



SOUTHERN NEW YORK VOLUNTEER FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION. Inc.

Representing the Volunteer and Exempt Firemen of the Nine Southern Counties of

New York State Since 1896

Website www.snyvfa.org

Minutes of the March 22, 2025 General Membership Meeting – Albertson FD

Meeting called to order at 8:00 p.m. by President Juan Batta.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Robert Ottaviano

Invocation led by Jon Wicks

Chief Steve O'Malley welcomed us to Albertson and thanked his kitchen committee for a job well done serving tonight's meal. President Batta thanked our host for an excellent meal and their hospitality.

Roll Call of Officers taken, and excuses noted. Motion to accept by P. Wass and seconded by J. Interdonati, excuses noted Officers, Directors, and Committee Chairs, MOTION CARRIED.

Minutes of the General Membership Meeting on January 6, 2025 in West Babylon were approved as mailed by A. Tripp seconded by O. Kohlmier. MOTION CARRIED.

Communications:

- Secretary McElynn reported he has received the Volunteer Firefighter Magazine.
- Copy of application for Firefighter of the Year submitted by Stony Point FD
- Flier for FASNY Convention 2025 received.
- Flier from Suffolk County VFA announcing their Annual Dinner on 10/18/25 received.

Motion by R. Ottaviano seconded by O. Kohlmier that communications take their regular course. MOTION CARRIED.

Bills read by Treasurer Roy Dahlen, motion by R. McConville and seconded by P. Wass to pay the bills as read, MOTION CARRIED.

REPORT OF OFFICERS

President Juan Batta

- Thank you all for attending tonight's meeting and thank you to the Albertson FD for stepping up and hosting, and for the delicious meal served.
- Welcome to FASNY Director Mikle Karashay and Eric Orr for joining us this evening representing Hudson Valley VFA.
- Thanks to Past President M. DeVittorio and his committee and Secretary Kevin McElynn for the great job at our Legislative Conference back in January. Past President will have more details on this later in the meeting.
- Our next meeting will be at the Hagerman Fire Dept. on May 17th. This will be our annual meeting. R. McConville will have a report this evening on the convention.
- Our annual installation dinner is coming up on May 30th at the Nassau County Bar Association in Mineola. Tickets are available for \$85.00 per person. Sgt. At Arms Ottaviano will be reporting on this later in the meeting. Invitations and requests for journal ads have been mailed to all members. Please support this dinner as it is the only fund raiser this Organization has form the year.,
- As this is the last general membership meeting before the annual meeting that I will be chairing, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for the support and honor of being your President these past 2 years.
- I also attended the following since our last meeting in October;
 - Nassau County Firefighters membership meeting in Bethpage on October 16, 2024.
 - Suffolk County Firefighters Association annual dinner in Coram on October 19, 2024.
 - Westchester County Firefighters Association annual dinner in Cortlandt on October 25, 2024.
 - FASNY Board of Directors meeting in Troy on October 31, 2024.
 - Funeral services for Robert Ruston in Newburgh on October 31, 2024.
 - Southern New York Vol. Firefighters Legislative Caucus in Troy on October 31, 2024.
 - FASNY Legislative Conference in Troy on November 2, 2024.
 - Rockland County Firefighters Association membership meeting in Stony Point on November 8, 2024.
 - Southern New York VFA Board Meeting in Central Islip on November 12, 2024.
 - Nassau County Executive Council meeting in Albertson on November 14, 2024.
 - Nassau County Firefighters Association Board meeting in Baldwin on November 20, 2024.
 - Southern New York VFA membership meeting in West Babylon on January 4, 2025.
 - Nassau County Junior Firefighters Association dinner in New Hyde Park on January 11, 2025.

- Jose DaRocha's testimonial dinner in Albertson on January 19, 2025.
- Nassau County Executive Council meeting in Albertson on January 23, 2025.
- Long Island Firemen's Benevolent and Exempts Association in Hewlett on January 24, 2025.
- Southern New York VFA Legislative conference in Albertson on January 25, 2025.
- FASNY Board of Directors meeting in Albany on February 7, 2025.
- Southern NY VFA Board meeting in Glenwood on February 17, 2025.
- FASNY Board of Directors meeting in Albany on March 21, 2025.

