2021 Annual Meeting NYSAFC, Inc. April 18, 2021 at 6:30 PM on Zoom

Call to Order at 6:40 by Chief Chaplain VanWie

Opening Devotions - Based on I Corinthians 11. There is some bickering, good news found that when alarm sounds we work as one with unity of focus to get the job done during an alarm.

Pledge of Allegiance by 1st Deputy Chief Chaplain Tom With

Roll Call – listed by names

Approve Minutes from April 30, 2019 Annual Meeting, Motion by Hessel, 2nd by Frank Trotta to accept as presented. All in favor, carried.

Minutes (and attendance list) from May 12, 2020 Annual Meeting -not found in file-

Annual Reports:

Chief Chaplain VanWie spoke about this unusual year, how he helped many chaplains, with prayer concerns, requests and attended multiple zoom meetings (ie: NYS fire council) etc.

First Deputy Chief Chaplain With - Busy helping chaplains outside of his county and in his area.

Second Deputy Chief Chaplain Bolster - Attended zoom meetings and different things.

Treasurer - 2020 Reports on file - BL Foster Jan/Dec, 2021 1st quarter David Quinn

Executive Secretary Foster shared Communications (two deaths Chaplain Jones, Chaplain Gaskin)

Regional Directors:

West – Vanderbeck sent newletters both snail and email, motorized wheelchair to the home.

West Central - Kennedy noted the Pandemic has put an interesting twist on all his activities, illnesses and challenges. Did memorials in his region.

North – Doyle described this year as peculiar, for his first year serving in the wilderness. Not able to get to any stations. 4 memorial services and assistant processing a fatal fire. FD dedication of station.

North Central - Flander Excused – zoom meetings and contact with chaplains

Central – Gates Excused

East - Bowman Assisted Corinth fire memorial chaplain died, half moon fd before easter LODD (cancer) death assisted set up of services.

South East – Ruston (could not unmute)

South – Little was feeling better, didn’t do much during pandemic not much strength. Kevin and Patrick mentioned appreciation of cards from our members. He appreciated them also. Described the cancer coverage he gets the from fire districts. Get the details from him if you need them. VanWie00 offered prayer for him.

NYS At Large – McCarthy stated he has been promoting chaplaincy and assisting new ones in his area. Will give invocation at CPR Saves presentation, 14 funerals, assisting other departments as best he can.

Past Chief Chaplain’s Reports:

Alan Carvalho (1981-1983) - Wish everyone to keep doing a lot for the organization because the problems never stop!

Bill Michatek (1990-1992)

Tom Tobin (1994-1996)

Wayne Jagow (1998-2000)

Ed Billia (2004-2006)

Bill Miles (2006-2008)

Barrie Lyn Foster (2009-2012) - Busy keeping up with emails and updating the database.

Ken Palmer (2012-2014) - Body not found, drowning, fatal new accident, memorials, etc.

Ken Hessel (2014-2016)

Jim Van Houten (2016-2018) - recovering from knee surgery and working with Ruston gathering material for chaplains manual. Counseling FF’s with depression. Jerrod Lloyd Spring Valley LODD, assisted at other funerals. Thanks for the cards, lifted his spirits.

Bill Mayo (2018-2020) - Busy doing things for the association, and chairing the nominating committee for this year. Locally several CISM meetings (tragedy where photographer fell off the mountain). Transferred $$ to NYSAFC, Inc. PayPal account.

Director Emeritus - Sam Lundy has been busy in his area. More calls as a chaplain, now doing what pastors did before. LODD Peyton Morse. We plan a lot but mostly do the religious service at those times.

Committee Reports:

Memorial (Leon VanWie, Ken Palmer, Jim Van Houten) - 15 to Honor and Remember, thus far

Training (Barrie Lyn Foster, Tom With) we spoke on the phone, module topic areas, and virtual training. List of many options we have for us to consider. Timothy Graves info shared re cancer health and wellness. Will send to Leon VanWie.

Program - no report

Publicity - Display Booth (Bob Ruston, Dick Bolster) - No meetings, so no opportunity to do

Social Media (Leon VanWie, Bill Mayo) - Doing stuff regularly

Finance (Bill Mayo, Jim Van Houten, Ken Palmer, 3 Chief Chaplains) - nothing to report

Membership (2nd Deputy Chief Chaplain, Executive Secretary, Joe McCarthy) - Working on new members joining, currently 253.

Good & Welfare (Margie VanWie, Executive Secretary) - Margie sent many cards a total 36

Supplies (Leon VanWie, Bob Ruston) - Catalog with new items coming out in next two weeks. Flags, cards, NT with Psalms, printed manual shrink wrapped hole punched, port authority jacket with logo (three season), three shirts with logos and new designs.

History (Jim Van Houten, Leon VanWie) - updated in August for anyone to see on website.

Chaplain’s Manual (Jim Van Houten, Leslie Siegel, Bob Ruston) working on this per Leon

Nominating (Bill Mayo, Past Chief Chaplains) – listed below nominated the following

1st Deputy Chief Chaplain (Thomas With)

2nd Deputy Chief Chaplain (Richard Bolster)

Director North Central Region (Thomas Flander)

Director East Region (Kevin Bowman) - Filling appointment till 2023 (2 more years)

Director South Region (Joseph McCarthy)

Information - Clarice Murphy appointed by BOD at our meeting to fill at large position

There were no other nominations. All in favor by a show of hands, slate of officers approved.

Constitution andBy-Law Committee (Mark Little, Tom With) no changes at this time. Will present to BOD for any changes in 2022.

Connections (Leon VanWie, Bob Dalton) - positive responses from many chaplains

Credentialing (Barrie Lyn Foster) - Certification instead of credentialing, like OFPC requires several certificates to give an additional certificate (certification) for Fire Officer, etc.

NYS Fire Council (Members: Leon VanWie, Dick Bolster, Bill Mayo, Alternate: Ken Palmer) – held their first in person in May in Colonie. Have been zooming every other month, great communication and information With mentioned issues of united concern.

FASNY Liaison (Barrie Lyn Foster) - Conference in White Plains at the Sonesta on Aug 4-6, 2021 Virtual or in person.

NYS Fire Chiefs Liaison (Leon VanWie) - moved to the middle of July at war memorial in Syracuse. Articles for size up magazine needed, please send to Leon.

Other Committees - none

Old Business - none

New Business -

Consideration of Honorary Membership for Founding and Charter Member – Fr. Eugene Weis, Where as He has served faithfully as a charter and founding father member of the NYSAFC, Inc. we hereby r designated him as an honorary member. Motion by With 2nd by VanWie. All in favor, carried.

Information - Date for Annual Training Conference in Watertown – August 15-18, 2021 Hopefully in person and that the rules relax a bit by then, or will be a zoom by a few and do the training online.

Boat cruise on thousand island is available at this time. Dr. Ryan Frazier is our guest speaker. Scene of tragedy of MVA, and family grieving loss (8-10 hours of training) and annual memorial service.

Tom With shared 2022 Conference in Albany area April 24-27, 2022 – has two speakers confirmed.

Good of the Organization - May 15 first responder trade show, may have display Tom Doyle’s area, mental health, fallen FF’s association, planning a show. 10-4 food vendors Saranac FD Saranac NY

Joyce Gruener not doing well, prayers requested – chaplain Bill’s wife.

Don Elthorp and wife health issues as well.

Closing Prayer – 2nd Deputy chief Chaplain Richard Bolster.

Motion to adjourn, all in favor, none opposed but we all stayed online to enjoy ‘Social and Checking In Time’ Chaplains shared, chatted and enjoyed each other’s company. (Zoom ended 8:20 pm)