

**NASSAU COUNTY FIREFIGHTER'S ASSOCIATION**  
**GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**  
**HICKSVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT**  
**JULY 17, 2024**

President Kevin McElynn called the meeting to order at 7:59 PM. Salute to the Flag was led by Sergeant-at-Arms John 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.

President McElynn introduced Chief of Department Joseph Difronzo who welcomed us to the Hicksville Fire Department. President McElynn thanked him for the use of his firehouse for the meeting tonight.

Roll Call of the Officers, Past Presidents, Directors, and Committee Chairs was taken, and excuses noted. Motion made by Paul Lottes, seconded by Past President Richard Messina, and carried to accept the Roll Call of Officers with the excuses noted.

Motion by Past President Messina, seconded by Paul Lottes and carried to accept the minutes of the May meeting as posted to our website.

**INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:**

President McElynn introduced FASNY Director Frank Guarino.

**INTRODUCTION OF GUEST SPEAKERS:**

President McElynn introduced Past Chief Ray Maguire of the Freeport Fire Department who spoke about the changes to OSHA 1910.156 and how it affects the fire service.

**REPORT OF COMMITTEES**

**Awards:** President McElynn gave the following report:

Due to circumstances beyond our control, our ceremony for the Firefighter of the Year has been postponed. A new date and location will be announced.

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

1. The Burn Center Foundation spoke at the Nassau County Legislature meeting on Monday, June 24th, in order to make an appeal for bipartisan support of the Burn Center, and of the Hospital. Prior to the event, the fire service had been asked to turn out to show its support. The response was disappointing. Our Initial thought was that people just

don't care, but that probably is not the real issue. The real issue is that we all seem to think that 'somebody else' is going to deal with the issues that face us. This mentality is too widespread in the fire service, and it's causing us to lose ground in all areas.

2. On the bright side, Dr. Jeannine Weiss, a Navy Reserve dentist, and a member and President of Albertson Fire Company, reached out to the Burn Center Foundation a few months ago, to see if we could establish a training program with NUMC's Burn Center and the Department of Defense, to train its medical personnel in the treatment of burn injuries. Dr. David Parizh, acting chief medical officer at the Burn Center, got right on it, and quickly got a program in place. The first session was held on Sunday, July 7th, an online presentation on the basics of burn care. More such sessions will follow. By this fall, military personnel will be coming to NUMC for hands-on training. This program will be of enormous benefit to our Burn Center and its staff, and will provide great benefit to the members of our military services. Many thanks to Dr. Weiss, and to Dr. Parizh.

**Dinner:** Junior Past President Leon Tucholski gave the following report:

1. The Annual Installation Dinner will be Tuesday June 17, 2025 at the Crescent Beach Club with the cocktail hour starting at 6:30 PM and the installation at 8:00 PM.

Past President Messina stressed the need for journal ads for the journal that will be produced.

**Executive Council:** Secretary Juan Batta reported that the next scheduled meeting is Thursday July 25<sup>th</sup> in Oceanside, Terrace Hose Co. 3.

**Exempts:** Junior Past President Tucholski gave the following report:

1. The 2% Seminar will be held on Friday August 9<sup>th</sup> in Niagara Falls as part of the FASNY Convention starting at 1:30 PM.

Donald Holupka reported that Benevolent Associations should have received their 2% monies from NYS already. He also reported that NYS distributed a total of \$96,859,619.50, which was broken down as follows:

Total due to Fire Districts/Departments/Benevolents	\$57,916,727.92
Fire Department of the City of New York (FDNY	\$29,10,982.58
Firefighters Association of the State of New York (FASNY – for the Home)	9,874,272.00
Superintendent of Financial Services	<u>\$164,637.00</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$96,859,619.50</b>

**Explorer/Junior Firefighters:** Jerry Presta was excused for the meeting, so the following report was read by Secretary Batta:

1. Our last meeting was held on June 9<sup>th</sup> at Hicksville FD Station 3, we had 196 Juniors present. FASNY awarded the Association the 2024 Recruitment & Retention Award.
2. The 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Camp Fahrenheit 516 is all set. The camp will take place from July 22<sup>nd</sup> to July 26<sup>th</sup>. We have 48 Juniors from 21 different Fire Companies/Departments. Media Day is Thursday July 25<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM. All are welcomed to attend. Graduation will take place on Friday July 26<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 PM at the Morelli Center in Bethpage. All are welcomed to attend.
3. On June 15<sup>th</sup>, we were invited to the first Suffolk County Junior Firefighters Association's meeting at the Selden FD. President Khadeejah Memon and I were asked to speak. They are doing well and are off to a great start. We are looking forward to start doing events with them.
4. We are all set for our Exchange trip to Germany, we leave on August 16<sup>th</sup>. We have 30 Juniors and 8 Chaperones from 20 different Fire Companies/Departments. Also traveling with us is the Chairman of the National Volunteer Fire Council, Chief Kevin Quinn, who introduced us to Marcell.
5. On Saturday November 19<sup>th</sup>, we will be hosting a comedy show sponsored by Laughter Saved Lives. It will be held at the Jericho FD, the cost for dinner and the show is \$40 per person. All proceeds will go towards the NCJFA Training and Education Fund. More information and tickets will be available at the next meeting.
6. The next meeting is on Sunday September 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Carle Place FD starting at 10:00 AM. All are welcomed.