First Vice President Frank Guarino:

- Announced VFPASNY meeting at the Firemen's Home on April 4&5.
- 2025 Fire Police Convention will be held May 8,9,10,11, 2025.
- Region #7 meeting in Westhampton Beach on March 28, 2025.

Second Vice President Steven Klein:

- Reported on various local and FASNY events he has attended since our last meeting.

- Treasurer Roy Dahlen read the activity and the balance of the Association funds that total \$45,364.58. Motion by R. Sutton, seconded by S. Klein to accept the Treasurer's Report, MOTION CARRIED.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES

AUDIT:

- Committee will be meeting with the Treasurer at the next Board meeting.

BY LAWS:

- No Report.

BENEVOLENT & EXEMPT:

- M. Krummenacker reported that the State Controller's Office is mandating that Benevolent Officers take a mandatory training class. This training will be headed by FASNY.

BUDGET:

- No Report.

BURN AWARENESS:

- K. McElynn reported for Gaffney that the NUMC Burn Unit is fully staffed and functional at this time. Hospital itself is still in legal battle.

CONVENTION:

- R. McConville reported that the Annual Meeting will be held at Hagerman Fire Department on Saturday May 17, 2025 commencing at 4:00 pm with our Annual Memorial Service. Dinner will follow and meeting after that. Guest speaker will be announced when appropriate.

CREDENTIALS:

- T. Tripp reported that this evening;

Total Present: 54

Member/Delegates from Nassau: 41

Member/Delegates from Suffolk: 7

Member/Delegates from Westchester: 3

Member / Delegates from Rockland: 1

Member / Delegates from the City of New York Volunteers: 0

Members from Nassau: 0

Members from Suffolk: 0

Members from Westchester: 0

Members from NYC: 0

Guests: 2 – Director Mike Karashay & Eric Orr from Hudson Valley.

DINNER:

- K. McElynn reported that our annual dinner will be held on May 30th at the Bar Association in Mineola. Same format as last year. \$85.00 per person to include cocktail hour, sit down dinner, dessert and coffee / tea. Cocktail hour begins at 6:30 pm. He also asked the membership to support our Journal by taking an advertisement, and participating in our raffle. This is our only fund raiser for the year, and we need everybody's support.

EMS:

- J. Scalesi reported
 - Catholic Health Services maybe opening a hospital at the Sunrise Mall. They are planning to buy the property and make it into a hospital emergency service.
 - He had heard that NYU / Langone is planning to build a 10-story hospital in the area of Mitchell Field. Nothing solid yet.

FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR:

- Chairman Sutton reminded all about the deadline for ALL award submissions. He has received 4 applications for the committee to review as of this date.

FIRE POLICE:

- J. Wicks reported the following.
 - Nassau County next meeting will be held at Westbury FD on Maple Avenue on May 17, 2025 with the meal being served at 1:00 pm meeting to follow at 1:45 pm.
 - Babylon Installation will be held at Captain Bills on April 6th.
- VFPASNY –
 - The spring meeting will be held at the Firefighter's Home in Hudson on April 5, 2025
 - The annual convention will be May 8 -11, 2025 at the Best Western in Kingston.

FIRE PREVENTION:

- No Report.

MEMBERSHIP / FINANCIAL SECRETARY:

- R. McConville reported that dues are in order. WE sent out 276 individual dues notices with 118 returned paid. We sent out 174 Organizational dues notices with 87 returned paid for a total of \$45.35.00 to date.

LAWS AND LEGISLATION:

- M. DeVittorio reported that we had a very successful conference, with elected officials attending. Fire service attendance was excellent. Committee is working on new legislation to submit to FASNY, and the scorecard is on FASNY's website.

PUBLIC RELATIONS & WEB SITE DEVELOPMENT:

- Kevin McElynn reported that he made several submissions for The Volunteer magazine, and the website has been updated in recently. If anyone has anything either for the magazine or website, please contact him. Please use the kmcelynn@gmail.com email address Also, the general membership minutes are available on the website for your reference.

RESOLUTIONS:

- No Report.

SAFETY OFFICERS:

- No Report.

STEERING:

- No Report.

WAYS & MEANS: J. Wicks reported.

