

NEW JERSEY/NEW YORK VOLUNTEER FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION
NOVEMBER 19, 2021
NEW MILFORD, NJ FIRE DEPARTMENT

Meeting called to order by President R. DeYoung at 1800 hours. Invocation given by Chaplain W. Drew. Flag salute conducted by Vice-President B. Hennig. Deputy Fire Chief Robert O'Brien of the New Milford Fire Department was introduced and welcomed the members.

Attendance: President R. DeYoung, Vice-President B. Hennig, 2nd Vice-President A. Chiodo, Secretary R. Weyer, Asst. Secretary N. Naylis, Treasurer G. Saigh, Asst. Treasurer A. Silverman, Sergeant at Arms R. Ryan, and Chaplain W. Drew. Trustees: A. Blackwell, P. Conner, F. Gluckler, and G. Naylis. Past President R. Kirsch and Mayor Michael Putrino of New Milford. Mayor Putrino thanked all the firefighters in attendance for what they do on a regular basis and stated the New Milford Fire Department will be celebrating 100 years of fire service in 2022.

President's report: R. DeYoung asked all members to pray for family, friends and members during these uncertain times with the pandemic. He thanked all the members in attendance who are veterans for their service protecting this country. DeYoung stated the Bergenfield Holiday Lights Parade is December 19th and their annual beefsteak fundraiser is February 19, 2022. The NJ/NY snow tubing fundraiser is February 3, 2022. He reported the by-laws are being updated. The annual Memorial ceremony at the Fire Academy is May 15, 2022. The next dinner fundraiser at the Runway Diner in Moonachie will be January 23, 2022. Three gift cards were given out to a family in Saddle Brook who suffered a fire. Lastly, he gave health report updates on some of the members who have been in ill health lately.

Vice-president's report: B. Hennig reported firehouses have been secured for NJ/NY meetings in 2022 but there are 4 openings in 2023 in the months of February, March, April, and October. Contact Hennig if your firehouse can sponsor a meeting.

2nd Vice-president's report: A. Chiodo stated speakers are needed for our meetings. If you know of anyone who would like to give a short presentation at our NJ/NY meetings, let him know.

Treasurer's report: Treasurer G. Saigh read his report. A motion to accept it was made, seconded, and approved. He stated the next issue of *The Signal* is due out in January 2022 and articles are always needed. Saigh stated the NJ/NY website has been impossible to get on and update for a long time, but a computer talented firefighter from

Haworth has taken over the site and is getting it back up and working the way it should be. Saigh stated more clothing bins are needed in Bergen County and asked if you know of a town that would take one to let him know right away.

Trustee's report: A. Silverman stated the Bergen County Fire Chief's meeting will be held on December 8th in Closter. Christmas gifts will be given out to the firefighters living in the Boonton Firemen's Home purchased by the Bergen County Firemen's Home Association.

G. Naylis reported that for this two year legislative session, over 10,000 bills were introduced. Less than 500 actually pass and get signed into law so the fire service has to be selective with the issues that we pursue legislatively. The Junior firefighter regulations should be published in the *New Jersey Register* in early 2022 after which they will become law; we will continue to monitor the progress. There is still a push for new homes to be sprinklered but there is stiff resistance from the Home Builder's Lobby. A recent study by the New Jersey Division of Fire Safety found that most fire deaths occur in residential occupancies and that in 2021, the smoke detectors in many of those residences did not work. We also found that most of these fires started in the kitchen or were cooking related. The State Fire Commission endorsed the adoption of the 2018 edition of the International Fire Code to be the New Jersey fire code. There was a report from the New Jersey State Police that there have been over 5,300 vehicle collisions involving emergency service vehicles. Additional details were requested regarding this issue and the State Fire Marshal will request this data from the State Police. The New Jersey State Firemen's Association's executive committee met on November 20th where it was announced a new field examiner named Jenny Hollingsworth has been appointed effective January 1, 2022. The home health care program's monthly benefit for members of the Relief Association has increased up to \$6,000 effective January 1, 2022 and up to \$2,000 for spouses effective on the same date. Currently, there are 155 members receiving benefits and we anticipate that number will increase over time.

F. Gluckler reported on the Rudy Appeld and Ladies Auxiliary Awards available through the NJ/NY and asked the membership to please find people for these awards which will be given out at the annual convention.

Old business: G. Naylis has tickets for the NJ/NY snow tubing fundraiser at Campgaw on February 3, 2022 and for the beefsteak fundraiser Bergenfield is hosting on February 19, 2022. There is an upcoming poker night fundraiser being planned to be held in Bergenfield some time in the future with profits being split between Bergenfield's Fire Training Center and the NJ/NY Fireman's Association. He reminded everyone about

the Holiday Lights Parade to be held in Bergenfield on December 19th and encouraged fire departments to attend or come and see the lights displayed on the fire trucks

New business: Secretary Weyer read the application of the NJ/NY's two newest members; Brian Batchelor from Wallington and John Potts of Maywood. A motion was made, seconded and approved to accept these two new applicants for membership. The next meeting of the NJ/NY will be held in Piermont, New York.

Good and Welfare: President DeYound wished everyone in attendance a very Merry Christmas and a happy, healthy New Year.

Adjournment: A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 2115 hours.

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