrote complaint to NYS Attorney General.
- By-Law Change Vote: Motion by Bob McConville to postpone paper ballot – carried

Change Proposal – Page #2 – Article II Officers – Section 1 – to change term of office to two years.

Motion by Peter DiPinto to approve seconded by Gene Perry – carried.

Addition Proposal – Page #2 – Heading - Suffolk County Volunteer Firemen's Association, Inc., Constitution & By-Laws. Motion by Anthony Sullo to approve seconded by Peter DiPinto.

Good & Welfare

Chaplain McCarthy thanked everyone.

Dark Horse was drawn at this time Collected \$178 – 89 to winner, Jerry Owenburg.

Next meeting will be May 24, 2022, in Bay Shore

Closing prayer by Chaplain McCarthy

Motion to adjourn by Anthony Sullo at 9:25pm seconded by Gene Perry, all in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jean Christensen".

Jean Christensen
Secretary