



*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  
May 28, 2019 – Ronkonkoma Fire Dept.**

Meeting Called to order by President Frank Guarino at 8 pm  
Salute to the flag led by 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President Vinny Ammirati  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Peter Cincotta gave the opening prayer.

Captain Mike Hoffmann of the Ronkonkoma Fire Dept. welcomed Suffolk County Volunteer Firemen's Association to Holbrook. First Vice President Bob Sutton thanked the Captain and Department for hosting the meeting and serving dinner and presented certificate of thanks.

President Guarino pointed out the fire exits at this time.

Bob McConville of Selden made motion to accept the minutes from the March 26, 2019 meeting in Holbrook, seconded by Patrick Perry from Brookhaven, all in favor.

Third Vice President Vinny Ammirati introduced the guests with us tonight:

Past President Eugene Perry  
Past President Peter Cincotta  
Past President Chris DelVecchio  
Past President Jerry Owenburg  
Past President Bob McConville  
FASNY Director Eugene Perry  
FASNY Home Trustees Jerry Owenburg & Peter Cincotta  
FASNY Past President Bob McConville  
SNYVFA President Anthony Sullo  
Suffolk County Fire Chief's Association – Tom Kriklava  
Suffolk County Burn Center Secretary Mary Catherine Dolan  
Suffolk County Ladies Aux Vice President Marybeth Asbell  
Firefighter's Cancer Support Network Jerry Owenburg  
Suffolk County Fire Safety Educators Don Bracciodita  
NYS Fire Police Association President Frank Guarino  
North Fork Firemen's Association – Carleton Raab  
Long Island Benevolent – Vinny Ammirati

**Treasurers' Report:** Bob McConville gave the total net worth of all accounts - \$31,007.76

Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report by John Stein of St. James seconded by Ben Galletto of Islip, all in favor.

**Bills:**

Bill from Secretary Jean Christensen for ink/paper \$53.94.

Motion to pay the bill was made by Bill Rowse of Patchogue seconded by Eugene Perry of Patchogue, all in favor.

## **Communications:**

- Received minutes from Southern New York Volunteer Firemen's Association – they are on front table if anyone wants to read them.
- Email from Roger Putnam to Giovanni Chiarelli – Roger sent him several fires regarding this year's Firefighter of the Year such as his photo, rescue synopsis, and list of past winners of this prestigious award for the journal.
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## **Report of Presidents:**

**Report of President Frank Guarino:** Attended various meetings and dinners where he gave out proclamations.

**Report of 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Bob Sutton:** Attended various meetings, fundraisers, St. James Installation dinner and the Burn Center Recognition Day.

**Report of 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Peter Cincotta:** Out & about – various meetings

**Report of 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President Vinny Ammirati:** Attended various meetings – dinners – fundraisers and funerals.

**Steering Committee:** Robert McConville

Bob reported that they met prior to tonight's meeting and all were in agreement to support the following running for FASNY Office

**For Five Year Director**

Jose DeRochhia

Andy Pilecki

Don J. Farrell

**For Five Year Term as Trustee**

Peter Cincotta

Dennis Eikoff

Marilyn Schrader

Douglas Van Etten

Bill Moran made a motion to send letter to FASNY in support of the above candidates, seconded by Chris DeVecchio, all in favor. Bob McConville said he would send the letter.

Bob McConville at this time told the membership that our Financial Secretary Bill Rowse did an outstanding job this year collecting dues.

**Sickness:** Peter Cincotta

Please keep Larry Montrose in our prayers – he is going in for procedures tomorrow.

Marybeth Asbell is doing well and is here tonight with us – great to see you Marybeth!

We now have get well and sympathy cards from the organization – if you know someone that needs a card contact Secretary Jean Christensen to get sent out.

