

NASSAU COUNTY FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
GARDEN CITY PARK FIRE DEPARTMENT
JULY 19, 2023

President Kevin McElynn called the meeting to order at 8:00 PM. Salute to the Flag was led by Sergeant-at-Arms Jon Wicks. President McElynn asked for a moment of silence in honor of those members who have passed as well as our service men and women serving either overseas or at home, which was followed by the opening prayer given by Sergeant-at-Arms Wicks.

The Association was welcomed to Garden City Park Fire Department by Chief of Department John Janus. President McElynn thanked him and those who helped out with tonight's meal for hosting our meeting tonight.

Roll Call of the Officers, Past Presidents, Directors, and Committee Chairs was taken, and excuses noted. Motion made by Past President Otto Kohlmier, Jr, seconded by Peter Waas, and carried to accept the Roll Call of Officers with the excuses noted.

Motion by Peter Waas seconded by Past President Kohlmier, and carried to accept the minutes of the May meeting as posted to our website.

COMMITTEES:

Awards: First Vice President Kevin McElynn gave the following reported that the committee will be meeting very soon. The procedures/documents have been sent to the committee for review and updating. You may still use the applications on the website.

Burn Center: Past President Thomas Gaffney gave the following report:

After having had 12 firefighters treated for burns at NUMC in 2022, we got our first firefighter this year for burn treatment on June 22nd. Craig Stewart of Westbury was treated for 1st and 2nd degree burns to his hands and was released. On July 11th, Connor Ennis of Baldwin was treated at NUMC for 1st and 2nd degree steam burns to his neck. He was also treated and released. Representatives of the Burn Center Foundation were present for each member's treatment and have followed up with each of the two, who have each expressed their gratitude and satisfaction with the way that they were treated by the hospital staff.

The Burn Center Foundation Directors have been trying to arrange a meeting with the County Executive to discuss the staffing problems at the Burn Center. In spite of having made

several written requests for such a meeting, the Deputy County Executive has not responded. We are reaching out to anyone who has contacts in the Administration to assist us in getting response to our request.

Dinner: Past President Richard Messina gave the following report:

This year's dinner was a success due to the Journal Ads. We made a profit of \$2,000. We will be doing a cocktail party for next year to be held at a firehouse. This is due to the fact that there will be no officers installed, but we will have awards to be given. More info to follow.

Executive Council: Past President Messina reported that the next meeting will be held on August 4th in Albertson.

Exempts: Junior Past President Leon Tucholski reported that the 2% Forum will be held at the FASNY Convention in Niagara Falls on Friday, August 11th at 1:30 PM.

Explorer/Jr. Firefighters: Jerry Presta gave the following report:

1. Our last meeting was on June 4th at the Hicksville FD Station 3, where they had 168 Juniors at their Annual BBQ Lunch Meeting. FASNY, Nassau County Firefighter's Association and Legislator Rose Walker presented President Kyra Kozey with citations on her achievement of National Junior Firefighter of the Year by the National Volunteer Fire Council. Firefighter and author John Scalesi donated to the NCJFA Training and Education Fund with profits from his book.
2. On Sunday July 16th, the NCJFA Officers presented the colors on the field of the Mets game. There were 135 Juniors, Advisors, and family members who attended the game.
3. We are all set for our 2023 Camp Farenheight 516. We have 3 full squads of 45 campers. There are 28 fire departments participating with 3 of them from Suffolk and 1 from Queens.
4. The County Juniors are in the process of developing an App for the Association, which will help streamline Trainings, Activities, and notifications within the Association. The App was designed not to be more than 2 clicks off the main menu for any content searched. We are on track for a 2024 release.
5. The County Juniors were asked to lead the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag in the opening ceremony of the September 11th ceremony in Eisenhower Park.
6. On Saturday July 15th, the county board and Officers had our exchange meeting with Germany. We have set the date of August 16 – 24, 2024. Concrete dates will be set once we receive confirmation from the airline.
7. On Friday August 4th at the Cinema Arts Center in Huntington, the movie Odd Hours, No Pay, Cool Hat will be playing. NCJFA President Kyra Kozey will sit on the panel and speak about women in the Fire Service. Please come and support the film.
8. Our next meeting is in Elmont on September 24th at 10:00 AM. All are welcome.

