

Columbia County Fire Chiefs' Association
General Meeting November 20, 2018 19:30

Meeting was brought to order by the President, Ben Wheeler.
Members were welcomed by Chief, Gregg Gilliland of the Lebanon Valley Protective Association.

Minutes: Motion to accept the minutes of the General meeting of September 18th

Gregg Gilliland/Daryl Garafalo - Carried.

Minutes of the October 16th Directors meeting read for informational purposes only.

Treasurer's Report: Read by Russ Wheeler, attached to these minutes, motion to accept by Dick Howard/Matt Larabee - Carried.

Coordinator's report: Not available, Bill Hunt is ill and we will sign and send a card.

CCVFFA: Wally reported (per Bill Hunt) that it is hopeful interior work will get done on the facility building.

There are incident reports still outstanding, please send them in.

Haz-mat: There was 1 call to Green County.

C & O: Bill Hunt, Gregg Gilliland, and Ed Rossa attended an arson seminar. Ed Rossa has completed and pasted the Fire Investigation and Arson Training making him a Level 2 Investigator.

Reports of committees:

By-Laws: Ben Wheeler presented the proposed updates to be made as follows:

Article III – Membership

Sec. b – Any person who is a resident of Columbia County (**Add: or an active member of a Columbia County fire department or fire police organization**) shall be eligible to

become an active member of this Association provided he/she is qualified as hereinafter set forth under Section C of this Article.

Sec. c – Active members shall consist of any fire Commissioners, Chiefs, Assistant Chiefs, Presidents, **(Add: Vice Presidents, Secretaries, Treasurers,)** **(Change: Captains, Captains of fire police- all Captains)**, First and Second Lieutenants, and Past Commissioners, Past Chiefs, Past Assistant Chiefs, Past Presidents, **(Add: Past Vice Presidents, Past Secretaries, Past Treasurers,)** **(Change: Past Captains, Past Captains of fire police, all Past Captains)** Past First and Second Lieutenants of any fire departments **(Add: or fire police organizations)** within the limits of this Association, paid or volunteer, who shall be active firefighters.

Sec. g – Any active member of this Association who changes his/her residence to territory outside of the **(Change: County of Columbia Columbia County, and does not maintain active membership in a fire department or fire police organization in Columbia County,)** may not remain an active member of this Association. Their membership may be continued in the Association as an Honorary Member only, provided he/she requests this change of status in writing to the Secretary within 30 days after moving out of Columbia County. As such Honorary Member he/she shall not be able to vote or hold office. In the event such written notice is not made within the above 30 days, said member shall be deemed automatically dropped from the Association membership rolls.

Discussion was held concerning the wording of Article III - Membership.
Ben will work on the wording.

Article VIII – Officers

Sec. a – The officers of this Association shall consist of a President, **(Change: First Vice President, Second Vice President, Vice President,)** Secretary, Treasurer and **(Change: six (6) five (5))** Directors.

A motion was made to past the changes only on Article VIII - Officers, and present the rewording of the changes to Article III - Membership, at the January general meeting in Ghent. The motion was made by Gregg Gilliland, second by Wally Engel - Carried.

Fire Safety: Dick Howard reported the Special Opts trailer is located at the county garage and the Smoke House is at the fair grounds

Fair: Dick Howard was asked to bring a list of items needed for next year's handouts at the fair and the idea of buying a larger quantity for a better price was suggested.

Legislative: Per Dave Chapman it appears a good package has been presented concerning the Cancer Bill.

Education and Training: Daryl Garafalo suggested Eric Barns, Bob Czerwinski of Pittsfield, and Rob Lopez, 911 Administrator as possible speakers.

Scholarship fund: The new form has been updated and is available please get these out to your members.

Bills: Motion to pay the annual dues of \$40 to the NYS Fire Chiefs' Assoc. Richard Lindmark/Gregg Gilliland - Carried.

Communications: We received the annual request for advertising in the Col Co Convention Yearbook. Motion to postpone until after our elections, Richard Lindmark/Gregg Gilliland - Carried.

Old Business:

Ben will apply for the Walmart Grant for the year 2019.

Wally stated that the raffle did not do well this year.

Smoke detectors are available.

New Business:

The meeting was suspended while the election took place.

Matt Larabee & Gregg Gilliland presented the slate of Officers, using the newly approved Article VIII.

President Wally Engel

Vice President Dick Howard

Secretary Irene Huston

Treasurer Russ Wheeler

Board of Directors:

Chairman Gregg Gilliland
Director Daryl Garafalo
Director unfilled at this time
Director unfilled at this time
Director unfilled at this time
Past President Ben Wheeler

The following question arose: Is there a rule that states “there can only be 2 officers from the same company servicing at the same time”?

Greg Gilliland will research this and bring it to the next general meeting.

Also persons to fill the 2 unfilled Directors positions will be held over and presented at the next general meeting on January 15th at the Ghent fire station.

Motion by Gregg Gilliland for the secretary to cast 1 ballot as presented, second by Matt Larabee - Carried.

Meeting was resumed.

Selection of places where general meetings will be held in 2019:

January 15 Ghent
March 19 Spencertown
May 21 Lebanon
July 16 Greenport
September 17 West Ghent
November 19 Churchtown

Dates of Directors’ meetings to be held in 2019

February 19
April 16
June 18
August 20
October 15
December 17

Location to be determined at the December 18th Directors meeting in Valatie at Ryan’s.

Lifetime Achievement and Firefighter of the Year applications are being accepted.

It was brought to our attention that the old training tower had originally been dedicated to Jim Van Deusen, although a plaque had never been placed on it. It was suggested that the new tower also be dedicated to Jim Van Deusen. Richard Lindmark made a motion to have the secretary send a letter to the Col Co Fire Advisory Board stating that and requesting they so dedicate, second by Daryl Garafalo - Carried.

Lebanon Fire Company has donated the refreshments for the evening.

For the Good of the Association:

Dec. 1st Santa will be at the Lebanon Fire Station.

Dec. 2nd is Breakfast with Santa at the Ghent Fire Station.

Dec. 17th Electrical Safety training for 1st responders at the Canaan Fire Station.

Reservations required.

The 50/50 drawing was won by Wally Engel.

Next Directors' meeting December 18th in Valatie at Ryan's.

Next General meeting January 15th at the Ghent Fire Station.

Motion to Adjourn Gregg Gilliland/Daryl Garafalo - Carried.

20:53

Secretary,
Irene Huston