**F.A.S.N.Y.:** Eugene Perry

- The 147<sup>th</sup> Convention of FASNY will be held August 9-11 in Syracuse at the Holiday Inn Liverpool. Our Educational Sessions on Friday & Saturday include Active Shooter for Fire & EMS, Breaking through Recruitment Challenges, the Responsibilities of the Company Officer & Every Fire is a Hazmat which will be taught by one of our own, Ex-Chief Robert Fling from the Dix Hills FD. The 2% Forum will be held on Friday, August 9<sup>th</sup> at 1:30pm along with an Attorney Panel Discussion moderated by our FASNY attorneys, the Hannigan Law Firm. You can register for these and other Convention Activities go to [fasny.com/convention](http://fasny.com/convention) or see Gene for copies of the registration form. Deadline for Convention Packages is July 1<sup>st</sup> after which Convention Activities will have to be purchased individually.
- The FASNY Tuition Reimbursement Program has been modified by the Board of Directors. Effective immediately any Volunteer Firefighter attending ANY New York School will be eligible for the Program. \$1,500 per Semester and its Grade Based. Information is on the FASNY Website or call the FASNY Office.

- FASNY along with the NY Yankees are having a night for FASNY members at Yankee Stadium. The game will be on Saturday, September 21<sup>st</sup> vs the Toronto Blue Jays @ 1:05pm. Tickets range from 84.50 to 54.50/ticket and will be purchased through a web link. Each ticket also includes a co-branded hat with the Yankee Logo on the front & FASNY on the side, there are several hundred tickets available. More information will be forthcoming.
- 2019 FASNY FFOY IS 2<sup>ND</sup> Assistant Chief Jason Bernfeld of the Melville Fire Department for his rescue of a trapped driver on the Northern State Parkway on March 12, 2018.

Peter Cincotta asked if you are able to access your FASNY ID on the website – Gene to check on this.

**Home Trustees:** Vice President of FASNY Firemen’s Home Jerry Owenburg and Peter Cincotta

- 70 members in the home, soon to be 71. They have 6-7 applications in the works.
- Had the Resident Council Memorial Service
- If you know of anyone who could use the Home, please let Peter or Jerry know – you can always visit the home.
- There is an application online if your Department would like to adopt a member of the home.
- No donations of clothes please. Can use train stuff.
- Friday of the Memorial Service they had ceremony – The Wayne A Jagow Chapel dedication, there is a plaque with his photo and his favorite reading in the chapel. This was live streamed on Facebook.
- They are working on the Members Skyping with their families.
- Ex-Chief Rich Adams from Middle Island is a new member of the Home.
- They sent canvass letters with information to nursing homes – if you go to your local nursing home, inquire if they received it.
- The Dementia wing has a new resident – “Bunker” a 4-year-old cat.

**Southern New York VFA:** Anthony Sullo

- Anthony was re-elected President
- Convention was May 18, 2019 in West Babylon. Had speaker
- Tom Richardson from Deer Park
- They voted on the window design.
- The Firefighter of the Year from Rockland was announced and EMS Provider, Anthony apologized he did not have names with him. When he gets them, he will let Jean know.
- Dinner will be at Leonard’s Palazzolo in Great Neck \$75 per person on Friday, June 28, 2019.

**Suffolk County Chiefs:** Tom Kriklava

- Scholarship Seminar was great success
- Scholarship deadline was April 30<sup>th</sup> – apply if you are not sure, let them make decision if you are eligible.
- NYS Chief Council next Month in June – please go and vote for Anthony LaFerrara from North Babylon. Bob Clofer is running for Vice President of NYS Chiefs from Nassau they have buses going up – please call them if you want ride.
- Please let them know if you have a Chief or Ex-Chief pass away. They attend the wake and present a Bible to the family. If they don’t want it done there just let them know and they can get Bible to Department to give them.
- They have a welfare fund – if Chief falls on hard times let them know – if chiefs know of member let them know. The Executive Board are the only ones that know details and there is no paper trail.
- Next meetings July 12 in Smithtown and September is in Sayville
- Amendment to put blue lights on vehicle repair car/truck. S5397A – he gave information to President Guarino. Islip Town wrote letters. Suffolk Police are looking into blue lights being used.
- Bill S5206 in 2018 7133 Assy. (Brooklyn) was passed – Chief Officers now civil service law – looking to make amendment to move from civil service to general municipal law, which Vollies are bound to. Also added Elected & appointed Chiefs minimum qualifications. This is if you have 6 or more paid firefighters. Sponsored by Paid Professionals upstate. NYS Chiefs, Suffolk Districts, FASNY all oppose – bring back to your departments. Senator Brooks is going to sit on the bill – Boyle & LaValle opposing.