Fire Police: Sergeant-at-Arms Wicks reported that the next meeting is scheduled for July 22nd at Syosset FD Headquarters with lunch being served at 1:00 PM and the meeting starting at 2:00 PM.

Legislative: Past President Michael Krummenacker reported that he met with State Senator Steve Rhoads and discussed the following items:

1. The proposed civil service credit added towards your pension in regards to years of service in the fire service.
2. Enhanced cancer coverage has passed for paid firefighters, need to be added for volunteers.
3. Parkinson Disease has been recognized for paid firefighters, need to be added for volunteers.

Meeting Sites: Past President Robert Ottaviano, Jr. reported that he is working on the place for the October meeting.

Membership/Recruitment: Secretary Juan Batta reported that the committee will be meeting soon. Treasurer Stephen Goodman reported that if you have any ideas, you can contact him until 1:00 AM.

Muster: President McElynn reported that the committee has met with the Museum and they are on-board with the idea. More info to follow.

Nassau Day at the Home: Jose DaRocha reported that the committee has been progressing well, donation letters have been sent. Would like to see a good crowd as the residents love it and that as of now, we have 3 bands from Suffolk coming.

Safety Officers: Jeff Bailes, President of the Fire-EMS Safety Officers Association of NYS, announced that they will give the ISO & the HSO classes at your firehouse for free, but the actual tests cost \$325 for the ISO and \$495 for the HSO. If you are interested, contact any Board Member, call 631-495-1313, or email emsfdsafety@gmail.com. He also reported that he has raffle tickets if anyone is interested.

Scholarship: Financial Secretary Anthony Tripp reported that the applications are up on the website and must be returned by August 1st. You must be a member or child of a member to apply.

Speakers: Past President Krummenacker reported that the speaker for our January meeting will be discussing the requirements for the Safe Haven program.

State Campaign & Hospitality: President McElynn reported that there will be a hospitality room at the FASNY Convention. Our own Past President Krummenacker is running for his 2nd 5-year term as Director, so please come out and support him.

State Chiefs: Financial Secretary Tripp reported that they had a good convention and that he was elected Director – next convention is scheduled in 2024 in Syracuse.

United Memorial: Junior Past President Tucholski gave the following report:
The 2024 United Memorial Service will be held in Valley Stream on Sunday May 7th. The committee will be meeting with their committee soon. Looking for hosts for 2025 & 2026.

Website: President McElynn reported that we have a new website with parts still under construction. The address is www.ncfany.com.

Motion made by Past President Messina, seconded by Peter Waas, and carried to accept the reports of committees.

REPORT OF DELEGATES

FASNY:

DIRECTOR JOSE DaROCHA: gave the following report:

1. The FASNY Convention will be held on August 10th – 12th in Niagara Falls.
2. As of now, the Golf Outing is still on.
3. As was mentioned earlier, Michael Krummenacker is running for his 2nd 5-year term as Director.

DIRECTOR MICHAEL KRUMMENACKER: had no report.

HOME TRUSTEE JAMES INTERDONATI: gave the following report:

1. There are almost 90 residents in the Home.
2. They are looking into building an Assisted Living Facility.
3. If you know of anyone who needs the Home, see himself or Home Trustee Walter Frame and the application can be found on their website.

HOME TRUSTEE WALTER FRAME: gave the following report:

1. Home Trustee Jerry Owenburg is finishing up his 2nd 5-year term and will be replaced by Robert Sutton of Suffolk County.
2. Home Trustee Michael DeVittorio is also finishing up his 2nd 5-year term and will be replaced by Robert Outhouse of Hudson Valley Volunteer Firemen's Association – unfortunately someone will be running against him. President McElynn added that Southern New York Volunteer Firefighter's Association is endorsing Robert Outhouse.

