

**Noroton Fire Department
Monthly Meeting
January 7, 2014**

The meeting was called to order at 8:10 pm

The Pledge of Allegiance was given.

The Roll was read by the Financial Secretary.

The minutes of the December meeting were approved as read by Bob Buch Sr.

COLLECTION OF DUES: \$165, Merchandise \$80

TREASURE'S REPORT:

The Operating account stands at \$5,236.17

The Money Market account stands at \$

The Town Appropriations Fund Account stands at \$48,069.16

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEES:

HOUSE COMMITTEE: N/R

SICK COMMITTEE: N/R

ENTERTAINMENT COMMITTEE: Tonight's dinner \$136.11

SERVICE BOARD: N/R

FIRE COMMISSION (C.F.B. 28,154.47 \$)

Ray Buxton read off the minutes of the Fire Commission meeting.

EXECUTIVE BOARD: Minutes of the December meeting were read by the Recording Secretary.

BAND COMMITTEE:

UNIFORM COMMITTEE: N/R

FUND DRIVE/CAPITAL COMMITTEE: Ray Buxton reported since last month we've brought in an additional \$13,150 in capital, and \$5,510 from Santa, bringing the total to date at \$40,950, which is roughly ahead of the last few years. Great job Ray!!

ANNUAL DINNER COMMITTEE:

SPORTS COMMITTEE:

BY-LAW COMMITTEE:

HISTORY COMMITTEE:

BEVERAGE COMMITTEE: John Hessmer reported donation for the months of November/December \$175.70: \$47.50 for soda, \$128.20 for beer.

COMPUTER COMMITTEE: N/R

BOAT FUND DRIVE COMMITTEE: N/R

BLOCK PARTY COMMITTEE: Mike Vitti reported on progress, and reported the Comm. Would like to get the ball rolling soon to get a jump on things like last year.

MERCHANDISE COMMITTEE: N/R

FF FOUNDATION: N/R

PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE: Tim Ward reported we had a lot of good articles and coverage in the Darien Times.

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE:

ENGINE COMMITTEE: N/R

KITCHEN COMMITTEE: N/R

COMMUNICATIONS: Read by the Recording Secretary

Bills were read by Treasurer Doug Lawrence. A Motion was made, seconded and passed that the bills be paid if found correct.

PROPOSITIONS TO PROBATIONARY MEMBERSHIP: none

ELECTIONS TO MEMBERSHIP: none

2014 ELECTIONS:

President Andy Ham read off the 2014 Nominating slate, Andy then declined his nomination to serve a 3yr term on the Executive Board. Andy then read off the list of eligible voters, and then made a motion for the Recording Secretary to cast one ballot for all un-opposed positions, motion was seconded, and passed. Andy then stepped down as President, and the Dept. applauded for his 4yrs of excellent service as the President of the NFD. New President Jim O'Brien reported that in light of a lot of nominations for members to take positions that they are going to decline, basically for every one of these positions one ballot will be casted.

For Vice President: Ray Buxton was nominated, Ray declined the nomination, and one ballot was casted to make Craig Ackerman the new VP, unanimously passed.

For Recording Secretary: Craig Ackerman was nominated, Craig declined the nominations, and one ballot was cast for Jim Ryan to be the new Recording Secretary, Unanimously passed.

For 3yr term on the Executive Board: Andy Ham was nominated, Andy declined the nomination, and one ballot was cast to give Chris Oser a 3yr term on the Executive Board, Unanimously passed.

For 1st Asst. Chief: Mike Vitti was nominated, Mike declined the nomination, and one ballot was cast to make Ray Buxton the new 1st Asst. Chief, Unanimously passed.

For 2nd Asst. Chief: Brendan Keane was nominated, Brendan declined the nomination, and one ballot was cast to make Mike Vitti 2nd Asst. Chief, Unanimously passed.

For Captain Of Boats: Jack Butcher was nominated, Jack declined the nomination, and one ballot was cast to make Brendan Kean Captain Of Boats, Unanimously passed.

For Mechanical Supervisor: Pete Ham was nominated, Pete declined the nomination, and one ballot was cast for John Hessmer to be the Mechanical Supervisor, Unanimously passed.

For LT. of Engine 31: Greg Geraci was nominated, Greg decline the nomination, so Jack Butcher will be opposed by RJ Oser. President gave the membership the option of paper ballot over hand raising, the Dept. was in favor 19-5 of a hand raising voting system. For LT. of Engine 31, Jack Butcher won by a majority vote.

For Superintendant of Alarms: RJ Oser was nominated, opposed by Greg Geraci, voting was 19-8 in favor of Greg Geraci.

And the last position is for 2yr term of the Fire Comm: Jamie Hunter was nominated, opposed by Ray Buxton, voting was 17-11 in favor of Ray Buxton.

