

The Suffolk County Volunteer Firefighter's Association, Inc.

P.O. Box 1463

Ronkonkoma, NY 11779

Organized 1886



*Minutes – Meeting of the Suffolk County Volunteer Firefighter's Association
July 22, 2024 - Smithtown*

Meeting Called to order by President Vincent Ammirati at 8pm.
Salute to the flag led by Sgt. At Arms William Mullane
Moment of Silence for departed members followed by the prayer.

Prior to the meeting Third Assistant Chief Jo Palazzo welcomed us to Smithtown and thanked all for all they do for Suffolk County.

Excused tonight are Bill Murray and Joe McCarthy

First Vice President Giovanni Chiarelli read the certificate of thanks; the Chief had to leave.

Motion by Jonathan Barnett seconded by Frank Guarino to accept the minutes of the May meeting, Motion Carried.

Introduction of Guests & Past Association Presidents by Don Bracciodieta

Past Presidents in attendance were Robert McConville, Gene Perry, Jerry Owenburg, Frank Guarino and Robert Sutton.

Guests in attendance were:

Stan Roberts, 1st VP Islip Town VOLLIES
Don Lynch, Chief Fire Marshall, SCFRES
Lori Zatorski, Pas President Suffolk Ladies
Joel Heilbrand, President Town of Babylon
Scott Davonski, Executive Director Suffolk County Fire Academy
Kevin Fitzpatrick 2nd Vice President Suffolk Chiefs

Treasurer's report. Bob McConville gave a total of all accounts. Motion to accept the Treasurer's report as read by Stan Roberts, seconded by Peter DePinto. A copy of the report will be attached to original minutes.

Bills/Correspondence – Jean Christensen

There were no bills.

Received:

Confirmation from West Babylon for January 2025

Thank you from the Ortiz Family. President Ammirati, 2nd VP Dan Brooks and 3rd VP Don Bracciodieta attended the wake for Bryant Ortiz who belonged to Bay Shore-Brightwaters Rescue, Brentwood Legion Ambulance and North Amityville Fire Company.

Report of Presidents:

President Vincent Ammirati

- SCVFA meeting at the Holbrook FD May 28,2024
- Southern New York installation and dinner held at the Nassau County Bar Association in Mineola, New York May 31,2024
- Lindenhurst parade and drill Saturday June 1,2024
- North Babylon FD presented 3 members with 50 years of service certificate June 1,2024
- New York, Cancer Support Network survivor meeting at the Islip town museum June 2,2024
- FASNY Scholarship presentation for Selden FD Junior James Keenan on June 4,2024
- Suffolk County Junior advisor meeting at the Selden FD June 6,2025
- Coram FD Steak Night dinner fundraiser June 8,2024
- Nassau County Junior Firefighters Association meeting at the Hicksville Fire Department June 9,2024
- New York State Chief's conference Syracuse, New York June 11 to June 14
- Suffolk County Junior Volunteer Firefighters Association Meeting at the Selden Fire Department June 15,2024
- Suffolk County Burn Center Meeting at Stony Brook Hospital June 17,2024
- Folds of honor celebration Shirley NY June 18,2024
- Suffolk County lithium-ion battery task force meeting at Selden Fire Department June 20,2024
- FASNY scholarship presentation at the Setauket Fire Department junior Abby Walters June 20,2025
- Suffolk Vollies presidents meeting at the Selden FD June 23,2024
- Suffolk Vollies Executive Board meeting at the Bay Shore FD June 25,2024
- Southern New York executive board meeting at the Selden FD June 26,2024
- FASNY Home Trustee meeting on Zoom July 2,2024
- Suffolk County Fire Academy recognized an Eagle Scout for the all the work he did at the memorial out front. July 8,2024
- FASNY Home trustee meeting Hudson NY July 11&12,2024
- Suffolk County Parade at Farmingville July 13,2024

Report of 1st Vice President Giovanni Chiarelli

Thank you to Selden FD for hosting our Seminar and Live Demonstration on Lithium-Ion Batteries

-Please pick up shirts previously ordered!

