

NASSAU COUNTY FIREFIGHTER'S ASSOCIATION
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
OCEANSIDE FIE DEPARTMENT – SOUTH SIDE HOSE
COMPANY #2
JULY 15, 2026

President Edmund Schmidt called the meeting to order at 8:00 PM. Salute to the Flag was led by Sergeant-at-Arms Donald McIntosh. The opening prayer was given Father Christopher Costigan, which was followed by 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.

President Schmidt introduced First Assistant Chief Kevin Klein who welcomed us to the South Side Hose Company #2 of the Oceanside Fire Department. President Schmidt thanked him for the use of his firehouse for the meeting tonight as well as for the dinner.

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

Motion by Junior Past President McElynn, seconded by Past President Otto Kohlmier, Jr. and carried to accept the minutes of the May meeting as posted to our website.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS: President Schmidt asked Jerry Presta to introduce the following guests: Marcell, Junior Firefighter Coordinator from Germany and Phil Negron, Nassau County Junior Firefighters Association Coordinator.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES

Dinner: Past President Leon Tucholski gave the following report:

The Installation Dinner will be held on Tuesday June 15, 2027 at the Coral House in Baldwin – Cocktail Hour at 6:30 PM, with the Installation and Dinner to follow at 8:00 PM.

Executive Council: Secretary Juan Batta gave the following report:

The next meeting of the Executive Council will be held on Thursday July 23rd at the Albertson Fire Company at 7:30 PM.

Exempts: Past President Tucholski gave the following report:

The FASNY 2% Tax Forum will be held following a seminar titled “Ethics and Responsibilities”, which is held from 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM, on Friday August 21st at the FASNY Convention in Elliottcotville starting at 2:00 PM with no interruptions.

Explorer/Junior Firefighters: Jerry Presta gave the following report:

1. Our last meeting was on June 7th at the Hicksville Fire Department. It was our annual BBQ Lunch Meeting. There were 128 juniors in attendance. VEEB was there to present the Red Honor Graduation Cords.
2. We held one of our single day training sessions on May 17th at the FSA. Aerial ladders at the tower and Thermal Imaging – 28 Juniors attended.
3. We held our 2nd Annual Junior Firefighter Challenge on May 31st at the FSA. We had 17 teams over 6 events. 1st place went to Franklin Square Juniors, 2nd place went to New Hyde Park Juniors, 3rd place went to Bethpage Juniors. All proceeds go to the Nassau County Burn Center Foundation.
4. Our flights are booked for the 2026 Exchange Trip from August 23th – 23rd. We have 31 people going: 25 Juniors and 6 Chaperones. Marcel from Germany is here in the US now taking the 2-week combo course at the FSA. He took the online Essentials course with the Juniors last year.
5. We will be setting up an Advisors exchange conference in the spring, inviting advisors to see the areas and people involved in the county exchange program.
6. Camp Fahrenheit 516 is all set – we have 45 Juniors from 28 Departments/Companies attending.
7. We have 24 Juniors finishing up the online essentials course this week. We will be holding another class in the fall.
8. The next meeting is on Sunday September 27th at the Oceanside Fire Department. All are welcome.

Fire Police: Second Vice President Jon Wicks gave the following report:

1. The next meeting of the Nassau County Fire Police Association will be held on Saturday July 18th at the Glen Cove FD starting with lunch at 12:00 PM.
2. The next meeting of the Volunteer Fire Police Association of New York State will be held at the Willowvale Fire Company located at 3549 Oneida St, Chadwicks, NY on October 24th.

Exempts: Past President Tucholski gave the following report:

The FASNY 2% Tax Forum will be held following a seminar titled “Ethics and Responsibilities”, which is held from 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM, on Friday August 21st at the FASNY Convention in Ellipticottville starting at 2:00 PM with no interruptions.

Legislative: Past President Robert Ottaviano gave the following report:

1. The Income Tax Credit was passed by both houses of the State Legislature and is waiting for Governor Hochul to sign. There are copies of a letter to Governor Hochul to have her sign the bill on the dais at the front of the room – please sign it and turn them over to Secretary Batta before you leave the meeting tonight – there is also a copy of the letter on the FASNY website as well.
 2. The VFBL Parity Bill did not pass this session – will have to submit it next session.
- Second Vice President Wicks added that the FASNY Legislative Conference is scheduled for November 6 – 8 at the Hilton Garden Inn in Troy.

