

The Suffolk County Volunteer Firemen's Association, Inc.

P. O. Box 1463

Ronkonkoma, NY 11779

Organized 1886



**THIS PAGE IS
DEDICATED TO THE
MEMORY
OF
EX-CHIEF
LAWRENCE F.
MONTROSE**

**Minutes – Meeting of the Suffolk County Volunteer Firemen's Association
September 27, 2022, East Marion**

Meeting Called to order by President Robert Sutton at 7:57pm
Salute to the flag led by Sgt. At Arms Don Bracciodieta
Prayer by 2nd Vice President Vinny Ammirati

President Sutton read the following statement:

We were saddened to hear that Larry Montrose, Ex-Chief & Commissioner, and a 46-year member of the St. James Fire Department, passed away on September 13, 2022, after a lengthy illness.

Larry was an active member of the Suffolk County Volunteer Firemen's Association and the Husband of our past Sergeant-At-Arms and member, Meryl Montrose. Larry served us on various committees, especially the Safety committee, of which Larry had a passion for. In addition, Larry was a retired member of the New York City Fire Department and retired with the rank of Lieutenant.

More importantly Larry was a good and decent human being, always kind, helpful and he loved the Fire Service.

Please remember Larry, Meryl and their daughter Maureen in your thoughts and prayers. Thank you.

Chief Kevin Webster of the East Marion Fire Department welcomed the SCVFA. 2nd Vice President Vinny Ammirati thanked Chief Webster and all the members for hosting our meeting tonight and serving dinner. Vice President Ammirati presented a certificate of thanks to the Chief.

2nd Vice President Giovanni Chiarelli is not going to make it tonight, his wife was in a car accident earlier tonight.

Motion to accept the **July Minutes** was made by Frank Guarino 2nd by Gene Perry all in favor.

Introduction of Guest & Past Association Presidents by 2nd Vice President Vinny Ammirati

Guests in Attendance:

Al Krupski, Legislator
Tom Kriklava, President Suffolk Chiefs
Lori Zatorski, President Suffolk County VFA Ladies Auxiliary
Stanley Roberts, 3rd Vice President Islip Town Volliers
Carleton Raab, President North Fork Volliers
Frank Guarino – FASNY Director
Eugene Perry – 2nd Vice President FASNY
Jeff Bailes, President Fire & EMS Safety Officers
Carl Formes, President of Babylon Volunteer Firefighters

Past Presidents of the Association in attendance:

Frank Guarino
Jerry Owenburg
Bob McConville
Gene Perry

Treasurer's Report - Robert McConville read total funds in accounts and report will be attached to original minutes. Motion to approve by Pete DePinto seconded by Jeff Bailes, all in favor.

Correspondence & Bills:

Received:

- Advertising from Disorderly Pigs BBQ - catering for private and corporate events.
- Thank you from FASNY for Golf Outing donation of tee sign

- DBA paperwork - DBA Suffolk County Volunteer Firefighter's Association. Paperwork will be scanned to separate hard drive we have and put in the plastic file container in possession of the Secretary.

No Bills.

Report of Presidents:

Robert Sutton – President

Thank you to the East Marion Fire Department for hosting tonight's membership meeting, it is greatly appreciated.

Long Island Day at the FASNY Firemen's Home

Long Island Day at the FASNY Firemen's Home was held on September 18, 2022. It was a great day weather wise, and the residents enjoyed the parade and the music. I would like to thank the West Islip Fire Department's Band for making the trip up to the Home to entertain the residents and all of the attendees. Please make an effort to attend next year's Long Island Day at the Home in September of 2023.

Annual Dinner and Firefighter of the Year Presentation

The annual dinner and Firefighter of the Year presentation will be held on Saturday October 22, 2022, and will be held at the Centereach Fire Department located at 9 South Washington Avenue, Centereach, NY 11720. There are dinner ticket request forms as well as journal applications available at the front table area. Firefighter David Grant from the Rocky Point Fire Department has been selected as our Firefighter of the Year recipient. Congratulations to David on his achievement. David will be honored at our annual dinner on October 22, 2022.