-Will be away August 7-11, 2024, and August 17-25, 2024

June 2024

- 2 Islip Museum
- 6 Smithtown Chiefs
- 15 Suffolk County Volunteer Junior Fire Association
- 20 Lithium-ion Battery Task Force
- 23 Officer's meeting
- 25 SCVFA

July 2024

- 10 Smithtown Chiefs
- 12 Suffolk Chiefs
- 23 SCVFA

Thank you to Don Lynch and Bob Sutton for hosting the seminars on Lithium-Ion Batteries.

Report of 2nd Vice President Dan Brooks –

- June 13 – FASNY Legislative Committee Meeting
- June 15 – Suffolk County Jr Firefighters Association Meeting.
- June 21 – Brookhaven Town Fire Chiefs Council
- June 23 – SCVFA Presidents meeting

Report of 3rd Vice President Don Bracciodieta

Received 15 donations for hospitality room at FASNY Convention. President Ammirati thanks all the departments and companies that donated.

May 31, 2024, Southern New York Installation

June 2, 2024, cancel network social

June 10, 2024, west sable fire department for Oakdale Civic Association ion lithium battery demonstration

June 18, 2024, Town Chiefs meeting Sayville fire department

June 19, 2024, Islip town Vol membership meeting Islip Museum

June 20, 2024, lithium battery committee meeting Selden FD

June 25, 2024, executive board meeting Bayshore FD

June 26, 2024, southern New York executive/old meeting Selden FD

July 9, 2024, lithium battery demonstration at Sayville a library

July 13, 2024, county parade Farmingville, New York

July 15, 2024, BURN CENTER meeting Medford Fire Department

July 16, 2024, lithium battery safety demonstration Deer Park fire department

July 18, 2024, lithium safety demonstration Summerfield HOA clubhouse Holtsville, New York

July 21, 2024, Stonybrook Hospital donation check from riders of fire club

We need meeting places for March 25, May 27 membership meetings and June 24th Executive Board meeting.

Annual Dinner – Robert Sutton reported

Please save the date of Saturday October 19, 2024, for our annual dinner and Firefighter of the Year presentation. The event will once again be held at the Coram Fire Department, and the tickets are \$75.00 each. The Applications are here tonight and are also available on our website. If you have any questions at all, please contact me. Have received money for 75 tickets to date.

By-Laws – No Report

Candidate Campaign – Bob McConville reported we are ready to go. Have cups for hospitality and gift for Gene to hand out.

FASNY – 1st Vice President of FASNY Gene Perry gave the following report

- The FASNY Convention is three weeks away, August 8-10 at the Sheraton Niagara Falls and the Niagara Falls Convention Center. The FASNY Convention Committee has done an enormous amount of work to make this a successful event. If you are planning to attend, please enjoy the sights of Niagara Falls and the Convention. In 2025 and 2026 the Convention will be held here on Long Island at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Hauppauge.
- The comment period for the proposed OSHA rule 1910.156 ended yesterday. The total number of comments submitted was 3,765. OSHA has scheduled informal public hearing virtually beginning Tuesday, November 12, 2024, at 9:30am. If necessary, the hearing will continue from 9:30am-4:30pm on subsequent weekdays. The NYS Fire Service Alliance will be discussing how to process with respect to the public hearing.
- The Annual FASNY EMS Seminar will be held at the Selden Fire Department on Saturday, January 25, 2025, with the Pre-Seminar on Friday, January 24, 2025. More information will follow.
- The FASNY Board of Directors traveled to the National Firefighter Memorial in Emmitsburg MD to dedicate the node which the Association purchased in memory of all members of the NYS Fire Service who have passed away in the line of duty.
- I want to take this opportunity to thank all of you for your encouragement and support that you've given me over the past four years that I've been FASNY Vice President. It has been a privilege to sit on the Board of Directors as Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms, Director, Vice President and soon as its President. Although I will be the face of 80,000 Volunteer Firefighters across New York State, Suffolk County will always be first in my heart. Thank you all very much.

Home Trustees – Bob Sutton reported the following:

- There are currently 86 members In the Home.
- There are currently seven applications that are in various stages of completion.
- The annual Evening at the Ritz gala was held on July 19th. Members were treated to hors d'oeuvres on the patio and a Roasted Tenderloin of Beef or Stuffed Filet of Sole, Garlic Whipped Potatoes, Medley of Roasted Summer Vegetables, and New York Style Cheesecake with Assorted Toppings. Members were dressed in their Sunday best and entertainment was provided.
- No Members are currently exhibiting any signs or symptoms of COVID.
- As always, any donations of tee shirts, puzzles, games are always appreciated, if you have any to donate, please contact myself or Vinnie Ammirati.

