

NEW JERSEY/NEW YORK VOLUNTEER FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION
OCTOBER 28, 2022
LYNDHURST FIRE DEPARTMENT, LYNDHURST, NJ

Meeting called to order by 1st Vice-President B. Hennig at 2015 hours. Invocation given by Chaplain T. McCoy. Flag salute led by 2nd Vice-President A. Chiodo.

Attendance: 1st Vice-President B. Hennig, 2nd Vice-President A. Chiodo, Secretary R. Weyer, Asst. Secretary N. Naylis, Asst. Treasurer A. Silverman and Financial Secretary J. Schwedhelm. Sergeant-at-Arms R. Ryan. Trustees G. Cerbasi, P. Conner, F. Gluckler, T. McCoy, G. Naylis, and R. Neerhout.

Minutes: There was one correction to the minutes. Tom McCoy was present at the Wallington NJ/NY meeting but his name was omitted from the attendance list. A motion was made, seconded and carried to accept the minutes with the correction.

Special guest: Damien Danis, fire scene photographer, spoke about and showed pictures of fires he photographed.

President's report: R. DeYoung was absent so his report was read by 1st Vice-President Hennig. He thanked Lyndhurst for sponsoring tonight's meeting and thanked Damien Danis for his presentation. He stated new members are always welcome so if anyone knows of any firefighters who may want to join, please get them an application.

1st Vice-president's report: B. Hennig reported the November meeting will be held on December 2nd in New Milford due to a conflict with the November date and meeting place. Hosts for NJ/NY meetings in 2023 are all filled up and most of 2024 is also filled up with just three openings left.

2nd Vice-president's report: A. Chiodo thanked everyone for coming out to the meeting tonight. He offered condolences to Wallington's ex-chief Kyle Mizdol and his wife Kaitlyn whose one year old son passed away recently. He stated this association is in need of new members and in need of members to raise funds in earnest as it appears the revenue from the clothing bins is falling. He is looking into holding a murder mystery dinner and a candlelight bowling night as fundraisers. If anyone has any ideas on fundraising, let him know. Chiodo is also working on tracking down fire departments and members who haven't paid their dues. Lastly, all members must fill out the new beneficiary forms or their family may not get the death benefit when you pass away.

Treasurer's report: Treasurer G. Saigh was absent so his report was read by Asst. Treasurer A. Silverman. One death benefit has been paid out since our last meeting. A motion was made, seconded and carried to accept the report as read.

Financial secretary's report: J. Schwedhelm updated the membership with the total amount of dues collected for the year. There are still quite a few members and fire companies who owe dues. He spoke about doing away with NJ/NY delegates as you don't get any benefits from being a delegate. He said to drop being a delegate and become a personal member instead.

The Signal: G. Naylis stated *The Signal* keeps going out with timely information and he would like to expand it to 8-12 pages but that depends on the members getting ads to offset the cost of the publication.

Fund raising: G. Naylis reported that 180 tickets have been sold for the beefsteak fundraiser to be held tomorrow night in Bergenfield. He reported on the proceeds made from the live burn training raffle donated by the Bergenfield Fire Training Center. A total of \$1,500 was brought in for the NJ/NY with minimal work. The Dumont Fire Department won the raffle and will enjoy a night of live burn training.

Awards: Scholarship and all other award applications are online and will be in *The Signal* in January. P. Conner stated the cut off date is April 1st to submit all award applications. F. Gluckler spoke about the Rudy Appeld award and asked the members to submit names of people deserving this award.

Trustee's report: R. Neerhout stated some of the clothing bins are overflowing and need to be emptied in River Edge. B. Henning stated he would alert G. Saigh.

Political action: G. Naylis stated a bill was signed by the governor that deals with EMS and the fire service supported it as it was a good bill for them that helps with their training. There are still about 8800 bills sitting on the governor's desk that need signing but the chances of them getting passed is slim.

New Jersey State Firemen's Association: G. Naylis reported he is still pushing for cancer screening for volunteers now that career members are covered. Cost is an issue but could be paid for by the State and if not, then by the local Relief Associations.

State Exempt Association: F. Gluckler reported what happened at the last Exempt's meeting and stated the convention will be held in early June.

Bergen County Fire Academy: P. Conner stated the dedication ceremony went well and the theater in the new building has been named after Al Gerber. If anyone wants to use the new building for training, they must put in an application. The next Board meeting will be November 10th at 7 p.m. at the Fire Academy in Mahwah.

Bergen County Fire Prevention Association: A. Silverman stated the next meeting is in December. The Division of Fire Safety will be issuing an updated code for New Jersey based on the 2018 international code amended for New Jersey.

New Jersey Firemen's Home Association: F. Glucker stated the annual Christmas party at the home will be on December 4th. Each guest will receive a gift for Christmas and no one should fear going there to live as the guests are treated like kings.

Unfinished Business: None.

New Business: G. Naylis stated the Westwood Fire Department suffered a LODD of a young firefighter. Naylis stressed the importance of getting a Buscio physical done so something like this possibly can be avoided. Firefighters of all ages should have this physical done annually.

A member stated there is a bill sitting on the New York governor's desk that would give a 10% discount on property taxes for active firefighters and EMS workers. He stated maybe New Jersey could put in a bill like this also. G. Naylis stated there is one already sitting on New Jersey's governor's desk for consideration. Rich Lindsay from Lyndhurst stated for everyone's information you should look into the senior tax freeze in New Jersey and if you qualify, your property taxes are frozen at the year you apply and you may get a check issued to you. Chris Assenheimer spoke about a new program called The Anchor Program that raises the income limits so if you were turned down for making too much money with the senior tax freeze you can reapply but must do so before December 31st.

Sergeant at Arms: R. Ryan stated there were 37 people at this meeting and then gave the vote of thanks to Lyndhurst for hosting this meeting. Chaplain T. McCoy gave the closing prayer.

Adjournment: A motion was made, seconded and approved to adjourn the meeting. 1st Vice-President Hennig adjourned the meeting at 2119 hours.

Respectfully submitted,
Rosemary Weyer, Secretary (recorded the minutes)
Nancy Naylis, Asst. Secretary (typed the minutes)