Educational Seminar

We are planning our next seminar for February or April of 2023. If anyone has any ideas on a subject for next year's seminar, as well as a potential host, please let Giovanni Chiarelli and John Masem know.

Annual Memorial Service

Next year's Memorial Service is scheduled for Sunday May 7, 2023, and will be hosted by the Greenlawn Fire Department. More information will follow concerning this.

50 Year Recognition Certificates

Member recognition certificates for 50 years of services are available for any member(s) of your Department that has reached this momentous occasion. Department anniversary recognition certificates are also available. Please contact the Association secretary at suffolksecretary@gmail.com to request 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.

2023 Meeting Location Requests

We are looking for any Departments that would be willing to host one our membership meetings or

Executive Board Meetings for 2023. If there is any Department interested in doing this, please contact The Association Secretary at suffolksecretary@gmail.com.

The Association meeting dates for 2023 are as follows

Meeting Date Membership Meeting Executive Board Meeting

January 24, 2023, OPEN

February 28, 2023, OPEN

March 28, 2023 OPEN

April 25, 2023 OPEN

May 23, 2023, OPEN

June 27, 2023, OPEN

July 25, 2023, OPEN

August 22, 2023, OPEN

September 26, 2023 OPEN

October 24, 2023, OPEN

November 28, 2023, OPEN

2022 Membership Meetings

The next membership meeting will be held on Tuesday November 29, 2022, hosted by the Copiague Fire Department. We hope that you will be able to make this meeting, which will be our last one for 2022.

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

- ☐ August 4, 2022 – the Smithtown Fire Chiefs Council meeting at the St. James Fire Department.
- ☐ August 6, 2022 – Presentation of the FASNY Youth Group and Youth Leader of the Year Ceremony at the Bay Shore-Brightwaters Volunteer Rescue Squad Headquarters.
- ☐ August 6, 2022 - Presentation of a 50-year certificate to a member of the Commack Fire Department.
- ☐ August 8-14, 2022 – Attended the 150th FASNY Convention in Tarrytown.
- ☐ August 15, 2022 - The Suffolk County Volunteer Firefighter's Burn Center Fund meeting, at Stoney Brook Hospital.
- ☐ August 20, 2022 – the NYS Drill at Merrick.
- ☐ August 23, 2022 - The SCVFA Executive Board meeting, at the Patchogue Fire Department.
- ☐ August 27, 2022 – The FASNY Youth Training Day, at the West Babylon Fire Department.
- ☐ August 29, 2022 – The Huntington Town Chiefs Council at the Dix Hills Fire Department.
- ☐ September 3, 2022 – The Fundraiser for the Long Island Legislative Consortium at Mulcahy's in Wantagh, NY.
- ☐ September 8, 2022 – The Smithtown Fire Chiefs Council, at the Nesconset Fire Department.
- ☐ September 9, 2022 - The Fire Chiefs Council of Suffolk County, at the Deer Park Fire Department.
- ☐ September 14, 2022 – the Fire District Manager's Association meeting at the Centereach Fire Department.
- ☐ September 14, 2022 - The Suffolk County Ladies Auxiliary meeting, at the Islip Fire Department.
- ☐ September 16, 2022 – the Brookhaven Town Chief's Council at the Manorville Fire Department.
- ☐ September 18, 2022 – Long Island Day at the FASNY Firefighter's Home in Hudson, NY.
- ☐ September 19, 2022 – Attended the Afternoon and evening Firematic services for Past Chief and SCVFA Committee Chairperson Larry Montrose.
- ☐ September 20, 2022 – The Islip Town Fire Chiefs Council meeting, at the East Islip Fire Department.
- ☐ September 21, 2022 – the Babylon Town Fire Chiefs Council at the North Babylon Fire Company.

☐ September 26, 2022 - The Suffolk County Volunteer Firefighter's Burn Center Fund meeting, at Stoney Brook Hospital.