Motion by Chris DeVecchio to send letters to Senators & State Organizations 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jerry Owenburg – on the question – Eugene asked if it will be two letters – yes  
All in favor.

Eugene said to make sure you sign up for FASNY to send email out in support of legislation.

**Suffolk County Ladies:** Marybeth Asbell

- Selling tickets for the lottery raffle – thank you for your support.
- Next meeting is June 12 at the Islip Fire Museum
- Suffolk County Ladies had their Memorial Service at their May meeting.

**Commissioner Jordan's Report:** Absent

**Father Halpin Memorial Service:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Bob Sutton

Thank you to all who attended – had over 200 in attendance. Thank you to Medford. He will go to their meeting and personally thank them. Need host for the 2020 Memorial Service – if your Department is interested please let us know.

**S.C.V.F.A. Parade and Drill:**

Gene Perry reported it is July 13<sup>th</sup> in Lindenhurst – 10am parade drill one hour after completion of the parade. They have added a few contests.

**Long Island Day at the Home:** Jerry Owenburg/Peter Cincotta

September 15 1pm parade –BBQ to follow. Monument and tree ceremony at 12:15. If you need a ride contact Jerry. Tomorrow night they have meeting in Wantagh and will decide on gift. Peter asked that if you visit museum please be sure to sign in – think about making a donation – be respectful and if any issues find him or Jerry – please do not confront the museum staff.

**FRES - -** Anthony Sullo/Bob McConville

Anthony reported the last meeting of FRES big update still doing –following legislation Federally on T-bands still so far 3% support not likely to pass – no complaint Bill – UHF online at Dix Hills – Still asking about a Deputy Commissioner and another dog for Don Lynch.

Fire Academy Metal Day is September 22, 2019 in Melville.

Hazmat – trench rescue 7 and Hazmat awareness still on computer.

**VEEB:** Gary Schaum was absent but sent his report with Secretary Jean Christensen

- When attending field drills, make sure your members are well hydrated before arriving.
- Before attending classroom training at fire house, it is recommended to check the Academy website to see if there have been any changes. All changes will be posted on the website ([www.scfa-li.org](http://www.scfa-li.org))
- The Medal of Valor ceremonies will be held at the Melville Fire Department on Sunday, September 22, at 1pm.

**Radio:** Anthony Sullo:

Gave President Guarino sheet on FRES UHF paging.

**NYS Fire Police:** President Guarino

- October 11-12 Brockport is next meeting.
- Convention May 2020 in Niagara Falls.
- Frank has one more year as President

**Legislative:** Jerry Owenburg

- Meeting Thursday 9:30 in Hauppauge
- Go on FASNY Website and follow – be sure to sign up for the Legislative Action Network – information on their website.
- Gene Perry gave update on the EMS Billing and Cancer amendment.

**Firefighter of the Year:** Roger Putnam was absent –

- President Guarino stated that the Executive Board voted to go electronically next year. Frank sent email to Roger and tried to contact him a few times but did not get response. Secretary sent letter to Roger advising him it is just too costly the way it is sent out.
- Roger sent email to his committee that this will be his last year.
- President Guarino hopes to discuss this with Roger at the June Executive Board meeting.

**Audit** – Jerry Owenburg –. All good

**EMS:** Meryl Montrose: Absent

Peter reported that Stony Brook has two stroke ambulances centrally located, if they are in area of stroke call, they will respond with the local ambulance company, not in place of. Questions can be directed to Stony Brook Emergency Department. You can call for unit through County – if too long of response time, do not wait. They eventually want to get a third for the East End.

**Resolutions:** Eugene Perry

- Be It Resolved THAT the Association extend its sincere thanks to the Ronkonkoma F.D. for hosting tonight's meeting. Motion to accept by Bill Rowse seconded by Patrick Perry, all in favor.
- Be It Resolved THAT the Association extend its sincere thanks to the Selden FD for hosting the April 2019 Executive Board meeting. Motion to accept by Vinny Ammirati seconded by Jerry Owenburg, all in favor.
- Be It Resolved THAT the Association purchase tickets for the Southern NY VFA Installation Dinner on June 28, 2019 at Leonard's Palazzo in Great Neck. Motion to accept by Patrick Perry – Seconded by Ron Phuhl, all in favor.