**Fire Police:** Sergeant-at-Arms Wicks reported that the next scheduled meeting is Saturday July 20<sup>th</sup> here at the Hicksville FD Station 3 starting at 1:00 PM.

**Fundraising:** Financial Secretary Anthony Tripp reported that he needs all the raffle tickets, sold and unsold, and the monies by August 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Meeting Sites:** President McElynn reported that our next Membership Meeting is October 16<sup>th</sup> at the Bethpage FD Headquarters and that the January Membership Meeting will be held on January 15, 2025 at the Glan Cove FD.

**Muster:** Don McMahon reported that we now have 13 rigs signed up. President McElynn reported that we need donations for this event.

**Nassau Day at the Home:** Jose DaRocha reported that the date is September 15<sup>th</sup> – would like to have a good turnout. There will be bands playing. There will be a bus leaving from Albertson – see him if you want to ride on the bus.

**Public Information:** President McElynn gave the following report:

1. Our website is doing well and is updated regularly – the website is [www.ncvfany.com](http://www.ncvfany.com).
2. Articles for the FASNY Volunteer Firefighter Magazine have been going in on time.

**Safety Officers:** Mike Barry reported that the next meeting is Wednesday July 24<sup>th</sup> in Uniondale FD Van Ness Station.

**State Campaign & Hospitality:** President McElynn reported that we will have posters setup in the Hospitality Room at the FASNY Convention for Past President Robert Ottaviano, who is running for FASNY Director to replace FASNY Director Jose DaRocha's spot – he is running against two other people. If you are going to the FASNY Convention, please make sure you vote on Friday August 9<sup>th</sup>.

**United Memorial:** Junior Past President Tucholski gave the following report:

1. The 2025 United Memorial is scheduled for Sunday May 4, 2025 tentatively at Bishop Kellenberg HS sponsored by the Uniondale FD starting at 7:00 PM.
2. The 2026 United Memorial is scheduled for May 3, 2026 place to be determined sponsored by the Glen Cove FD.

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

## **REPORT OF DELEGATES**

### **FASNY**

**DIRECTOR JOSE DaROCHA:** gave the following report:

1. As this is his last meeting as FASNY Director, he thanked the Association for the support during his time as a Director. He then received a standing ovation from those in attendance.
2. FASNY is also fighting the proposed changes to OSHA 1910.156.
3. The FASNY Convention is in Niagara Falls August 8<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup>.
4. Robert Ottaviano is running for his position on the FASNY Board – please vote for him.

Donald Holupka reported that the LI Benevolent Association will be writing a letter stating how disappointed that there is not a Convention Journal this year to show support for our candidate Robert Ottaviano.

**DIRECTOR MIKE KRUMMENACKER:** had no report.

**HOME TRUSTEE JAMES INTERDONATI:** reported that the Home has 88 residents, with 5 or 6 on a waiting list.

**HOME TRUSTEE WALTER FRAME:** reported that the Home is building a new garage on the property.

## **SOUTHERN NY**

**PRESIDENT JUAN BATTÀ:** gave the following report:

1. Thanks to all who attended the Installation Dinner on May 31<sup>st</sup> at the Nassau County Bar Association – I think it went very well.
2. Thanks to all who took out an ad in the Installation Dinner Journal – please remember, that this is the Association's only fundraiser.
3. Our next Membership Meeting is scheduled for Saturday October 5<sup>th</sup> at the Stony Point FD in Rockland County.

**SECOND VICE PRESIDENT STEVE KLEIN:** was excused for the meeting.

**SECRETARY KEVIN McELYNN:** asked that when you give a report or make a motion at the Southern NY meeting, please state who you are and where you are from – it makes the minutes easier to take.

**TREASURER ROY DAHLEN:** had no report.

## **COMMUNICATIONS:**

**Received:** Secretary Batta reported that there were no communications received.

**Sent:** Secretary Batta reported that the following letter was sent:

1. A letter to the Board of Fire Commissioners of the Hicksville Fire District thanking them for the use of Station 3 for tonight's meeting.