No more voting ensued.

OLD BUSINESS : Dan Sr. gave a final report on Toys for Tots, as we had another successful year, Dan reported on 3,265 toys, and also explained why that number was cut down to that. Dan wanted to thank all involved, especially Laura Hyatt, and Santa.

Mike Vitti reported on the sketch for the new garage as it is in the hall tonight, and encouraged all members too look at it, and ask questions, or make comments, Mike reported that hopefully the project will get rolling by March. President Jim O'Brien also encouraged members to please look at the sketch, and ask questions.

NEW BUSINESS: VP Craig Ackerman requested use of the hall on Sat. Feb. 8th from 12-6PM for his daughter's Bday party.

Mike Vitti requested use of the hall on Sun., Mon., and Weds nights in Feb for a Fire Instructor course.

Mike Vitti reported on the annual St. Baldrick's fundraiser, and reported how it's been done out of his FD in New Canaan, Mike explained a little more about it for members who didn't know, and how the money goes for Kids Cancer, and reported this year Heights, and Darien wanted to also get involved, and wanted to know if we would, Mike reported that the other two Dept. are awaiting our response.

Tom Hlavic reported that if we could have a list of dates of events happening here, it would be very helpful to him, Tom's point was taken, and the list will be posted after the meeting.

Mike Vitti made a motion for \$850 for 2 members to take the Fire Instructor course, at \$425 each member, motion was seconded and passed, pending Executive Board approval, Mike reported anyone else interested please see him.

Chief Hyatt raised the point of how important every year, and fun for everyone as far as the Santa runs are concerned. Alan reported that Joe every year, takes time from his busy schedule to do this, and raises this Dept. a lot of money. Chief reported that this year, Joe went out, and bought a new Santa suit, valued at around \$800, and passed his old suit, which was in great condition to our alternate Santa here at the FD. Chief wanted to reimburse Joe for the \$800 Santa suit. Joe stood up, and reported he is humbled, and appreciated the offer, but said no. Joe reported the suit is a business write off, and he uses it for a lot of other events other than the FD. Joe also reported that as a very long time member

this is his payback to the Dept. Again, Joe thanked the Chief for the offer, but refused it.

Chief Hyatt reported in regards to members bringing guests to drills, Chief wanted to remind all members that if a member is going to bring someone from another Dept. etc, the Chief needs to know about it in advance.

Chief reported on the Kitchen, and reported that it's the only area that the Janitor does not go in. Alan reported just like any other room, it gets dirty and needs to be cleaned now and again, Alan asked the question of how much more a month would we need to raise the Janitor's fee to have him maybe just wipe it down, and mop the floors once a month. Tom Hlavic reported he will go to the Executive Board meeting on Tues. and discuss this issue, as there is a Kitchen Comm. And he doesn't want to step on any toes.

President Jim O'Brien reported on a bunch of E-mails that went out, and wanted to make sure the membership was aware of them all, and what needed to get taken care of did. Jim reported on the physicals, and bloodwork which is happening in Feb, reminder to pick up chains, the E-mail in regards to the tax abatement program, and all eligible members to jump on that, the request for Ladder 30 to go to 5 star, and reported that the upstairs, and downstairs budgets have been submitted. Jim also reported in regards to Sea Legs, delivery by Jan. and we need to get SOP'S in order for that. President also reported the Jan/Feb drill schedule will be going out, and also reported on possibly running a 50/50 raffle during the monthly meetings starting in Feb, to try and make the meetings a little more fun, and attract more members, Jim explained a little on how this will work, and if any members have other suggestions, please see the President.

President also reported on the Dayroom, and reported he will be speaking with members of the House Comm. And some money will be going into that. Finally the President reported on leftover gifts from the kids Christmas party, if your child's gift is still here, please take it to him or her.

Brendan Keane reported anyone with a blue light please sign the "Blue light" list sheet.

WELFARE Mike Vitti wanted to thank all who came to his sister in-Law's fundraiser.

Brendan Keane reported if there are any boat calls please be very careful of ice, and check the meters if you are there.

President Jim O'Brien reported on the passing of a good friend of this Dept. and member of the Boat club, George Kelsey, wake is on Friday from 5-8PM at the Lawrence Funeral Home, and there will be a memorial mass on Sat. at St.

John's at 11AM.

Treasurer wanted to commend Past President Andy Ham on a great job the past four years, as our finances are great at this time.

Pat Rogers wanted to commend past Recording Secretary Craig Ackerman on 12 great years doing the most Thankless job in the Dept.

No receipts

Greg Geraci read off Drills/Alarms read off for the month of December

Make sure all the doors are locked, windows closed and lights are out when you leave the building. There Being no further business to be brought before the membership, the meeting was adjourned at 9:24PM