SOUTHERN NY VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER'S ASSOCIATION:

PRESIDENT JUAN BATTÀ: gave the following report:

1. Thanks to all who attended our Installation Dinner – it was greatly appreciated.
2. Thanks to Robert Ottaviano, Jr. for his job as President for the past 3 years.
3. The website has been updated.
4. The next meeting is scheduled for Saturday October 7th at Stony Point in Rockland County.

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT STEVE KLEIN: was excused for this meeting.

COMMUNICATIONS: The following communications were sent by the Association:

1. President McElynn sent an email response to Learning Haven website stating that we decided against adding a link from our website to theirs.
2. Secretary Batta sent a letter to the Garden City Park FD thanking them for hosting our tonight's general membership meeting.
3. President McElynn sent letters thanking the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Baldwin Fire District and the Chief's Office of the Baldwin FD for their support on his becoming President of the Association and for hosting our Annual Meeting in May.
4. President McElynn sent letters to everyone who took an advertisement in our Installation Dinner Journal as well as a copy of the journal.

The Association received the following communications:

1. A notice of a fundraiser was received for Mayor Robert Kennedy of Freeport to be held on July 20th.

Motion made by Past President Messina, seconded by Paul Lottes, and carried to accept the communications as read and deal with those that need action under New Business.

BILLS:

Fire Chiefs Council of Nassau County	Minutes printing for the 2021 and 2022 years @ \$80 per	\$1,600.00
Firefighters Cancer Support Network	Golf Outing Hole Sponsor	\$50.00
Crescent Beach Club	Annual Dinner – deposit	\$200.00
Leon Tucholski	6 50-year certificates	\$120.00
Crescent Beach Club	Annual Dinner	\$10,000.00
Crescent Beach Club	Annual Dinner – balance	\$1,450.00
SNVFA	Journal Ad	\$100.00
R & R Trophies & Awards	Annual Dinner	\$110.00
Charles Destefano	Annual Dinner – refund	\$160.00
James Fiore	Annual Dinner – refund	\$160.00
Kevin McElynn	Dinner at Special Board Meeting	\$300.00
Garden City Park FD	July Meeting Stipend	\$500.00
Kevin McElynn	FASNY Convention Stipend	\$1,500.00
Juan Batta	Secretary Stipend	\$400.00
Anthony Tripp	Financial Secretary Stipend	\$400.00
Stephen Goodman	Treasurer Stipend	\$400.00
Total Bills		\$17,450.00

Motion made by Peter Waas, seconded by Joy Underhill, and carried to pay the bills.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Motion made by Treasurer Goodman, seconded by Steve Morelli, and carried to purchase the Fire-Ems Safety Officers Association of NYS raffle tickets that Jeff Bailes has for \$100.
2. Donald Holupka reported that the next scheduled meeting of the Long Island Association of Exempt & Benevolent Fire Associations will be held on Friday July 28th in Bay Shore.
3. Sergeant-at-Arms Wicks reported that he has brochures on what the South Shore Association of Fire Departments Association is all about.
4. Second Vice President Fred Robinson reported that the next meeting of the South Shore Association of Fire Departments Association will be on September 15th in Oceanside.
5. Jose DaRocha reported that one of the benefits of becoming a member of a fire department is that there is no tuition charge for NCC.
6. A discussion was held on having a program for firefighters and EMS workers similar to Section 8 Housing.

7. Motion made by President McElynn, seconded by Jose DaRocha to take out a full page ad in the FASNY Convention Journal supporting Micheal Krummenacker for his 2nd 5-year term as Director, if it's not too late.