1st Vice President – Peter Cincotta – Excused

2nd Vice President Vinny Ammirati:

Suffolk County Parade Copiague July 9, 2022

FASNY golf outing August 8

FASNY convention August 9-13

Legislative committee meeting August 9, 2022

FASNY Past President dinner cruise August 11, 2022

Terrytown / FASNY Parade August 13, 2022

NYS Parade Bellmore August 21, 2022

FASNY Youth in the fire service day West Babylon fire Department August 27, 2022

President's meeting at the Central Islip Fire Department August 29, 2022

Wednesday September 14, 2022 - SC Ladies Auxiliary meeting at Islip FD

Long Island at the home Hudson NY September 18, 2022

Department services for Ex Chief Larry Montrose Saint James FD September 19, 2022

Suffolk County chief council golf outing, September 26, 2022

3rd Vice President Giovanni Chiarelli: Absent, but had emailed report to Secretary

August 27 Saint James 100th Anniversary

August 29 SCVFA @ Central Islip FD

Sept. 6 East Farmingdale FD

Sept. 18 L.I. Day @ FASNY Home

Sept. 19 L. Montrose wake

Sept. 27 Region & Fire Police @ Smithtown FD

Annual Dinner report by Bob McConville

October 22, 2022, at the Centereach fire House. We have sold 140 tickets to date.

By-Laws - Progress

Candidate Campaign – Robert McConville

Slow period now. Jerry id one in one year, let Bob know if you are interested in running for Trustee. Peter Cincotta has two years left.

Credentials – Dan Brooks –
Please be sure to sign in

FASNY – 2nd Vice President Gene Perry gave the following report

- I would like to thank all of you for your support over the past 10 months, at the Convention I was elected 1st Vice President of FASNY. The new 2nd Vice President is Santo “Chan” Rivera from Naponch in Ulster County. Together with President Ed Tase we will continue to make FASNY the premiere Volunteer Fire Service Organization in the State. I thank you again for your confidence in me.
- Everyone who attended the 150th FASNY Convention in Tarrytown had an outstanding time. I would like to thank Convention Chairman Director Don Farrell and his committee along with FASNY Office Staff for doing a Spectacular job.
- This week is the culmination of FASNY’s 150 Anniversary. We will be rededicating the Historic Marker in Auburn NY, the site of the very first Convention. The dedication will be on Saturday, October 1st which is the exact date of the first Convention in 1872.
- The NYS Fallen Firefighter Memorial Ceremony will be held on Tuesday, October 11th at 11am at the Empire State Plaza in Albany. There will be 11 names added to the Memorial this year.
- The 89th Annual FASNY Legislative Conference will be held November 4-6th at the Hilton Garden Inn in Troy.

Home Trustee – Jerry Owenburg gave report

- Taking care of 78 Brothers and Sisters.
- Ann LaFountain from West Sayville is now a member.
- Jerry went out as President at the Convention and Peter Cincotta was elected as President. Peter ran his first meeting, which at the end of the meeting Peter resigned as President. The new President of Trustees is Marilyn Schroeder, and the new Vice President is Doug Van Etton.

President Sutton thanked Jerry for all his hard work and dedication to the Firemen’s Home.

Father Halpin Memorial Service – President Robert Sutton stated it will be held on May 7th, 2023.

Firefighter Cancer Network – Jerry Owenburg

- National Financial Officer passed away – he was 45 years old. This is a big loss to the Cancer Support Network.
- Get your tests done.
- Listen to your body

Firefighter of the Year Committee – John Masem reported

Lots of incredible saves out there – Application is on the website – please submit and get them the recognition that they deserve.

Fire Prevention – Don Bracciodieta

- Next membership meeting is October 28th at Smithtown Fire House – Dinner is 7pm Meeting 8pm.
- Back to School K-12 – Transportation, backpacks, playgrounds, and sports are all covered in this back-to-school checklist from the National Safety Council:
www.nsc.org/community-safety-topics/school-safety/school-safety-home
- Stony Brook safety Day at campus is October 19, 2022, 10am through 3pm.

