

New York State Association of Fire Chaplains
Board of Directors Meeting
September 14-15, 2008
Albany, NY

Present: Chief Holst, 1st Deputy Chief Foster, 2nd Deputy Palmer, Secretary Hessel, Treasurer Billia, Past Chief Miles, Directors Connaghan, Fellows, Huling Hummel, Knower, Miner, & VanHouten, Ex-Chiefs Bitsko.

Absent: Directors McGloon, Newman (ex), Ex-Chiefs Bromfield, Carvalho (ex), Jagow (ex), & Michatek (ex), and Tobin (ex).

The meeting was called to order by Chief Holst at 7:15 p.m. at the Hampton Inn in Albany. 2nd Deputy Chief Palmer led the Board in the prayer and Chief Holst lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Past Chief Miles moved, and Director Huling Hummel seconded to accept the minutes of the April 22 & 23 meetings. Motion passed.

Reports

Chief Holst gave a written report outlining his activities which included 11 services, 4 debriefings, one intervention, and communicating with the executive board. (Written copy attached to Secretary's copy).

The following committee assignments were made:

Membership:	2 nd Deputy Palmer
Finance:	2 nd Deputy Palmer
Good & Welfare:	Secretary Hessel & Sharon Palmer
Memorial:	Director Huling Hummel
Training:	Director Van Houton
Program:	Director Miner
Publicity:	1 st Deputy Foster
Nominating:	Past Chief Miles
Supplies:	Director Newman
By-Law:	Director Knower

1st Deputy Chief Foster announced that Richard Bolster handled the display stand over the summer and things went well and that she also attended the Press Conference at the FASNY Convention.

2nd Deputy Chief Palmer reported for the Membership Committee that presently there are:

1. Members 460
2. Life Members 270
3. 2008 Paid 402

He also gave a written report in which he also attended a number of services and has been working with Director Miner in the North region.

Treasurer Billia presented a final written report of expenses for the 2008 conference indicating a profit of \$ 3,141.07. (Copy attached to Secretary's minutes.) A motion was made by 2nd Deputy Palmer and seconded by Director Miner to make a \$ 100.00 donation to the Suffolk County Fife & Drum Corp. in appreciation for the playing at the Memorial Service. Motion passed.

Treasurer Billia also presented a written report showing a balance of \$ 18,105.81. (Copy attached to Secretary's minutes)

Director VanHouten moved, and Past Chief Miles seconded to accept the treasurers report. Motion passed.

The Good and Welfare committee presented a written report which is attached to the Secretary's minutes. Copies of the Memorial booklet were given to the region directors to have available in case of the death of a chaplain. Secretary Hessel will email them a copy of the resolution to include with the booklet.

Director Reports

(all written reports are attached to Secretary's minutes)

1. North –A written report was passed out giving an outline of planned activities including a training event on Nov. 15th. Also attended a 9/11 Service and had 2 funerals.
2. Central – A verbal report was given stating that he is just starting to plan activities.
3. Western-A written report was given.
4. East-a verbal report was given indicating that the trainings may take place in two locations.
5. At-Large – The three region directors gave a verbal summary of what they have been doing and Directors Huling Hummel & VanHouten later sent written reports.

Old Business

Time was taken to review the draft of the Chaplains Manual. Past Chief Miles moved and 2nd Deputy Chief Palmer seconded to send all corrections to the secretary by October 1st. Motion passed.

Director VanHouten presented a placing of the glove service (a World War I Navy tradition) to be included in the manual.

A motion was made by Director Huling Hummel and seconded by Director Miner to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed. Director VanHouten led a closing prayer and the meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

The meeting was reconvened at the New York State Police Academy in Albany at 9:15 a.m. Chief Holst led the Pledge of Allegiance and 1st Deputy Foster led the prayer.

Committee Reports

Memorial: No report

Training: Director VanHouten stated that he is investigating having the New Chaplain training online in conjunction with FASNY. He also stated that possible topics for the conference include military protocol for funeral details, spiritual ideas, Red Cross training and firematic training.

Program: The next conference will be April 26-29, 2009 at Montour Falls.

Publicity: 1st Deputy Foster discussed the ad for the Fire Chiefs conference, the display stand and the web page.

Nominating: A motion was made by Director Miner and seconded by Director VanHouten to appoint George Voight Director of Region 1-South for the remainder of the term. Motion passed.

Supplies: A written report was presented by Director Newman. Questions were raised about the timely delivery of supplies. Past Chief Miles will talk to Director Newman about the situation.

By-Law: A motion was made by Past Chief Miles and seconded by 1st Deputy Foster to forward to the membership to eliminate the following phrase from Article VII, Section V *“providing that among the Chief and Deputies, one must be a clergy person, in case of a function precluding a lay Chaplain”* and the following phrase from Article V, Section I *“four (4) of whom may be lay chaplains.”* Motion passed.

Another motion was made to by Director Miner and seconded by Past Chief Miles to drop the term life member and change to a 10 year recognition award. Motion passed. The by-law committee will write out a new by-law recommendation based on this motion.

NYS Fire Council: The next meeting of the council will take place on September 18th with Executive Secretary Hessel to be elected President of the Council.

Old Business

1. A motion was made and seconded to combine the tapes and place all three on one DVD. Past Chief Miles will work to combine the tapes and produce the DVD for the supply committee to sell. Motion also included that he work with the Treasurer and Finance committee to cover the cost of the project and to produce enough copies to sell and arrange the cost to sell them. Motion passed.
2. A second motion was made by 2nd Deputy Palmer and seconded by Past Chief Miles to approve the cost of the manual with the Treasurer and Finance Committee for production cost and sale price of the manual. Motion passed.

New Business

Discussion was held about the possibility of purchasing a fire engine and remodeling it to be a caisson truck for funerals. The general consensus was not in favor of this project.

Director Miner moved and Director Connaghan seconded to adjourn the meeting at 11:45 a.m. Meeting was adjourned with a prayer led by Director Huling Hummel.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kenneth N. Hessel,
Executive Secretary