**Burn Center Stony Brook:**

- Secretary Mary Catherine Dolan thanked those who attended the Pancake Breakfast.
- Medal Day could have been better attended
- They have memorial cards and can-do tours
- Bike Blessing is coming up.

**Annual Dinner:** Vice President Peter Cincotta/President Frank Guarino

Dinner is October 19, 2019 at Mill Pond. They have sold 18 tickets so far – Checks have been turned over. Thank you to North Fork, Selden, West Babylon and Educators who have purchased tickets so far.

**William Reilly Annual Journal:** Giovanna Chiarelli

Letters are going out on Thursday – ads are starting to come in.

**Publicity:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President Vinny Ammirati

Vinny is taking pictures and putting on Facebook and updating our website with them. He also sent pictures to go in the Volunteer Fireman.

**By-Laws:** Peter Cincotta

Voted on last month - All done – will have copies with him next general meeting.

If you have any proposed changes, see Peter.

**Candidate Campaign:** Robert McConville

Supporting Peter for re-election as Trustee

Eugene Perry will be running for 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President in 2020

We need more ticket sellers

**Safety Officer:** Larry Montrose –Absent

**Fire Prevention & Life Safety:** Don Bracciolieta

- Will be hosting a CME Seminar on July 20<sup>th</sup> check out the flyer on table tonight as well as their website SCFSEA.org
- Next meeting is this Friday, May 31<sup>st</sup> at 7pm. Manorville Fire Dept.
- Fire Prevention October 6 to October 12, 2019.

- NRPA will be announcing this year's fire prevention theme on Monday June 3 – check out our website and Facebook as well as NFPA for information.
- There are two flyers out – one on Home Fire Sprinklers and one on Home Smoke Alarms.

**Headquarters:** Vice President Ammirati read list of those who have donated to date.

Ken Pienkowski said that they will combine sectional hospitality rooms – will be in Board Rooms - \$200 Deposit must bring three \$50 baskets for the scholarship raffle. Larry and Wayne are running the rooms. Weds is setup. Thursday – Friday rooms open 6pm to 12:30pm Saturday 8pm – 12:30pm but will be closed during scholarship raffle.

**Ways and Means:** Meryl Montrose – absent  
Vinny reported that \$130 total was collected

**Credentials:** William Rowse reported: 35 present

**Membership:** William Rowse reported:

Bill said that Secretary has two applications from last month to read – Christopher Giambrone from Holbrook and Richard Wesnofske from Central Islip

Motion by Vinny Ammirati to accept new members seconded by Bob McConville, all in favor.

**John A. Masem, Sr. Scholarship:** Keith Vella:

- Due date is June 1<sup>st</sup>
- Received two to date and both are eligible.
- FASNY had 26 scholarships – three in Suffolk County

**Youth in the Fire Service:** Keith Vella:

- June 29, 2019 Niagara Falls and July 13, 2019 in Cortland. All contracts are signed
- Hoping to have one in Selden next year.

**Firefighter Cancer Support Network:** Jerry Owenburg:

- Thank you for support of the Golf Outing. They had 128 golfers.
- If you or someone in your family is going thru cancer give them a call.

**Website:** Roger Putnam: absent

**North Fork –**

- July 24 in Riverhead; October 23 in Southold
- They have a web site now NFVFA
- Minivan recently went on fire on the Orient Ferry.

**Long Island Benevolent** – Vinny Ammirati reported 2% meeting July 25 in Inwood.

**Unfinished Business** - None

**New Business** –

Patrick Perry reported that Brookhaven Fire Dept. is having Rock fest on Saturday – two bands \$20 per person opens 4pm bands start 5pm till about 11pm. He has tickets with his if interested.

**Good & Welfare –**

Islip Town Fire Museum – Chili Cook off is September 28 at Sayville Sub Station \$20 per person they have a country western band. Nascar drawing is this Friday.

Bob McConville said he has FASNY posters for fire houses.

Dark horse was drawn

Winner of the 50/50 was Ed Tully

Thank you to Mary Catherine Dolan for helping tonight.

Future meetings – July 23<sup>rd</sup> in Hauppauge

Closing Prayer by Vice President Peter Cincotta

Motion to adjourn at 9:41pm by Don Bracciodieta seconded by Patrick Perry.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jean Christensen". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish at the end.

Jean Christensen  
Secretary