- Fire Prevention Weeks: Whether you're looking for Fire Prevention Week ideas or items, follow this link to meet your agency's Fire Prevention Week needs:
www.nfpa.org/fpw
- Save the Date!!! It's official.....the 2023 New York State Fire & Life Safety Educators' Conference is scheduled to take place May 5th-7th, 2023 at the New York State Academy of Fire Science in Montour Falls, New York!!! Stay tuned for announcement of the 2023 conference theme and our call for presenters.
- Special Dates in September:
National Campus Safety Month – 9/1 to 9/30
Hispanic Heritage Month 9/15 – 10/15
Check out some of the free educational resources available from the U.S. Fire Administration, available in both English and Spanish. www.usfa.fema.gov/prevention/outreach/
- Have a Happy Fire Prevention If you need anything let them know.
- Jerry said that part of fire prevention should be to teach how to get into cell phone.
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Headquarters – Vinny sent the following report

Final hospitality report for 2022

Total donations receive to support the FASNY Hospitality Room for 2022

East Northport Fire Department
 Lindenhurst Fire Department
 Selden Fire Department
 Dixon engine company 3
 Sayville Fire Department
 Selden Fire Department
 Mastic Chemical company 1
 Town of Babylon volunteer firemen's Association
 New York Safety Officers
 Selden Fire Department Rescue 4
 Central Islip Fire Department
 West Babylon Fire Department
 Fire Island Pines Fire Department
 Suffolk County Fire District Officers
 Van Guard Hose Co#1 (Patchogue)
 Patchogue Fire Department
 Selden Volunteer Exempt Fireman's Benevolent Association
 Brookhaven town Fire District officers Association
 Jamesport Firemen's Association
 Billie's Theiss donated his 50/50
 Medford Fire Department
 Suffolk County Ladies Auxiliary
 North Fork Volunteer Fireman's Association

Thank you to all for the donation

- Vinny thanked everyone for their generosity - we received \$2286 in donations.

John A. Masem Sr. Scholarship – Keith Vella

- September 6th, he gave out the last scholarship to Avery from east Farmingdale.
- June 1st is the deadline. Eligible is a member for their self, child, or grandchild. Can be for a vocational school or college. Information is on the website. President Sutton thanked Keith and his committee for a great job.

Legislative – Jerry Owenburg

Waiting for Suffolk County to pay ransom on cyber-attack.
Next meeting is October 4th.

Long Island Day at the Home – Jerry Owenburg

- September 18th – West Islip band came up and performed for the residents. Each resident received a flashlight.

Membership – Dan Brooks

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|-----------------------------|--------------|
| Fire departments – 106 paid | 32 still owe |
| Members 117 paid | 59 still owe |
| Organizations 5 paid | |

REMSCO/EMS – Tom Prendergast

- Discussions – C.O.N. – Certificate of need
- T.O.A. – Transfer operating Authority
Performance application (EMS Ambulance) billing and insurance.
Islip FD – change to Islip Fire District
Smithtown FD – change to Smithtown Fire District.
- Suffolk County Government hacked on September 8th. Due to cyber instruction - not much was talked about.
- Mutual Aide agreements – Mastic, North Patchogue, _____, Cutchogue – four-year agreement.
- Tom Lateulere conference 9/23/23.
- Covid – 400 new cases per day, 40 hospital admissions, 80% vaccinated and 50% boosted
- QA QI fax 631-852-5028
- 5 original classes and 2 refreshers. 250 new EMT's.
- Fall organize class in Ridge and Southold

RESOLUTIONS – Eugene Perry

- BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Association extend its sincere thanks to the East Marion FD for hosting tonight's meeting. Motion by Jeff Bailes, seconded by Russell Curley, all in favor.
- BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Association extend its sincere thanks to the Patchogue FD for hosting the August Executive Board meeting. Motion by Peter DePinto seconded by Russell Curley, all in favor.
- BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Association extends its sincere thanks to the West Islip Fire Department "Brewer" Band for attending and playing in the parade at Long Island Day at the FASNY Firefighters Home, Motion by Bob McConville, seconded by Jeff Bailes, all in favor.

- BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Association extends its Congratulations to the Islip "Wolves" Drill Team for winning the NYS Drill Team Championship. Motion by Vinny Ammirati, seconded by Frank Guarino, all in favor.
- BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Association extends its Congratulations to the St. James Fire Department for winning Best Appearing Ladies Auxiliary at the NYS Championship Parade. Motion by Russel Curley seconded by Keith Vella, all in favor.
- BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Association extends its Congratulations to the West Islip Fire Department "Brewers" Band for winning Best Appearing Fire Department Continental Band at the NYS Championship Parade. Motion by Russel Curley, seconded by Keith Vella, all in favor.
- BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Association extend its Congratulations to the Selden Fire Department for winning the Best Appearing Drill Team at the NYS Championship Parade. Motion by Vinny Ammirati seconded by Bob McConville, all in favor.
- BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Association extends its Congratulations to the West Islip Fire Department for winning the Best Appearing Juniors Class "B" in the NYS Championship. Motion by Peter DePinto seconded by Keith Vella, all in favor.

Sickness – Giovanni's wife was in car accident tonight.

Steering - Robert McConville
Always looking for Committee members.

SCVFA Parade & Drill – No Report

Training & Education – John Masem reported they are working on a topic. If you have an interest, please let them know.

William Reilly Journal – Giovanni Chiarelli & John Masem
. Still have time – please get ads in.

Ways and Means – Don Braccioldieta
Collected \$130.00 for 5/50. \$65 to the winner

Website – Up and running – site is current. Roger is doing great job.

Youth in the Fire Service – Keith Vellia

- Three youth days were held this year. 8/20 in West Pottsdam, 8/27 in West Babylon and the last weekend will be in Old Forge.
- Training held in West Babylon they had 26 kids - great day.
- Thank you to West Islip and Copiague they had 24 kids attend
- West Babylon offered to hold one next year
- They are hoping next year to hold one at Convention and they are working one for Long Island.

President Sutton thanked Keith for a great job.

Suffolk County Fire Chiefs Council – Tom Kriklava

- Suffolk Chief's 28th annual golf outing, thanks to the departments who came out and supported.
- Please inform us if you have a Chief or Ex-chief who has made a great accomplishment over the last year. We will be awarding Chief of the year and Richard Van de Kieft award at the Installation brunch. Applications are on the website for each award as is 50 year and above recognition.
- Installation Brunch will be held 12/4 1130 am at Capt. Bills in Bay Shore \$75 per person. Information on web site.
- Fire Academy LOD Memorial is completed. 25 Names have been added to the current 95 at this time. Formal dedication will be 10/29 at 1200 hrs. Departments are asked to invite the families from their departments fallen heroes.
- PSEG task force meeting held at the beginning of the month. PSEG Has training available and will come out. PSEG call takers prioritize calls as priority 1 and priority 2. Priority 1 life threatening incidents. Priority 2 non-life-threatening incidents. If callers reports, they have a working fire it will be classified priority 1. Update PSEG with situation changes at the scene that may affect the operation. Grid shut down they would like to talk to someone on scene if possible.
- Next meeting/elections in Riverhead on November 11th.
- Notifications to FRES – use landline verify.
- B/S 12 lead back up if you added new site to your monitors. SBMEDC+RL-BV
- He wishes the best to the association. This is his last meeting as President of Suffolk Chiefs.

Suffolk County Association of Fire Districts:

Bob McConville passed out stickers for your cars – they have flag background and say, "I AM A VOLUNTEER FIRST RESPONDER AND I VOTE!."

Suffolk County F.R.E.S. –

Cancelled meeting due to Medal Day.
Never shut CAD down.

Suffolk County V.E.E.B. Board- Gary Schaum was absent due to conflict with another meeting. Secretary Jean Christensen read his report:

- Water Rescue Awareness class held in August over 300 students trained in three days.
- Suffolk County Fire Academy – Cancer Awareness and Post Decon training – two dates 10/12 and 10/13 morning and evening class – visit the website for information.
- Vehicle fire prop. Installed.
- Truck fire propane prop going out to bid.
- 2023 Field and classroom schedule went out September 1, 2022, departments will need to respond to by October 1, 2022.
- We added Vehicle Fires and Thermal Image Camera to the Field Classes for 2023. These will be one of the 7 classes eligible for next year.
- Fire Police Field Day at the Fire Academy Saturday October 1st 9am.

