

Hamden Fire Retirees' Association, Inc.
Minutes – January 18, 2018

President Bob Mordecai called the 37th regular meeting of the Hamden Fire Retirees' Association, Inc. to order at 9:10 a.m. at the Hamden Elks Hall on Thursday, January 18, 2018.

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, the Chair welcomed Chief David Berardesca, who spoke later about the old schoolhouse.

MINUTES – The secretary read the minutes of the October meeting. A motion was made by Paul Frodel, seconded by Chick Manware, to accept the minutes as read. Motion passed unanimously.

COMMUNICATIONS – The secretary reported that aside from communications relating to matters to be discussed later in the meeting, other communications were Christmas cards from Joe Mulligan, Mark Barletta and Joe McDermott.

TREASURER'S REPORT

4th Quarter of 2017
October 1, 2017 – December 31, 2017

Checking balance as of October 1, 2017	\$ 963.21
Shares balance as of October 1, 2017	<u>141.37</u>
Total balance as of October 1, 2017	\$ 1,104.58

Income:

Quarterly dividend (Into savings)	\$ 0.04
Dues:	
2017 – \$ 15.00	
2018 – 285.00	
2019 – 15.00	
Total dues collected	315.00
<i>Hamden Firefighting Sales</i>	
\$15 rate (11/18/17) – 22 books - \$ 330.00	
\$19 rate – 61 books 1,159.00	
\$10 – special – 1 book 10.00	
Donations: Book sales 27.00	
Total from 84 books sold this quarter	1,526.00
PayPal Transfer Test (<i>Hamden Firefighting</i>)	<u>21.63</u>
TOTAL income this quarter	\$ 1,862.67

Expenses:

Fee: Home Banking Inactive	\$ 3.00
Fund Raising: Purchase 75 copies of Hamden Firefighting	876.99
Office Supplies	4.24
PayPal Commissions	.88
Plaques	154.99
Postage	56.41
Reimbursement: Overpayment (Marak)	6.00
Sales tax (Plaques)	9.84

U.S. Treasury – Application for 501(c)(7)	<u>400.00*</u>
TOTAL expenses this quarter	\$(-1,512.35)

*Check not cleared as of December 31, 2017

Transfers from Savings to Checking	\$ none
Checking balance as of December 31, 2017	\$ 1,716.49
Shares balance as of December 31, 2017	<u>138.41</u>
Total balance as of December 31, 2017	\$ 1,854.90

Activity from January 1 to January 18, 2018:

Income

Dues – 2018	\$ 75.00
<i>Hamden Firefighting</i> Sales	
\$19 rate – 5 books	\$ 95.00
Donations: Book sales	4.00
Total from 5 books sold thus far this quarter	99.00
<i>Hamden Firefighting</i> Shipping – one book	2.63
Website subscription	<u>10.00</u>
Total Income this period	186.63

Expenses

Postage	39.26
PayPal Commission	1.47
PayPal Test Reimbursement (Johnson)	<u>21.63</u>
Total Expenses this period	\$ 62.36

TOTAL balance in Credit Union as of 1/18/2018	\$ 1,579.17
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A motion was made by Carl Backus, seconded by Harold Mangler, to accept the Treasurer's 4th Quarter Report. Motion passed unanimously.

TREASURER'S ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2017
January 1, 2017 – December 31, 2017

Checking Account Balance – January 1, 2017	\$ 626.01
Shares Balance – January 1, 2017	<u>141.25</u>
Total in Credit Union - January 1, 2017	\$ 767.26

Income from January 1, 2017 to December 31, 2017

Dividend Income (Shares)	\$.16
Donations received	
Richard Carroll - \$40.00	
Total donations received	40.00
Dues	
Dues – 2016 – \$ 90.00	
Dues – 2017 – 855.00	
Dues – 2018 – 330.00	

Dues – 2019 –	30.00	
Total dues received		1,305.00
<i>Hamden Firefighting Sales</i>		
\$15 rate (11/20/17) – 22 books - \$	330.00	
\$19 rate – 61 books	1,159.00	
\$10 – special – 1 book	10.00	
Donations: Book sales	27.00	
Total from 84 books sold in 2017		1,526.00
PayPal Transfer Test		32.63
Website subscriptions (4)		<u>40.00</u>
TOTAL Income during this period		\$ 2,943.79

Expenses from January 1, 2017 to December 31, 2017

Donations made		
HVFF – \$100 (Annual fireworks donation)		
TOTAL Donations made		100.00
Fees – Home Banking Inactive Fee (from Shares)		3.00
Fund Raising		
Purchase 75 copies of Hamden Firefighting - \$	876.99	
Total fund raising		876.99
Office supplies		10.60
PayPal Commission		2.65
Plaques and Awards		154.99
Postage		124.41
P.O. Box		108.00
Preservation Supplies		20.19
Refreshments (January and April meetings)		119.51
Reimbursements:		
Overpayment (Marak) - \$	6.00	
PayPal Test (Johnson) - \$	10.41	
Total Reimbursements		16.41
Secretary of the State Report		50.00
Sunshine Comm.		9.56
Taxes:		
2017 CT Business Entity Tax – \$	250.00	
State Sales Tax (Plaques) –	9.84	
Total Taxes		259.84
U.S. Treasury – Application for 501(c)(7)		<u>400.00*</u>
TOTAL Expenses during this period		\$ -2,256.15

*Check not cleared as of December 31, 2017

Checking Account Balance – December 31, 2017	\$ 1,716.49*
Shares Balance – December 31, 2017	<u>138.41</u>
Total in Credit Union - December 31, 2017	\$ 1,854.90

A motion was made by Bill Fitzmaurice, seconded by Augie Williams, to accept the Treasurer's Annual Report for 2017. Motion passed unanimously.