- We took in \$176 for the dark horse drawing
- Total received for 50/50 was \$155.00

YOUTH FIREMATIC ORGANIZATIONS:

- J Presta reported;
 - Our last meeting was on January 5th @ New Hyde Park FD. There were 131 juniors in attendance where the 6 new officers were sworn in for 2025.
 - On Saturday, January 11th the NCJFA held their 19th annual installation dinner in New Hyde Park. Over 130 attendees gathered as their new Board was sworn in for the start of another great year. The following Officers were sworn in to office – President Sofia Pierno from New Hyde Park, 1st Vice President Justin George from Syosset, 2nd Vice President Frankie Stein from Bellmore, Secretary Havish Kumar of Carle Place, Treasurer Emely Brown from Wantagh, and Sgt. At Arms Robert Goldman of Farmingdale.
 - On February 1st, 16 members from the Exchange program in Germany came up to New York for a meeting planning their participation in the Campin July and possibly going back to Germany in August of 2026 to participate in the German youth Flame Knowledge award again. Suffolk County was invited to participate.
 - Together with the FSA, we are hosting another online Essentials of Firefighting starting February 2nd. We have a full class with 36 juniors from 11 different fire companies in Nassau County. Marcell from Haverlah Germany is also participating in this to gain better knowledge on the American Fire Service.
 - On March 23rd, we will be hosting our 1st Annual EMS symposium and conference at Uniondale FD. There will be speakers, training sessions and representatives from local hospitals & Colleges for career opportunities. This is open to all Juniors in the Southern area of all ages. Information & registration is on our website and App under training.
 - On Saturday, February 15 the Board and Officers met with the advisor of the Shrewsbury FD for information on starting an Association and Fire Camp.
 - The next meeting is March 30th at 10:00 am in Wantagh. All welcome.

CHAPEL FUNDRAISING:

- No report.

Motion by J. Interdonati and seconded by D. McIntosh to accept the committee reports, MOTION CARRIED.

FASNY OFFICER'S REPORTS:

Director Krummenacker

- Asked that the President be excused due to FASNY business.
- FASNY was asked to meet with the Labor Dept. in Washington. Meeting was successful.
- Only 2 Firemanic organizations were authorized by the President to meet in Washington.
- 2 Fire Departments in Ulster County have shut down due to OSHA inspections.

Director Guarino:

- There was a Board meeting held to discuss the convention.

Director Ottaviano:

- Confirmed that there will be a FASNY Legislative conference this year.
- Asked all FASNY family to please support the journal.
- If attending the convention, please wear proper attire.

Director Karashay:

- Thanked all for continued support.
- There are talks at CFSI conference to make LOSAP tax free.

FIREMEN'S HOME:

Trustee Interdonati reported;

- There are presently 84 members in the home.
- There are 9 applications pending.
- Went to a weekly payroll for employees.
- Chili cookoff is tomorrow.

Trustee Ammirati reported;

- One staff member tested positive for COVID at home. They had no patient contact.
- They lost a tree on Suffolk Avenue due to a storm.

Trustee Sutton advised that everything was covered in Trustee Ammirati's report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

- J. DaRocha mentioned that there are plans to construct Lithium Battery storage stations in our areas. We need to watch this.

GOOD AND WELFARE:

- The information for the Nassau County 4th Battalion fund raiser was announced.

Next General Meeting will be the annual convention on May 17th, 2025 hosted by the Hagerman Fire Dept. Next board meeting of the Association will be on April 15th in Portchester.

Closing Prayer lead by J. Wicks

Motion for adjournment made by P. Wass and seconded by D. McIntosh at 9:30 p.m., MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully Submitted By.

Kevin P. McElynn

Kevin P. McElynn
Secretary

2025 Installation Dinner

*Friday May 30, 2025 -
Cocktail Hour Begins at 7:00 pm
Sit Down Dinner with Open Bar
At*

*The Nassau County Bar Association
15th & West Streets
Mineola, NY 11501
Tickets - \$ 85.00 Per Person*

ANNUAL CONVENTION

Hosted By

**Hagerman Fire Department
510 Oakdale Avenue North
Bellport, NY 11772**



**Convention begins with Rev. Vincent Kennedy Memorial Service
4:00 pm**