



The Suffolk County Volunteer Firemen's Association, Inc.

Organized 1886



"Proud Hosts of the 2010 FASNY Convention"

**Minutes – Meeting of the Suffolk County Volunteer Firemen's Association
January 25, 2022 – West Babylon 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 Rev. Fleischman.

Third Assistant Chief Manzi welcomed us to West Babylon and donated two bottles for our raffle. Third Vice President Giovanni Chiarelli thanked Third Assistant Chief Manzi and the West Babylon FD for hosting the meeting and serving dinner this evening. Third Vice President Chiarelli presented a Certificate of Thanks to Chief Manzi.

President Sutton thanked Commissioner John Manzi and the Chief's office for stepping up and helping us out tonight. It truly is appreciated.

Bill Mullane made a motion to accept the September minutes as emailed out, seconded by Past President Frank Guarino, all in favor.

Introduction of Guests was read by Third Vice President Chiarelli, and they were:

- Anthony V LaFerrera Director for NYS Fire Chiefs
- Peter Calli – Past President Town of Babylon VFA
- Carl Formes – President Town of Babylon VFA
- Mary Dolan Vice President SCFSEA
- G. Warren Holtje
- John Manzi Director ARDNYS
- Tom Kriklava President Suffolk Chiefs
- Lori Zatorski Vice President Suffolk County VFA Ladies Auxiliary
- Gary Schaum – VEEB – Fire Academy – Suffolk County
- Stan Roberts Islip Town Vol. Vice President

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

Bills – None

Communication – Notices

- Letter from St. James regarding their 100th anniversary with journal ad information
- Membership Application from Long Island Association of Fireman's Benevolent Assoc.
- Dues notice from Brookhaven Fire Museum
- Minutes from Southern New York VFA
- Thank you from FASNY Past President Steven Klein
- Request for 50 Year Certificate from East Northport Fire Dept.
- Request of 50-year Certificates from East Farmingdale Fire Company

- Invitation to President Sutton to attend the Annual Installation Dinner from East Farmingdale Fire Company on January 22, 2021. Then received second letter with change of date to February 19, 2022, due to Covid numbers.
- Thank you from the Firemen's Home for Donation to their 2021 Holiday Appeal.

Secretary Jean Christensen reported that she mailed out the endorsement letter for Eugene Perry running for FASNY 1st Vice President.

Report of Presidents:

- President Sutton went over his report. Copy of report is attached to minutes.
- 1st Vice President Peter Cincotta – is absent still in rehab.
- 2nd Vice President Vinny Ammirati reported he is out and about and gave written report which is attached to the minutes.
- 3rd Vice President Cheech gave copy of written report to attach to the minutes.

Annual Dinner – Robert McConville reported that they are recouping from the last one.

Audit – Jerry Owenburg reported that the books were audited this past Sunday. Books with Bob are okay. Jerry asked Past President Chris DelVecchio to send him the statements that he has.

By-Laws – In absence of Peter Cincotta, President Sutton read the following Proposed Changes

Change Proposal – Page #2 – Article II Officers – Section 1

Article II Officers, Section 1 Currently Reads

The Officers shall consist of a President, First, Second and Third Vice Presidents, Secretary, Financial Secretary, Treasurer and Sergeant-at-Arms who shall be elected by ballot at the (Annual) September meeting to serve one (1) year or until their successors are elected. Nominations shall be opened at the July and September meetings. Nominees for the above offices must be individual members of this Association. A plurality of all ballots cast at any election shall elect. An officer must be a member of this Association and a member of his Company or Department during his term of office.

Change Proposal to Article II OFFICERS, Section 1

The Officers shall consist of a President, First, Second and Third Vice Presidents, Secretary, Financial Secretary, Treasurer and Sergeant-at-Arms who shall be elected by ballot at the (Annual) September meeting to serve one ~~(1) year~~ **two (2) years (Change)** or until their successors are elected. Nominations shall be opened at the July and September meetings. Nominees for the above offices must be individual members of this Association. A plurality of all ballots cast at any election shall elect. An officer must be a member of this Association and a member of his Company or Department during his term of office.

Addition Proposal – Page #2 – Heading

Heading Currently Reads

Suffolk County Volunteer Firemen's Association, Inc. Constitution

Addition Proposal to Heading

Suffolk County Volunteer Firemen's Association, Inc., Constitution & By-Laws.

Will have another reading in March and vote.