COMMITTEES – Benefits Committee – The Secretary reported that the market value of the pension plan was up by 13.4% in 2017. Despite the more than \$22 million in payments to retirees during 2017, the plan was down only \$200K since the beginning of the year. The market continues to do extremely well. As of December 31, the plan stands at just under \$167 million. There was a discussion on the recent inclusion of the present Town Clerk into the pension plan. The Chair noted that this discussion would be best continued at the next Hamden Guardian Services Retirees Association meeting.

Sunshine Committee – Cards were sent to Bob Stacy, Dennis Harrison, Gil Spencer, and Sue Coppola.

History Committee – The Secretary reported that *Hamden Firefighting* has sold about 89 copies through this association and about 40 through the Hamden Historical Society, noting that Barnes & Noble and Amazon have sold many copies as well. He thanked the members for coming to the book signings.

The Chair introduced Chief Berardesca, who reported that he has \$50,000 in his capital budget for improving the old schoolhouse that was once Co. 9 and later fire headquarters. He noted that the building has undergone many changes since it was fire headquarters when he started as chief in 2006. He said that he was tossing the matter to the association to decide how the building should be used, perhaps for a museum and/or a meeting hall. He strongly suggested that we use the funding quickly, lest it be used elsewhere.

He also noted that the department had been given \$400,000 dollars toward a new fire station, which was likely a first installment on future allotments toward a new station on Putnam Avenue. He also spoke of recent efforts to work with Quinnipiac University and the volunteers at Mount Carmel to parlay their 92-year old building into a new fire station on Sherman Avenue with a permanent space in it for the volunteers.

The Chair noted that some HFRA members who are licensed contractors have expressed interest in assisting in any rehabilitation of the old schoolhouse. Tom Doherty said that he believes this organization will need some written assurances from the town that the building will be for our use going forward. The Secretary noted that this association already has a committee (Doherty, Spencer, Johnson, and Mordecai) established for acquiring the schoolhouse for use by the association and suggested that it meet with the Chief as soon as possible to discuss the possibilities for the schoolhouse's future use.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS – None

OLD BUSINESS – The Secretary reported that the association has sold 14 more books than the original 75 books that were purchased in November. The additional books came from the author's "stash" of over 100 books that were purchased at an "author's discount," as a cushion for either the HFRA or HHS to purchase more copies at the lower price. He recommended purchasing 50 more books (of which 14 have already been sold) for \$11.69 each, to be re-sold at \$19 a copy. A motion was made by Bill Fitzmaurice, seconded by Jim Dunlop, to purchase an addition 50 books from the Secretary for \$11.69 each, for a total of \$584.50. Motion passed unanimously.

The Chair reported that the association has formally applied for 501(c)(7) non-profit status with the I.R.S. The fee was \$400.00, but will save the association from paying future annual \$250 Business Entity Taxes (BET) as well as sales taxes to the State of Connecticut. The Secretary

noted that when he met with Lenny Lye at the end of December, Mr. Lye indicated that IRS approval should be retroactive to at least 2017 and possibly earlier years.

NEW BUSINESS – The Secretary requested reimbursement for printer ink, the first such reimbursement since two or three ago. The cost for a double black cartridge package and three color cartridges is \$162.69. A motion was made by Bill Fitzmaurice, seconded by Harold Mangler, to reimburse the Secretary the cost of the ink cartridges. Motion passed unanimously.

The Secretary requested assistance with coordinating plans for future meetings between himself and Brian Forsyth so that all necessary info is received at least two weeks before each meeting.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION –

The Chair thanked Brian Forsyth for preparing today's refreshments, and the members and guests for attending today's meeting.

The next association meeting will be on Wednesday, April 11th. There was a discussion on the time and Brian reported that the Elks now have a Wednesday evening dinner. Brian noted that the state now dictates that the Elks may not prepare or serve food unless there is a "qualified food operator" (QFO) on site, so he recommended that the association may want to bring in its own food. After a brief discussion, the members decided to hold a noontime meeting in April and to send out for pizzas.

There being no further business, a motion was made by Brian Forsyth and seconded by Bob Viglione to adjourn at 9:56 a.m. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,



David G. Johnson
Secretary

21 members: Anthony, Backus, DeBurra, Doherty, Dunlop, Fitzmaurice, Forsyth, Frodel, Hurlburt, Johnson, Leddy, Mangler, Manware, R. Mordecai, O'Dea, Ramelli, Reynolds, Strawhince, Viglione, Williams, and Yocher. Guests (2): Chief Berardesca, Vic Mitchell.