Father Halpin Memorial Service – Bob Sutton

The Next memorial Service will be held on Sunday May 4, 2025. Tentatively we have the Patchogue interested in hosting, more information will follow concerning this. Please send info on loss of your member of fire dept or auxiliary to our secretary.

Long Island Day at the Firemen's Home – Jerry Owenburg reported:

September 15th – Memorial service at 12:30 – Parade at 1pm, BBQ to follow. The home was able to purchase two ice cream machines – thank you to all.

Firefighter Cancer Support Network – Jerry Owenburg/Bob Sutton

Having BBQ on September 8th at the Nesconset Fire House, starting at 12 noon. More information to follow.

Firefighter of the Year – John Manzi – No report Absent

Headquarters – William Mullane

Bill reported they collected \$202 - \$101 will go to the winner.

Youth in the Fire Service – Keith Vella

- June 15th the Junior Firefighter Association had its first meeting for the kids. There were 40 kids and 60 adults in attendance. The Adult advisors took applications to seat Presidents. Next meeting is a BBQ and Presidents will be assigned for the rest of the year and 2025. Will meet every couple of months. Thanks to Nassau we have a great running start.
- August 30th – 31st will be a FASNY Youth Day at the Suffolk County Fire Academy. There will be two lecturers, and the kids will get both. Saturday will be at the Fire Academy, thank you to the Academy and FASNY. You must be 14 years old to attend on Saturday. To attend the lecture the age is whatever your department age requirement is. All paperwork must go thru FASNY website – no walk-ins will be allowed.

John A. Masem Sr. Scholarship – Keith Vella

We only received two applications and only one was acceptable. The winner was Angelina Zayas of Mastic. Angelina chooses to have her check mailed instead of attending tonight. Remember not only seniors can apply but firefighters who are returning or still in college, but you must be a member of our association.

Legislative – Jerry Owenburg/Dan Brooks

Jerry reported that Suffolk Legislature met today.

- They reappointed Dr. Alan B. Groveman as a member of the Suffolk County Vocational Education and Extension Board.
- Approved the appointment of Patrick Diecidue as an alternate member of the Suffolk County Fire, Rescue and Emergency Services Commission.
- There was a presentation done by Suffolk REMSCO by John Manzi

Dan reported FASNY Legislative committee will be meeting in Niagara Falls.

Resolutions – Gene Perry

Resolution #1

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Association extends its sincere thanks to the Smithtown Fire Department for hosting tonight's meeting. Motion by Frank Guarino, seconded by Bob Sutton, motion carried.

Resolution #2

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Association extends its sincere thanks to the Bay Shore Fire Department for hosting our June Executive Board meeting. Motion by Bob Sutton, seconded by Keith Vella, motion carried.

Resolution #3

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Association extends its Congratulations to Angelina Zayas who was awarded the John A Masem Scholarship, motion by Bob McConville seconded by Jonathan Barnett, motion carried.

Radio Committee – No Report

Sickness –

Don Corkery had a hip replacement.

Anthony LaFerrara fell

Motion by Bob McConville to send get well cards seconded by Jonathan Barnett, motion carried.

Steering – Jerry Owenburg

FASNY is having two contested positions. The steering committee recommends that we only support our own people and SNY Robert Octaviano for Director.

President Ammirati announced that his brother makes hot sauce and there are bottles up front. You are more than welcome to it, it is free. If you would like please make a donation to Multiple Sclerosis.

SCVFA Parade & Drill

Joel Hildebrand reported that the county parade is over. Next parade is August 10th 6pm – Islip Town Parade in Sayville. The parade starts in West Sayville.

State Parade is August 18th in Central Islip – 1pm start and it starts by the library, is one mile.

September 21 is the Town of Babylon parade in Amityville Village – starts at 5pm.

He has raffle tickets for the Officials if anyone is interested.

They are in need of parade official.

State meeting is Friday at noon

Training & Education – Giovanni Chiarelli - Progress

William Reilly Journal – Giovanni Chiarelli

Looking for ads. Can be business also. We have received 30 ads to date.