Candidate Campaign – Robert McConville reported progress

Credentials – Dan Brooks reported 33 members and 10 guests are present.

FASNY – 2nd Vice President Eugene Perry

FASNY is on a no travel policy until March 1st. Copy of report was given to Secretary for the Minutes and is as follows:

- With FASNY beginning our 150th Anniversary Celebration we have made a change in our branding for diversity and inclusion, we will now be known as “The Firefighters Association of the State of New York”. The BOD felt that it was time to make this change with the changing membership of the Volunteer Fire Service and bringing us into the 21st Century. All our Social Media Platforms, Magazine and website have reflected this change. 150th Anniversary apparel is available on the FASNY website.
- Applications for all FASNY Awards including our 25 \$1,500 Scholarships are available on the FASNY website under the Awards tab.
- The FASNY EMS Conference, which was to be held in Selden has changed to a virtual Conference. This will be held on Saturday, January 29th beginning at 9:30 pm. There will be three presentations:
 - Professionalism in EMS: Is There Any Hope? 9:30-10:30 am Presentation by Paul A. Werfel, NRP
 - Drowning and Management of Submersion Injuries: 10:45-11:45 am Presentation by Dan Batsie, EMT-P
 - The State of EMS in New York State – 12:00 – 1:00 pm
NYS DOH Bureau will discuss current SYSEMS topics and have a question – and – answer period.

The Conference is Free. You can Register for the Conference on the FASNY website under the Training Tab.

This year marks the 40th Anniversary of the FASNY EMS Seminar at the NYS Fire Academy in Montour Falls March 4-6.

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 and Dunwoodie Golf Courses on Monday, August 8th. Cost is \$135 per golfer; applications will be available shortly on the FASNY website under the Events Tab. Only 36 foursomes per course allowed. The Anniversary Dinner Cruise around Manhattan is unfortunately sold out. There will be an Anniversary Parade on Saturday August 13 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 refreshments will be complementary. If anyone would like to participate in the parade, please contact Scott Weaver at sweaver@tarrytownfd.org.

FASNY will be hosting 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

There are 70 Brothers/Sisters at the home, getting one more on Thursday and have 10 applications in process. If anyone needs information, please contact him. He noted that Past Trustee Bill Murray is with us tonight. February 21st they are having a Chili Cookoff at the Firemen’s Home and the winner will go to Brown’s Brewery.

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

Don’t putt off your tests – Cancer does not wait. They are here for your families as well – spouses, children. Reach out you can just talk – can talk about anything, they are here for you.

Firefighter of the Year – John Manzi/John Masem

To date have received no applications. Deadline is coming up. Please get the paperwork in – all information is on our website.

Fire Prevention: Don Braccioldieta

Our next membership meeting is January 28th, 2022, at 8pm in Central Islip.

Good evening & Happy New Year! As we move forward into 2022, we also take a few moments to reflect on the events of 2021 and how we can learn from them. So far, we have learned:

At least 2,266 people died in fires across the United States in 2021.

At least 151 of those fire deaths occurred in New York State.

74% of the 62 counties in New York State experienced at least one fire fatality.

21% of the 62 counties in New York State experienced at least one multiple-fatality fire incident (2 or more Victims).

The majority of these incidents and fatalities were **PREVENTABLE!!!!**

Message for January

Smoke Alarms (Placement, testing and maintenance)

EDITH – (Exit Drills in the Home)

Home Heating Safety

Slip, Trip & Fall Prevention

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 & the New York State Association of Fire Chiefs are excited to announce that the 47th 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 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 – 2nd Vice President Vinny Ammirati

Letter has been drafted and he has started handing out. This is for the FASNY Convention hospitality room with seven other sectionals. We appreciate all we get – nothing is too small.

John A. Masem Sr Scholarship – Keith Vella

Keith is absent but the deadline is June 1st, and the information is on the Website.

Legislative – Jerry Owenburg

January 27th is Public Safety Meeting

Fire Rescue and EMS meet March 1st.

Long Island Day at the Home – Jerry Owenburg

Reported it is September 18th and parade will be at 1pm. Next meeting will be March 9th Wantagh.

Membership – Dan Brooks

Dues

72 departments have paid – 61 owe

90 Individuals paid – 82 owe

1 organizations paid – 8 owe

Individual dues \$15 and departments \$30.

Publicity – Vinny Ammirati

Facebook is going well. Roger updates the website for us. We keep politics off of our Facebook page.