Meeting Sites: Past President Ottaviano reported that the next membership meeting will be held on October 21st at the Glenwood Fire Company and the January 20, 2027 meeting will be held in Port Washington – location to be determined.

Museum: First Vice President Fred Robinson gave the following report:

1. There is a three-phase project that will be starting soon:
 - a. The first phase will be revamping the fire apparatus to different locations within and the possibility of taking a couple out and revamping the display cases as well.
 - b. The second phase will be relocating the shop for the restoration crew.
 - c. The third phase will be adding a second floor for displays.
2. The 1931 Mack Pumper is 99% complete – just a couple of minor things need to be done.
3. As of the end of June, there have been 19,000 visitors to the Museum.

Nassau Day at the Home: Jose DaRocha reported that the date is September 20th – the gifts for the residents have been purchased – please come, the residents get a big kick out of it.

Scholarship: Financial Secretary Anthony Tripp reported that no one has submitted any scholarship applications as of yet.

State Chiefs: Financial Secretary Tripp gave the following report:

1. The New York State Association of Fire Chiefs convention was held in June.
2. Thanks to Thomas Pelligrino for the hard work in the Hospitality Room.

3. Was elected to Director.

United Memorial: Past President Tucholski gave the following report:

1. The next United Memorial Service will be held on Sunday May 2, 2027 at the Oceanside HS, hosted by the Oceanside Fire Department.
2. The 2028 United Memorial Service will be held on Sunday May 7, 2028 hosted by the Bethpage Fire Department, location to be determined.
3. Looking for a host of the 2029 United Memorial Service.

Motion made by Past President McElynn, seconded by Sergeant-at-Arms McIntosh, and carried to accept the reports of committees.

REPORT OF DELEGATES

FASNY

DIRECTOR ROBERT OTTAVIANO: gave the following report:

1. The FASNY Convention will be held in Ellicottville on August 19th – 22nd with voting taking place on Wednesday August 19th. Please come out and vote for our two candidates: Juan Batta for Director and Jon Wicks for Home Trustee.

DIRECTOR JUAN BATTA: gave the following report:

1. As Director Ottaviano stated, please come up – I need your support.
2. Please sign the letters that were handed out to have Governor Hochul sign the legislation for the Income Tax Credit & hand them in to me after the meeting.

HOME TRUSTEE JAMES INTERDONATI: gave the following report:

1. The Home has a new administrator: Tara Degan, who started this month.
2. As this is his last meeting as a Home Trustee, as his term is up in August, he would like to thank the Association for their support during his 10-year term. He received a round of applause from those in attendance.

HOME TRUSTEE WALTER FRAME: was excused for this meeting.

SOUTHERN NY

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT STEVE KLEIN: reported that the next scheduled meeting will be on October 3rd at the Hilcrest Fire Company in Rockland County.

SECRETARY KEVIN McELLYNN: had no report.

TREASURER ROY DAHLEN: was excused for this meeting.

COMMUNICATIONS:

The following was received by the Secretary:

1. A letter of thanks from the Francis X Pendl Nassau County Firefighters Museum & Education Center for our tee sponsorship in their Golf Outing.

The following was sent by the Secretary:

1. A letter to the Oceanside Fire Department for hosting tonight's meeting.

Motion made by Past President Messina, seconded by Past President Kohlmier, and carried to accept the communications as read.

BILLS:

FASNY Credit Union	Avoidance of fees	\$10.00
Leon Tucholsky	50-Year Certificate	\$20.00
Francis X Pendl Nassau County Firefighters Museum & Education Center	Tee Sponsorship	\$175.00
Executive Council	Hospitality Committee	\$1,000.00
Edmund Schmidt	Food for Board Meeting	\$86.27
Edmund Schmidt	FASNY Convention Stipend	<u>\$1,500.00</u>
	Total	\$2,791.27

