

Regular Meeting #2 Minutes

5/21/2016

East Greenwich Firemens Club, 80 Queen Street, E Greenwich RI 02818

Members Present: 28 (and 18 guests)

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call of Officers: Brian Holt, Roger Johnson, Barbara Bouchard, Joanne Keeling, Donna Machala, Rose Russo, Colleen Sherratt, Frank Halm, Betty DiSalvia, Victor Giorgio, Al Kesack (came late), Michaela Saccoccio and Cy Dumas - all Present.

Excused: Sue Evans

Brian Holt opened the meeting by introducing our guest, Rick Merino, a candidate for the NE AVP position. He also recognized Jay Killackey and his wife, Sue, and daughter, Jesslyn. Also joining us tonight is Cy Dumas and Michaela Saccoccio.

Brian spoke about the convention in New Hampshire. It was a successful event with informative speakers.

Brian said it was announced there that a new Area Vice President for the Northeast was selected, Ed Phelan. He comes to us from Headquarters, Delivery Operations. He has roots in the Northeast.

Brian asked Jay Killackey to speak. Jay said from day one, he's had the support of this branch. He knows we will turn this organization around. He was not able to attend the New Hampshire convention as he was attending the one in Oregon, seeking the support of folks there. Jay said he met Cy in 1979. He had to get the mail to him on Tour 1. We did not start out as good friends, and we were competing with each other for jobs. But we started to work together, and over time we created quite the team. No one has done as well as Cy has over the last ten years as the AVP. He's the best executive board member I have ever worked with. Even though he is not running again, he will still be around to help people, and he means that.

Barbara Bouchard gave the Secretary's Report. She said that NAPS 105 currently has 149 Regular Members and 28 Associate Members. Our total non-members are down to 5 from 12. We are doing very well getting the newly promoted employees to join NAPS.

Motion to accept the Secretary's report: Made by Vic Giorgio, Seconded by Joanne Keeling

Frank Halm gave the Legislative Report.

Frank said next year legislative convention will be very important. We need at least three people from our branch to attend. Donna and I met with Jack Reed at the Hart Building and John McCain was with him. Jack Reed is unbelievable, very one-on-one with us. Sheldon Whitehouse was managing a bill at the time, and was in and out of the room. Reed's May 1st

dinner had a good turn-out, Governor Gina Raimondo was there and gave her support to us. She has lots of enthusiasm. The next event is June 20th with Langevin at Finn's, so if you want to go to that, please contact me.

Frank gave Bruce Moyers update and said there is relatively little time left on the legislative calendar, and House Oversight and Government Reform Committee Chairman Jason Chaffetz (R-UT) announced his intent to release a "discussion draft" of a Postal reform legislative proposal that could lead to introduction of a bill sometime in June. There are only 41 legislative days remaining between June and the end of the regular Congressional session in September. Chaffetz unveiled a new potentially controversial proposal, merging the USPS Board of Governors and the Postal Regulatory Commission into a new super Postal entity. The Postmaster General, Megan Brennan, called upon Chaffetz' panel to create a Postal Service that remains viable over at least the next two decades. To achieve that calls for four pillars of action: Medicare integration, reinstatement of the 4.3% exigent surcharge, recalculation of USPS retirement benefit liabilities, and greater USPS product flexibility, including services to state, local, and tribal governments.

Comments from Donna Machala. Donna said this convention was very impressive. She felt the representatives were very engaged. Numerous topics were covered such as first class stamps going to 47 cents, plant consolidations, MSPB rights, and smart vehicles are coming out. It's very interesting to get together with other groups and share ideas.

Treasurer Sue Evans who was unable to attend tonight provided the Financial Report information to Brian. We have \$2,502.45 in the checking account, and \$32,542.20 in the money market.

Old Business: There was none to report

New Business:

Brian acknowledged first-time attendee, Joan DiSanto.

Brian introduced Rick Moreno, current Branch President 498, Massachusetts. Rick said his priority is the employees. I put them first. Communication and openness are key. Tell me what your needs are as members. I will bring our problems to HQ. We need to get our members involved. That will benefit everyone. We need more members. and we need everyone to get involved.

Brian thanked him for his comments and said that there are various handouts on all the candidates at the sign in tables.

Brian asked NEA VP Cy Dumas to speak.

Cy spoke about why he's decided to step down. He'll be 73 years old in October, so I want to focus on my personal health and my family now. I will remain an active member in this branch and will come to the meetings. I can assist with cases but will not be taking calls. I am currently working on three cases right now. I have been a member of this branch for ten years now, with

the last seven as your AVP. I can unequivocally say that NAPS Branch 105 is the best branch in the Northeast Area and in the country.

Brian thanked Cy for his dedication and commitment to Branch 105. To commemorate Cy's retirement, Brian read a personal letter to Cy from Megan Brennan, the Postmaster General. Not many individuals will receive a letter like this.

Frank made a motion that Branch 105's delegates to the National Convention block vote for Jay Killackey for National President and Chuck Mulidore for National Secretary/Treasurer. This motion was seconded by Vic Giorgio and approved unanimously by the members. Cy said they are good candidates and he will support whoever gets the jobs.

Roger Johnson made a motion that Branch 105 donate \$1,500 to Jay Killackey's campaign fund. This motion was seconded by Skip and approved unanimously by the members.

Brian thanked Michaela for arranging the venue tonight as well as the eBoard members for donating all of the raffle items on the table tonight. The blue tickets sold tonight are for the raffle items, and the red tickets are for the 50/50. If anyone wants to purchase tickets, please see Frank or Victor. Cy donated two Red Sox tickets. Brian also thanked Rose Russo for making the centerpieces for the tables tonight.

Brian reminded everyone that our next meeting will be held on September 23 at a site yet to be determined. Our guest speaker will be Chris French, CT Valley District Manager, Operations Programs Support.

Motion to adjourn: by Vic Giorgio, seconded by Frank.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Bouchard