EMS/REMSCO – Tom Prendergast

They had Zoom meeting on January 11th. Nationwide there have been 840,000 deaths.

1038 Inpatient in Hospital – 131 ICU with 67 on Vent

Hospital admissions doubled during Christmas week.

2 million vaccines provided in Suffolk County.

J&J is not recommended.

4065 EMTS

270 CC

781 Paramedics

EMS Conference is April 25-30 JEMS (Journal of Emergency Medical Service)

May 17 EMS Memorial. National EMS week is May 15-21

Next meeting is March 8th and sub-Committee meeting is February 8.

Masks recommended are KN95 or N95.

John Manzi reported that the Ambulance Cost bill is not in the budget.

Fire Protection was signed will become law in stages.

Resolutions were read by Eugene Perry

- Be It Resolved that the Association extend its sincere thanks to the West Babylon FD for hosting tonight's meeting.

Motion to accept by Rev. John Fleischman seconded by Warren Holtje, all in favor.

- Be It Resolved that the Association extend its sincere thanks to the Selden FD for hosting the November Executive Board meeting.

Motion to accept by Past President Frank Guarino seconded by Ex-Chief Marsity from North Amityville.

Sickness –

Please remember those who are sick. 1st Vice President Cincotta is still in Rehab. Mary said you can visit you need to have covid test and wear N95 mask, which they will give you. Peter would love visitors and phone calls.

Steering – PP Robert McConville

Southern New York meeting is in May

FASNY can nominate up to June 6th, so will address in July

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

Gary Schaum reported Copiague will be hosting the Drill and Parade the 2nd Saturday in July. The drill will be during the day and the parade at night.

There was a member of the parade officials there and said that they are looking for parade officials, if you would like to join, please submit letters.

Training & Education – Giovanni Chiarelli & John Masem

John reported that we are holding a Seminar on May 14th in Selden, waiting on final ok, they are meeting tonight. It is on the night club shooting in Florida. More information will be out once approved.

William Reilly Journal – Giovanni Chiarelli

Please let your department know that for the next journal PDF submission works the best.

Ways and Means – Don Braccioldieta

Collected a total of \$149.00 so the winner of the 50/50 will get \$74.00

Website -Roger Putnam

Roger needs November meeting place once it is known.

Youth in the Fire Service – Keith Vella was absent.

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, flyers on the tables.
- 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 4/20/2022.
- Service recognition awards for chiefs who have 50 years and above are now on the web site. Chiefs can go directly to file the application.
- Fire Academy memorial submitted name updates are in progress. Any questions feel free to reach out.
- Working with PSEG to re-establish task force meetings. PSEG call center #631-755-6400, Control room 631-369-2149 – Brookhaven 631-233-8385. Call Control room direct ask for supervisor. Document issues.
- Senate Bill S46308 has been signed by the Governor, enacts the family and fire fighter protection act relating to the regulation of chemicals in upholstered furniture, mattresses, and electronic enclosures.
- Commissioner Beckley reports FRES is filing a complaint with the FCC. There are children's toy walkie talkies that are on frequencies used by FD/EMS. No impact at this time.
- FRES overseeing the test site at Heckscher park. Open Mon-Fri 8-4pm. He encourages first responders and their families to use site.
- Long Island METRO Fire/EMS Expo February 11-13, 2022, at the Nassau Coliseum. Sponsored by NYS Chiefs and the Islip Town Museum.
- Any Department that may be interested in sponsoring a COVID vaccination POD for either members for the community and or volunteers Investigator Sherwood of DOH has the capability of setting one up for you.
- 2nd Vice President John Coughlin has advised he is stepping down as he has relocated to Fla Effective the next general membership meeting.
- Next meeting in Medford March 11th.

Suffolk County Association of Fire Districts

Bob McConville reported that the next meeting is February 17th in North Babylon. President Badala thanks all for supporting fundraiser held at the West Islip fire house. NYS Districts Election – Secretary/Treasurer candidate is from Nassau.

Suffolk County FRES

Anthony Sullo reported Elections are coming up for a Chairperson for FRES, with Kyle Markott, the representative for Brookhaven Town Fire Chiefs Council the only name in nomination. Tomorrow is the next meeting.