REPORT OF OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: President Kevin McElynn gave the following report:

1. Thanks once again to the Garden City Park FD for hosting tonight's meeting – still looking for a host for October, January 2024, & May 2024.
2. We need to increase membership in the Association – we need to get some new faces on committees.
3. Please contact himself or one of the Vice Presidents if there is anything happening that you think we should know about.
4. He attended the North Shore Fire Council meeting at Oyster Bay Steamers this month.
5. Please be aware – he was notified that some departments have been FOILED for response time information from the press, If you are ever questioned by anyone, please be careful what you say, and, if possible, let one of us know.
6. Stay safe as it is now summertime – keep hydrated. Call OEM for the rehab unit – they bring cold water along with 2 air-conditioned vehicles. Keep an eye on everyone and rotate manpower at scenes.
7. Thank you for our Installation Dinner turnout.
8. As you noticed, we will not be going committee by committee, if a committee has a report, let us know – written report are appreciated.
9. We will be starting a new committee to work on fundraising for the Association. Inflation has taken a bite out of our budget and we need to think of ways to bring funding in. The Budget Committee is working on ways to adjust our spending. More to follow.
10. Hope to see you all at the FASNY Convention in Niagara Falls.
11. Please check out our new website www.ncfany.com . If you have any historical pictures you want to share, please let me know – you will always get them back. If your department is having an event, we can post it on our website.

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT: First Vice President Edmund Schmidt gave the following report:

1. Good to see all of you tonight.
2. As President McElynn stated we have new committees, please give them any help they require.
3. He will be attending the FASNY Convention.
4. Please stay safe.

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT: Second Vice President Fred Robinson reported that he spoke with Alana Petrocelli at the Museum regarding the proposed muster.

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Sergeant-at-Arms Jon Wicks reported that 42 members in attendance for tonight's meeting with 1 guest.

TREASURER: Treasurer Stephen Goodman reported on the finances of the Association.

SECRETARY: Secretary Juan Batta gave the following report:

1. As President McElynn stated earlier, please keep the written reports coming.
2. There are copies of committees up here at the dais, please help yourself.

FINANCIAL SECRETARY: Financial Secretary Anthony Tripp gave the following report:

This month I have turned over to the Treasurer the sum of \$45 in dues. Of the 521 members, 3 have paid their dues for this for a total of \$45.

Dues will be mailed out for the current year.

There are 26 out of the 101 Departments and Companies that owe their dues for the year beginning May 1, 2022. All Member, Department and Company dues notices for 2023-2024 will be mailed out.

If you are a delegate for a Department or Company, you still have to pay dues. That designation is only for voting purposes.

Status of the Membership:

Dues paying members	521
Dept./Co.s members	<u>101</u>
Total Membership	622

Members not paid	519
Dept./Co.s not paid	101

Motion made by Past President Messina, seconded by Past President Frame, and carried to accept the report of officers.

GOOD & WELFARE:

1. Secretary Batta reported that he recently had his 2-year biopsy of his transplanted heart and everything is good.
2. President McElynn reported that Baldwin Hook & Ladder Co. 2, which is his company, is having a car show on Thursday nights - \$3 per car, which goes towards their scholarship fund located at Firefighters Field on Atlantic Ave.
3. Past President Krummenacker reported that the Hicksville FD is being visited by PESH. He was informed that the only time PESH comes for a visit are if there is a death of injury at an emergency scene or at the firehouse during training or one of the members makes a complaint. They look for paperwork covering training for the membership. Fines could be \$250 per person (missing paperwork) per day (until said paperwork is found or the visit ends).
4. Financial Secretary Tripp reported that there is a new inspector from DOH checking ambulances. This guy is by the book, which could lead to fines. This inspector usually waits at hospitals.
5. Treasurer Goodman reported that electronic PCRs are getting kicked back to the Department/Company for improper information – if not corrected, this could also lead to fines.

DARK HORSE & 50/50:

Sergeant-at-Arms Wicks reported that he collected \$175 for the dark horse with 6 \$10 prizes to be raffled off and he collected \$210 for the 50/50 with \$105 going to the winner. These prizes were then raffled off.

CLOSING PRAYER: was given by Sergeant-at-Arms Wicks.

MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT: was made by Past President Kohlmier, seconded by Past President Frame, and carried.

TIME: 9:30 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Juan Batta, Secretary