

Columbia County Fire Chiefs' Association
General Meeting March 19, 2019 19:34

Meeting was brought to order by the President, Wally Engel.
Members were welcomed by Eric Pilkington, Spencertown Fire Chief.

Minutes: Motion to accept the minutes of the General meeting of January 19th
Gregg Gilliland/Garry Grimes - Carried.

The minutes of the Directors' meeting were read for informational purposes
only.

Treasurer's Report: Read by Russ Wheeler, attached to these minutes, motion
to accept by John O./Mike McCagg - Carried.

Coordinator's report: Given by George Keeler. Bill Hunt is improving and
hopes to be back fairly soon.

April 16th Battalion meeting in Ghent & April 17th Battalion meeting Copake.
Due to a conflict with the Battalion meeting on April 16th. the Directors'
meeting will be re-scheduled.

The schedule for the first half of this year's schools has been posted.

The concrete work for the tower will be going up for bid.

By-Laws: Ben Wheeler provided the updated wording of the proposed changes
to the by-laws that will be voted upon at the next general meeting of May 21st.
Article III – Membership

Sec. b – Any person who is a resident of Columbia County **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 **past or present** fire commissioners, chiefs, assistant
chiefs, presidents, **vice presidents, secretaries, treasurers, captains, captains of fire
police, and** first and second lieutenants, ~~and past commissioners, past chiefs, past
assistant chiefs, past presidents, past captains, past captains fire police, past first and
second lieutenants of any fire departments~~ **or fire police organizations** within the limits
of this Association, paid or volunteer, who shall be active firefighters.

Sec. f – Any active member of this Association who changes his/her residence to territory outside of ~~the 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 roles.

Clothing Fund: A voucher was provided to the victims of the Craryville Fire.

Haz-mat: Has had 2 calls so far this year.

Fire Safety & the Fair: The annual letter requesting support of the Smoke House will be worked on at the general meeting in Greenport on July 16th, per Ben Wheeler & Gregg Gilliland.

Wally is requesting volunteers for various committees.

Sunshine Fund: Motion to send a \$50 Gas Card to Bill Hunt Gregg Gilliland/ John O. - Carried.

Banquet: There needs to be a discussion on continuing the joint Past Presidents Banquet vs separate banquets (ours to be held in either December or February).

Fair: Dick Howard will arrange to have the floor painted.

Someone will check on the trailer, it appears to have had a limb come down on it.

CCVFFA: Garry Grimes reported on the program the Chatham Fire Company is using for recruitment. He stated more information will be provided the Battalion meeting. You're welcome to use the same program for your company, also consider Jr. Firefighters through the Boy Scouts.

This year there will be up-to 3 Lifetime Achievement Awards.

Applications are still being accept for both Lifetime Achievement and Firefighter of the Year. See Matt Larabee.

Quarterly meeting will be April 10th.

Scholarship: Connor McCagg has been selected as the recipient of the award. Motion by Tom Rector to present a check to Connor, second by Ben Wheeler - Carried.

Grants: Ben Wheeler will apply to Walmart again.

Bills: Spencertown Fire Company has donated the refreshments for the evening.

Communication: Russ Wheeler read a note from the A.B. Shaw Ladies' Auxiliary, which included a donation being made in memory of Jim Van Deusen to the Burned-Out Victims Fund.

The secretary will send a thank you letter.

Old Business: Gregg Gilliland stated that the Lebanon Valley Protective Association will provide the smoke detectors requested by New Lebanon Elementary School children.

Garry Mazzacano inquired about the letter to the Public Safety Committee concerning the dedication of the Fire Tower. Was there a plaque originally?

New Business: Eric Barns will be at the general meeting in Greenport, July 16th. to give the power point presentation concerning the program Chatham is using for recruitment.

For the Good of the Association:

Lebanon is having a memorial service for Robert Water on Sunday.

March 29th. Stottville will have a Hot Sub Sale.

April 7th. Breakfast with the Easter Bunny at the Ghent Fire House.

April ? Mellenville is holding a Chicken Barbeque.

May 5th. Ghent's clambake.

The 50/50 drawing was won by Russ Wheeler.

Next Directors' meeting April 16th. at Ryan's Grill in Valatie.
Next General meeting May 21st. at the Lebanon Valley Fire Station.

Motion to Adjourn Gregg Gilliland/Mike McCagg - Carried. 20:29

Secretary,
Irene Huston

Sec. a – There shall be three classes of members – Active, Lifetime and Honorary

Sec. d – All active members for 1935 whose dues shall have been paid not later than November meeting, 1935, shall be known as charter members of this Association and have all privileges, as such.

Sec. e – Members who currently hold or have held an elected office or have been a member in good standing for a minimum of 15 years may be awarded a lifetime membership by a $\frac{3}{4}$ majority vote. A lifetime member shall maintain their voting privilege as long as their membership remains in good standing. A lifetime member will also be allowed to maintain an elected office if holding one until that term expires. However, once that term expires they will not be allowed to run for another office. A lifetime member will also be allowed to maintain membership without a current fire department affiliation.

Sec. g – A person seeking active membership in this Association shall submit, through the Membership Committee, an application form which shall show the office or offices held by the applicant to make him/her eligible for membership as set forth in Article III – Sec. c and accompanied by one year's dues. This form shall be signed by the secretary and chief of the company of which he/she is a member and co-signed by at least three members of the Association Membership Committee.

Sec. h – Any new member and/or reinstated member shall not have voting privileges until the next regular meeting after being accepted by the Association.