

New York State Association of Fire Chaplains  
Board of Directors Meeting  
Sunday/Monday, September 19-20, 2004  
Albany, NY

Present: Chief Billia, 1<sup>st</sup> Deputy Chief Miles, 2<sup>nd</sup> Deputy Chief Holst, Ex. Secretary Hessel, Treasurer Hunt, Past Chief Bitsko, Directors Chamberlin, Connaghan, Gardner, Knower, McGloon, Palmer, VanHouten, Ex-Chiefs Jagow, Michatek, Tobin, Winterkorn.

Excused: Directors Chapman, & Whitney, Ex-Chiefs Carvalho, Elliott, & Nunn.

The meeting was called to order by Chief Billia at 8:00 p.m. with Ex-Chief Winterkorn leading the Pledge of Allegiance & 1<sup>st</sup> Deputy Chief Miles leading the Board in prayer.

Officer Reports

Chief Billia thanked the Board for the support over the last few months. He discussed his plan of regionalization of chaplains, the newsletter, presented a bill for Cards for Good and Welfare, discussed the FASNY Convention, and presented copies of Constitution and By-Laws to fit the manual notebook.

1<sup>st</sup> Deputy Chief Miles congratulated all how worked on the spring conference, discussed making presentations at State Chiefs conference, and reported on leading the prayer at the Main & Transit State Drill.

2<sup>nd</sup> Deputy Chief Holst reported that he is still working with the Training Committee, attended the Fire Police meetings of Nassau and Suffolk counties (he is Chief Chaplain for Fire Police), and gave thanks for recent card from Good and Welfare Committee. For the Membership Committee, he reported that we presently have 463 members with 409 having paid their 2004 dues. 84 members were recently removed from membership for failure to pay dues for the past two or more years.

Treasurer Hunt gave a written report on the finances of the organization. 1<sup>st</sup> Deputy Chief Miles moved, and Chaplain Palmer seconded to accept the Treasurer's Report. Motion Passed.

Treasurer Hunt presented a preliminary budget for 2005. He discussed that he still needs some figures from Supply Officer to be able to finalize budget. 1<sup>st</sup> Deputy Chief Miles will talk to the Supply Officer about getting those figures.

Chief Billia read the report of the Good and Welfare Committee from Mabel Gardner. The report included a listing of cards that were sent out (attached to Secretary's copy), reading of a thank you from Mabel Gardner, and acknowledgement of new cards.

Secretary Hessel reported on the dinner to present Ex-Chief Winterkorn for his 35 plus years of service to the organization on Aug. 10.

A motion was made by 2<sup>nd</sup> Deputy Holst and seconded by 1<sup>st</sup> Deputy Chief Miles to recess until Monday at the NYS Police Academy. A prayer was lead by Chaplain Chamberlin.

The meeting was called together at 9:10 a.m. with a prayer lead by Chaplain Palmer.

A motion was made by Past Chief Bitsko and seconded by 2<sup>nd</sup> Deputy Chief Holst to accept the minutes of the previous meetings of April 26, 2004 and April 28, 2004 with the following corrections:

1. Misspelling of Ex-Chief Michatek in both 4/26 & 28.
2. Incorrect title of Mr. Frank Knower, Jr. on 4/26.

Motion passed.

### Committee Reports

- A. Memorial – Past Chief Bitsko is working on the Memorial Service for the April Conference.
- B. Training
  - a. Chaplains John Milliman, James Handley, and Luke Magliaro have been added to the committee.
  - b. Possible topics at the April Conference include: Death Notification to Children, Basic First Aid, Hazmat refresher, and “What to protect in Churches.”
  - c. Chaplains who wish to review Death Notification can refresh at the New Chaplain Training.
  - d. 2004 edition of Training Tapes parts 1 & 2 are done, while part 3 is still in production.
  - e. Any suggestions for additional training classes are encouraged to forward their requests to the committee.
- C. Program – The conference is scheduled for April 24-27 at Montour Falls.
- D. Publicity – The committee is working on the booth and publicity for mailings. The web page has also been undated.
- E. Nominating – Past Chief Bitsko reported that the committee will have the nominations at the February meeting.
- F. Supply
  - a. Tim Newman has made deposits and will be doing an inventory now that the Booth at various conferences over the summer has been completed.
  - b. The old edition of video tapes will be faded out as inventory is sold.

## Old Business

Secretary Hessel presented a plan for adoption of picture ID cards as the new membership card. A motion was made by Past Chief Bitsko and seconded by Chaplain Chamberlin to accept the plan for 2005. Motion passed.

## New Business

- A. Committee Chairs – The following people are in charge of the following committees:
  - a. Membership-Holst
  - b. Finance-Palmer
  - c. Good & Welfare-Gardner
  - d. Memorial-Bitsko
  - e. Training-Knowler
  - f. Program-Miles
  - g. Publicity-Chamberlin
  - h. Nominating-Bitsko
  - i. Supply-Miles
  - j. By-Laws-VanHouten
  
- B. 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary History – Chaplain VanHouten was appointed to update the history of the organization in time for the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2006.
  
- C. Up Coming Conferences – Chaplain Palmer moved and 2<sup>nd</sup> Deputy Chief Holst seconded that the following conferences locations were accepted for the following years:
  - a. 2005 – Montour Falls
  - b. 2006 – Tonawanda
  - c. 2007 – Skaneateles
  - d. 2008 – HuntingtonMotion carried.
  
- D. Past Chief Bitsko moved and Chaplain VanHouten seconded that the Board recommend to the membership that the following members be made Honorary Members:
  - a. Mr. Norman Rimer (75)
  - b. Rev. Gerard Remsen (68)
  - c. Mr. Paul Kardel.
  
- E. Chaplain Palmer moved and Chaplain Chamberlin seconded that the Board grant Life Membership to 47 individuals who meet the criteria. Motion passed.
  
- F. Dues – Discussion was held regarding the dues. It was decided to leave the dues at \$ 10.00 for 2005, but they may need to be raised in 2006.

### General Announcements

- A. Croton on the Hudson is hosting the National Fallen Firefighters “Taking Care of Our Own” Seminar on Saturday Nov. 6. Contact Gerry Munson at [xchief2x@aol.com](mailto:xchief2x@aol.com) for more information.
- B. 1<sup>st</sup> Deputy Chief Miles will be attending the National Fallen Firefighters service in Emmitsburg, MD in October.
- C. The NY State Memorial Service will be held on October 5 at 11:00 a.m. in Albany.

### Good and Welfare

Chaplain Doug Fletcher is hospitalized in Schenectady.  
Chaplain Mario Ancira was hospitalized on Long Island.

The next meeting will be held on February 6-7 at Montour Falls.

Motion was made by Past Chief Bitsko and seconded by Chaplain Connaghan to adjourn.  
Motion carried.

Chaplain Knower closed the meeting with prayer at 11:55 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kenneth N. Hessel,  
Executive Secretary