**BILLS:**

Bellmore FD	Meeting Expense – Food for May Meeting	\$500.00
Kevin McElynn	Office Expense – Postage	\$136.00
TAPS	Bibles for United Memorial	\$107.85
Tony Tripp	Paper	\$30.00
Crescent Beach Club	Deposit for 2025 Installation Dinner	<u>\$500.00</u>
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,273.85</b>

Motion made by Larry McGovern, seconded by Past President Messina, and carried to pay the bills.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** None.

**NEW BUSINESS:** None.

**REPORT OF OFFICERS**

**PRESIDENT KEVIN McELLYNN:** gave the following report:

1. Thank you for coming tonight. We hope you enjoyed the barbecue.
2. If your committee is making a report at a meeting, please provide a written report as it makes the Secretary's job much easier.
3. Summer has arrived, start thinking about REHAB earlier in the operation. The unit is available, all you have to do is request from FIRECOM.
4. I will be attending the FASNY Convention in Niagara Falls.
5. Have a great, safe summer!

**FIRST VICE PRESIDENT EDMUND SCHMIDT:** was excused for the meeting.

**SECOND VICE PRESIDENT FRED ROBINSON:** wished everyone a great summer.

**SERGEANT-AT-ARMS JOHN WICKS:** reported that we have 47 people in attendance tonight.

**TREASURER STEPHEN GOODMAN:** gave the following report:

1. He reported on the net worth of the Association. His report is on file.
2. He attended the following:
  - A. NCFA General Meeting on May 11<sup>th</sup>.
  - B. Nassau County Fire Commission Emergency Management Committee – monthly meeting on May 21<sup>st</sup>.
  - C. Executive Council General Meeting on May 23<sup>rd</sup>.
  - D. Nassau County Fire Commission Emergency Management Committee Activation on June 5<sup>th</sup>.
  - E. Nassau County Fire Commission Emergency Management Committee Activation on June 7<sup>th</sup>.
  - F. Nassau County Fire Commission Emergency Management Committee Activation on June 11<sup>th</sup>.
  - G. Nassau County Fire Commission Emergency Management Committee Activation on June 12<sup>th</sup>.
  - H. NCFA Museum Muster Committee meeting on June 17<sup>th</sup>.
  - I. Nassau County Fire Commission Emergency Management Committee – monthly meeting on June 18<sup>th</sup>.
  - J. NCFA Board of Directors Meeting on June 19<sup>th</sup>.
  - K. Museum Muster Committee Meeting on July 3<sup>rd</sup>.
  - L. Museum Muster Committee Meeting on July 15<sup>th</sup>.
  - M. Nassau County Fire Commission Emergency Management Committee – monthly meeting on July 16<sup>th</sup>.

**SECRETARY JUAN BATTA:** gave the following report:

1. There are copies of the Committees Listing up here on the dais – help yourselves.
2. Have a Happy, Healthy, and Safe Summer!

**FINANCIAL SECRETARY TONY TRIPP:** gave the following report:

1. This month I have turned over to the Treasurer the sum of \$30 in dues. Of the 532 members, 4 have paid their dues this year for a total of \$120.
2. Dues bills have been mailed out for the current year.
3. There are 12 out of the 101 Departments and Companies that owe their dues for the year beginning May 1, 2022. There are 20 Departments and Companies that owe their dues for the year beginning May 1, 2023.
4. Status of the Membership:

Dues paying members	532
Dept./Co. members	<u>101</u>
Total Membership	633

Members not paid	528
Dept./Co. not paid	101

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

### **GOOD & WELFARE:**

1. Paul Yura thanked those who attended the fundraiser for the FIRECOM dispatcher – 198 people attended.
2. Donald Holupka reported that the next scheduled meeting for the LI Exempts and Benevolent Association is July 26<sup>th</sup> at the Coram FD.
3. Sergeant-at-Arms Wicks reported that Past President Larry Dixon is having surgery on Friday, please keep him in your prayers.
4. Larry Wagu reported that Nassau County is hosting Veteran's Lunch on Friday August 9<sup>th</sup> at 2 locations: Bethpage Community Center located at 103 Grumman Road West and St. Mary's Knights of Columbus located at 78 Hempstead Ave in Lynbrook. Doors open at 11:30 AM at both locations. You must RSVP by August 5<sup>th</sup>.

### **DARK HORSE & 50/50:** Sergeant-at-Arms Wicks gave the following report:

1. We collected \$200 for the Dark Horse, with \$100 going to the Associations and there will be 5-\$20 prizes along with two other prizes.
2. We collected \$210 for the 50/50 with \$105 for the Association and \$105 for the winner.

Tickets were drawn and prizes were handed out.

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

**MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT:** made by Past President Frame, seconded by Past President Interdonati, and carried.

**TIME: 9:11 PM.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Juan Batta, Secretary