Suffolk County VEEB Bard – Gary Schaum gave the following report

- 2022 Classroom training schedule in on the website.
- Lithium Battery Storage battery training scheduled for January in West Sayville on Wednesday the 26th and will be in Mastic in February.
- Garden Apartment meetings are underway with FRES.
- Safety Officer class starting in February.
- Firefighter I class starts in February at Deer Park fire house.

Suffolk County VFA Ladies Auxiliary – Vice President Lori Zatorski gave report, President Marybeth Asbell was on Zoom.

- Happy & Healthy New Year to all
- SCVFA won the scratch off lottery that was drawn in December – Congratulations.
- New Lottery Scratch off has started – tickets are \$10
- Next meeting is February 9th on Zoom
- Elections will be held in April

Suffolk County Fire Police - Bill Mullane reported

- February 17th refresher class will be held on Zoom – register on County site.
- Next meeting will be in April in Riverhead

Suffolk County Firefighters Burn Center Fund – Mary Catherine Dolan reported

- Had zoom meeting
- Talking about going to Metro Expo.
- Jerry has IMO's
- Next meeting is 3rd Monday in February on zoom.

Suffolk County Safety Officers – no report

Southern NY VFA – Frank Guarino reported

- January meeting was cancelled.
- Next meeting is March 26th
- Next Thursday is Executive Board meeting.
- Convention is Saturday May 21 in East Farmingdale.

NYS Fire Chief's – Anthony LaFerrara reported

- Long Island Metro Fire/EMS Expo – February 11-13, 2022, at Nassau Coliseum Exhibit hours, Education Program Schedule, and Presenters
- NYSAFC 2022 Seminar Series – “The Five Points of Command”. Chief/Commissioner Michael Lombardo, Buffalo Fire Department February 3, 2022, at West Islip FD and November 2, 2022 at North Babylon Volunteer Fire Company.
- NYSAFC Scholarship and Awards – (Educator of the Year, Chiefs of the Year Volunteer and Career) 2022 Forms and eligibility and Criteria

NYSAFC 116th Annual Conference FIRE 2022 – The On Center Syracuse, NY Conference is June 15-18, 2022, Expo is June 16-18, 2022. Event Registration, Hands on Registration and Hotel Information.

- New York State Fire Service Alliance Legislative Initiatives for the 2022 Session
- Issues of United Concern Fire/EMS Service Bills 2021
- NYSAFC Individual membership Benefits and application.
- NYSAFC Department Membership Benefits and application.

Please remember to monitor OSHA 1910.156 for proposed changes and how it may affect what we do as a volunteer fire service.

ALL REGISTRATION FORMS AND NYSAFC AWARD REQUEST FORM ARE AVAILABLE ON THE WEBSITE. Please continue to update your individual and Department Memberships.

How many people must die before we act? How many is finally too many? **Fire Sprinklers Save Lives.** The elderly, disabled and everyone else would have time 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 sprinklers in new construction, there are new tax benefits available to building owners to retrofit commercial buildings with fire sprinklers.

Old Business – None

New Business

Russel Curley from South Shore Volunteer Fire Association meet third Friday in March – Location to be announced.

President Sutton asked the membership their please on the following:

- Application to join the Long Island Benevolent – all present agreed to not join
- St James FD Ad request – all present agreed to not take an ad
- Dues for Brookhaven Fire Museum. Motion by Gene Perry to pay the dues seconded by Peter DePinto, all in favor.

Good & Welfare

Tom Prendergast said that the Selden Fire Department is having a Spaghetti Dinner with Chinese Auction fundraiser for James Spatafora who has cancer. It is February 19th from 1pm to 7pm. If you have ever been to function, there he was their cook. Bob McConville encouraged all to support this fundraiser.

Dark Horse was drawn at this time

At last Executive Board meeting it was agreed by the Board that we should hold November meeting. They feel that there are too many months that go by without a meeting. Information to come.

Question on whether the letter supporting Anthony LaFerrar went out – Secretary Jean stated that it went out. Checked when I got home, and endorsement letter went out on October 31st.

Warren Holtje asked all to please attend the Expo.

By-Laws will be voted on in March

Motion by Frank Guarino to send the Executive Board to the Spaghetti Dinner/Chinese Auction Fundraiser in Selden at \$15.00 each seconded by Gary Stecker.

Next meeting will be March 22nd in Wading River

Closing prayer by Rev. Fleischman

Motion to adjourn by Bill Murray at 9pm seconded by Anthony Sullo, all in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,



Jean Christensen
Secretary