Motion made by Junior Past President McElynn, seconded by Dave Chavez, and carried to pay the bills.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Financial Secretary Anthony Tripp reported that he was disappointed in how long Donald Corkery was allowed to talk & bash FASNY at the last meeting. President Schmidt then apologized for letting him speak so long.
2. Fred Senti reported that there are still 2 legislative issues that have to be resolved – the nominal compensation issue (NY State) & OSHA 1910 (Federal) – please keep an eye for these.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Sergeant-at-Arms McIntosh reported that the Muster will be held in August -flyers are on the tables – if interested in having an antique apparatus judged at the Muster, see the flyers.
2. Thomas Pellegrino reported that the Fire Chiefs Council of Nassau County is having their 100th Anniversary dinner at the Crescent Beach Club on Wednesday September 16th at the Crescent Beach Club in Bayville starting at 7:00 PM for \$125 pp – all tickets must be purchased before hand – if interested, see Richard Messina.
3. Donald Holupka reported that the next meeting of the Long Island Exempts Association will be Friday July 31st at the Hicksville Fire Department -Station 3.
4. Fred Senti reported that there was a groundbreaking ceremony for a new 9/11 Memorial in Eisenhower Park earlier today.

REPORT OF OFFICERS

PRESIDENT EDMUND SCHMIDT: gave the following report:

1. Thanks all for coming tonight.
2. Enjoy the summer.
3. Stay safe.

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT FRED ROBINSON: gave the following report:

1. I attended a 50-Year Party at the East Rockaway Fire Department honoring Honorary Chief Ed Goldstein.
2. I attended the Francis X Pendl Nassau County Firefighters Museum & Education Center's Golf Outing at Woodside Country Club in Syosset on June 29th – very well attended.
3. I attended the NYSAFC Annual Conference in Syracuse – went to four very educational seminars. Thanks to Anthony Tripp and his committee for a well-run hospitality room. The date for next year's conference is June 9 – 12, 2027.

4. As per Chris of Bill Fox Badges, the dye for the new badges have been completed and hopefully we will have them in a couple of weeks.
5. The 9/11 Memorial is moving quickly. The Langone Family donated \$125,000 and Nassau County will fund \$120 – 140,000 towards it as well for the replacement.
6. On Saturday September 26th, there will be an Open House at the Firefighters Home in Hudson from 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM – food, family activities, live entertainment & tours of the Home. All proceeds will go to the Home and the care of the residents.
7. The Nassau County Drill is Friday July 17th at the Hempstead course starting at 6:00 PM.
8. The Nassau County Parade is Saturday July 18th in Oceanside starting at 6:00 PM.

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT JON WICKS: gave the following report:

1. There have been and will be large events throughout the County – please stay safe and vigilant.
2. As this is the summer, remember to stay hydrated during the day.
3. Please keep in your thoughts that this is the 40th anniversary of the murder of a Freeport firefighter.

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS DONALD McINTOSH: gave the following report:

1. 23 people signed in for the meeting, but he counted 34 with 2 guests.
2. Thanked all who called or texted during his illness.
3. Dark Horse collected a total of \$130– there will be 3 \$10 prizes along with 3 bottles of cheer and \$100 to the Association.
4. 50/50 Raffle collected \$125 with \$65 for the winner and \$60 for the Association.

TREASURER STEPHEN GOODMAN: was excused for this meeting, so Secretary Batta read his report, which is on file.

SECRETARY JUAN BATT: thanked everyone for their support and that he has copies of the list of committees up on the dais – everyone help themselves.

FINANCIAL SECRETARY ANTHONY TRIPP: gave the following report:

This month I have turned over to the Treasurer the sum of \$20 in dues. Of the 540 members, 279 have paid their dues for 2025-2026 year.

Dues bills will be mailed out for the current year at the end of July.

There are 63 out of the 111 Departments and Companies that owe their dues for the year beginning May 1, 2025.

Status of Membership:

Dues Paying Members 540

Dept/Co Members 111

Total Membership 651

Members Not Paid 261

Dept/Co Not Paid 48

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

GOOD & WELFARE:

1. Sergeant-at-Arms McIntosh reported that Past President Walter Frame is not feeling well and Past President Interdonati is here and on the mend.
2. Peter Glavas reported that Jose DaRocha now has 60 years of service to the Albertson Fire Company. Jose received a round of applause from those in attendance.
3. First Vice President Robinson reported that he spoke Robert Bettes of the Oceanside Fire Department -he is home – please keep him in your prayers.

DARK HORSE & 50/50:

3 \$10 prizes and 3 bottles of cheer were raffled off for the Dark Horse
50/50 raffle prize was \$65

CLOSING PRAYER: was given by Father Costigan.

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

TIME: 9:00 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Juan Batta, Secretary