Publicity & Public relations & Website – Dan Brooks / Roger Putnam

Dan said if you want anything promoted on our page reach out to him.

Ways & Means – William Mullane – No Report

Lithium Ion Battery - Bob Sutton reported they are moving along.

The Lithium-Ion Battery Task Force met on June 20th to go over our progress. We have been very active, in mailing presentations throughout the County. If anyone knows of a civic group, local library or any other group that would be interested in a presentation please let us know the particulars.

Next meeting is September 5th in Selden at 3pm.

The following presentations are scheduled

- September 16 – Bohemia Civic Council
- October 8 – Middle county Library
- October 9 – East Northport or Northport Library – location TBD

Fire Prevention – Don Bracciodieta

- September 6 membership meeting in Nesconset
- Logo for this year is “Smoke Alarms – Make them work for you”.
- If you need anything let the Educators know.
- Be sure to include Lithium Ion batteries in your fire prevention.

Credentials – Tom Prendergast – May – 10 dues were paid for a total of \$475 and in June 9 dues were paid for a total of \$505.

Membership – Tom Prendergast – No report

EMS/REMSCO – Tom Prendergast -

- No Transfer of Authority at the last REMSCO meeting.
- There are two EMS officer positions vacant at Yaphank.
- County rapid EMT course going on right now to August 2024
- EMT Refresher going on right now at Nesconset to October 2024
- September 2024 – Dec 2024 EMT Refresher Islip Building Exchange ambulance
- New EMT courses will be starting in September
- CME's must be done and submitted 60 days before expiration date
- Bridge Program – Currently 7 students in the Paramedic EMT-CC to Paramedic May – June 2025
- April 2026 will be the last opportunity to enroll in the Bridge Program.
- CFR 35 (+2)
- EMT 5363 (+536)
- CC 140 (-9)
- Paramedic 973 (+135)

Total of 6511 with 1113 ALS Providers

There were recently two graduation Paramedic programs – Stony Brook and Suffolk Community College.

The NYS legislature adjourned for the year without passing several EMS reform bills and they will form the basis for our 2025 advocacy agenda. The following passed the Senate
Essential Service – S.4020-C (Mayer) / A.3392-C (Otis); Income Tax Credit – S.7285 (Martinez) / A7524 (Thiele) (Part CC, S.8309-A); Income Tax Credit and Property Tax Exemption – S.6630 (Mannion) / .6274 (Barrett) and Thruway Permits for EMS Vehicles – S.6645(Comrie) / A.6136 (Eachus)

NY Langone's Third Annual Long Island Trauma Symposium is October 17, 2024 – NYU Langone Health Mineola, NY / in-person.

Suffolk County Chiefs – Chief Fitzpatrick, 2nd Vice President

- Thank you for all that you do.
- September 23 is their Golf Outing at Landing.
- September 13 is their next meeting in Mattituck.
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Suffolk County Association of Fire Districts – Scott Thebold reported

- Next meeting is August 15 in Mattituck.
- They are very busy with battery and other issues.
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Suffolk County FRES

Anthony Sullo stated that Pat Beckley is resigning, and we should support Rudy Sunderman as Commissioner.

Fire Marshall Lynch reported

- ERG for 2024 is being given out please contact the Fire Marshal's Office.
- Radio survey has been sent out please complete and return this to have all Departments info in our command posts.
- Mutual Aid Response Plan and Fire Police Response Plan has been sent to all departments. There is an OPT out portion only.

- ECHO Response Plan for Drownings, Electrocutions and Hangings has been sent out to all departments for viewing of policy as a reminder also all employees and DFC's will be notified of drownings. As you have seen a rise in this topic. At FRES we are doing a social media campaign on Swim Awareness.
- Talk groups for Brookhaven Town are up and running. These channels are by request only for events or emergencies.
- One new Fire Marshal has stated effective 7/22/24.