Suffolk County VFA Ladies Auxiliary – President Lori Zatorski

- It was her honor to participate at Long Island Day at the Home.
- They have two fundraisers running – 100 club and lottery scratch off and she has flyers if interested.
- October 12th is the next meeting on Zoom.

Suffolk County Fire Police – Bruno Simone representing NYS Fire Police, Region 7

- Just had out county meeting 9/23 in Smithtown FD. We had representation from all six Suffolk Fire Police Associations, they are Babylon FP Association; Brookhaven FP Association; Huntington/Smithtown FP Association; Islip Town FP Association; Southfork FP Association; North Fork FP Association
- Next meeting is March 24, 2023, location to be announced.
- Discussed current county events.

Suffolk County trainings

- October 1, 2022, Fire Police Fiend Day 9-12 at SCFA – our only day
- 10/11 – 10/18 – FP Officer Introduction 2nd class this year. Thank you to County Legislator Krupski for the support.
- 11/1-12/3 – FP 21-hour class at Deer Park FD. 12/3 will be at SCFA
- We hosted a zoom FP refresher in February 2021 and had over 400
- February -March 2023 – Chief Rudy Sunderman will sponsor another Zoom FP refresher.
- 10/7-10/8 NYSFP Fall meeting – Executive Board 10/7
- Verona FD – general membership 10/17
- Next meeting Convention will be in May up in Niagara Falls
- Last meeting was in Kingston an memorial read all names and placed flowers - 29 members lost from Suffolk County Fire police

Suffolk County Firefighters Burn Center Fund –John Masem reported

- Next meeting is October 17th at Hospital 7:30pm

Suffolk County Safety Officer's – Jeff Bailes

Phil Goglas is running for re-election

Southern NY VFA

Frank Guarino reported the next meeting is October 29th at Hillcrest.

North Fork VFA – Carlton Raab

Next meeting is October 26 in Manorville.

Babylon Town VFA – Carl Formes

Elections were last week – no changes.

Next meeting is November 21st in Babylon

South Shore VFA – Russell Curley

- 11/18 is meeting at the Westbury FD
- If you are south of Jericho Turnpike you can join the association.
- Los Angeles City just put two Electric Fire Trucks in service.
- Fire Depts are disbanding due to lack of members – be aware.

Old Business – none

New Business

- Long Island Benevolent meeting is October 28th in West Babylon.
- Suffolk County Fire Academy website is up and running.
- Welcome to Al Krupski, Legislator. Legislator Krupski thanked President Sutton for the invite. Volunteer Firemen are so important. Many community members don't realize how important. This is his 10th year in the Legislator.
- Thank you for your response for COVID. People need to remember this.

- A lot of commercial solar out here. Trying to find how to store and fire safety.
- Computer issues since September 7th. Legislators have phones – they are getting very little information. This is a problem for some county services. They just had training on computer safety.
- Again – thank you for inviting me.

Gene Perry stated that in 2017 they did study on cost of state going paid – was 2.8 billion at that time. They are working on updated one for this year.

Good & Welfare

- Bob McConville stated that Suffolk Fire Districts are very concerned on the Lithium batteries. FDNY since January 1st have had over 150 alarms from lithium batteries.
Do not charge batteries overnight or by the front door. Don't charge hot battery – only one battery per outlet. Don't buy uncertified batteries.
- Netflix is filing movie and storing batteries on dock on fire island. Battery went on fire, and it was buried in sand to put it out.
- Tell your neighbors – need to do an awareness to let residents know about the batteries.
- Peter is still in rehab and very depressed – please try to visit him.
- Suffolk Chief's dinner is December 4th – Motion by Vinny Ammirati to purchase two tickets for President Sutton and guest to attend, seconded by Gene Perry, all in favor.

Dark Horse –

Dark horse was drawn, and Warren Holtje.

Next meeting is November 29th in Copiague

Closing prayer

Motion to adjourn by Frank Guarino seconded by Russel Curley, all in favor

Respectfully Submitted,



Jean Christensen
Secretary