Suffolk County VEEB Board – Gary Schaum was absent – Scott Devonski gave the following report

- The Medal of Valor Awards Presentation will be 7pm on Friday, September 27th at the Central Islip FD.
- Save the Dates: FASNY Youth Days August 30th and 31st at the SCFA. More information to follow.
- Each month the SCFA develops a "Training Bulletin" that is distributed to our 1,200 email subscribers as well as all active Fire Chiefs. This one-page document contains valuable information that may be good refresher on a variety of topics. This month's bulletin covers "Fire Dynamics & Flashover". Please visit our website to subscribe to our email list or to view past training bulletins.
- Any department wishing to fly unmanned aerial vehicles (UAV's) on the grounds of the SCFA must have pre-approval. All UAVs shall have a Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) registration number, and the UAV pilot shall be licensed in accordance with FAA part 107. Contact the SCFA for other specific requirements and required approvals.
- National Certification Exams (Pro-Board) to be held at the SCFA. Fire Officer 1 (August 10), Firefighter 1 (October 26) and Firefighter 2 (September 7). Visit our website or social media pages for further information.
- Capital Projects: sidewalks, curbing, paving are in progress, as well as Taxpayer and Vehicle Fires training prop improvements.
- SCFA Basic Exterior Firefighter Operations (BEFO), Interior Fire Operations (Firefighter 1) and Fire Officer 1 completed after August 31, 2023, are eligible for the NYS Training Stipend. Upon completion of each course, the rosters are submitted to NYS and appear on the students NYS training record. We encourage your members to apply for the stipend. Please visit our website for further information.
- All Field sessions begin at 7pm. Be sure to hydrate before the drill, and properly rehab based on drill type, level of exertion and weather conditions – cooling, rest and hydration are necessary to work safely.
- OSHA comment period ended 7/22, there were 3,765 comments.

Suffolk County Ladies Auxiliary –Past President Lori Zatorski gave the following report

- We have a fundraiser now for \$500 in gift cards. Tickets are \$10 each.
- Sue Moylan of Mastic Ladies Auxiliary is the winner of the LAFASNY Member Recognition Award and will be honored at the Convention in Niagara Falls.
- Our August meeting was cancelled.

NYS Fire Police – Frank Guarino

- (1) July 24, 2024, VFASNY Zoom Training. You must Pre-Reg for this training. 6:45 PM
- (2) Aug 22, 2024 Refresher class in Riverhead has be Change to Southampton FD 7:00 PM
- (3) Sept 9,2024 Fire Academy Suffolk County. 21 Hour Class Starts 7:00 PM
- (4) Sept 14, 2024 Suffolk County Academy Fire Police Field Day 8:45 AM & 1:00 PM
- (5) Sept 17, 2024 Town of Babylon Fire Police Meeting Farmingdale FD 361 Main Street
- (6) Sept 20, 2024 Islip Town Fire Police Meeting at Bohemia 950 Pearl Street NY Bohemia 11716 7:00 PM

- (7) Sept 25, 2024 VFPASNY Zoom Training. You must Pre-Reg for this Training. 6:45 PM
(8) Sept 27, 2024 Suffolk County Region # 7 Meeting & Election at Smithtown FD River Property

Tomorrow night is zoom training at 6:45 – re-register for Training.

Tom Prendergast reported that Brookhaven Fire Police Field Day is September 14th. Thank you to all the Fire Police that helped at the County Parade.

Suffolk County Firefighters Burn Center – Paul Callargeri

- They met in Medford.
- Looking into camera to check burn and a scan. Can work on burn easier and quicker.
- Pineapple gel approved – helps heal burn quicker
- Fundraiser at the Cidar House is in the works.

Suffolk County Safety Officer's - No Report

Long Island Benevolent – No Report

Southern NY VFA – Next meeting is October 5th at Stony Hollow

North Fork VFA –Artie Brewer reported

- Next meeting is tomorrow 7/23 in Wading River FD
- August 10th is East Marion 100 Anniversary.
- North Fork Vol. Firefighter – Fireman of the Year was awarded to Cutchogue FD Water Rescue Team of (4) for rescue of 2 teens in Long Island Sound.
- Mattituck FD has lost a 75-year member Barney Harris and retired 35 year Southold Police Officer.

Babylon Town VFA – no Report

Nassau County – Absent

Islip Town VFA – Stan Roberts

South Shore – No report

Islip Town Fire Museum- October 5th, Saturday is Chili Cook Off and Muster. January 31st is the show at the Coliseum.

Old Business – None

New Business –

Bob McConville made a motion to purchase \$100 worth of chances from the Ladies, seconded by Bob Sutton, motion carried.

Good and Welfare – No report

Dark Horse – Winner was Jerry Owenburg.