

Hamden Fire Retirees' Association, Inc.  
Minutes – February 10, 2021

President Bob Mordecai called the 46<sup>th</sup> regular meeting of the Hamden Fire Retirees' Association, Inc. to order at 12:10 p.m. on Wednesday, February 10, 2021, using the ZOOM platform. The COVID-19 pandemic has precluded all in-person gatherings of more than ten people, thus requiring all HFRA meetings to be held on the Internet via ZOOM until further notice.

The Chair reviewed "Zoom etiquette" that requests that members whose microphones are not muted to please remain silent when others have the floor. The smallest noises can make it difficult for everyone to hear whoever is speaking.

A moment of silence was observed to remember Honorary Members Corine "Rena" Vreeland, widow of our brother Ff. Raymond Vreeland, who passed away two days ago on February 8<sup>th</sup>. Ray died in 2002.

The Chair welcomed Dave Beaton, newly elected president of The Hamden Professional Firefighters Association, Local 2687 of the I.A.F.F. Dave succeeds Kurt Vogt, who led the local for the past ten years.

**MINUTES** – The minutes of the October 8<sup>th</sup> meeting had been sent to all online members. A motion was made by Mark Pratt and seconded by Ray Dobbs to accept the minutes as read. Motion carried.

**COMMUNICATIONS** – A \$50 donation was received from Richard Carroll, of South Yarmouth, Massachusetts for support of the website. Christmas greetings were received from brother Joe Mulligan and from Honorary Member Chan Brainard.

**TREASURER'S ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2020**  
January 1, 2020 – December 31, 2020

Checking balance as of January 1, 2020	\$ 507.54
Shares balance as of January 1, 2020	<u>1,641.84</u>
<b>Total balance as of January 1, 2020</b>	<b>\$ 2,149.38</b>

**Income - January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020**

Dividend Income (To Savings)	\$ 1.44
Payments for HGSRA paid to HFRA in error	
Wayne Lowry:	\$ 200.00
PayPal comm. obo Lowry	6.10
David Proulx:	<u>300.00</u>
Total Received for HGSRA	\$ 506.10
Donations received	
Richard Carroll	\$ 60.00
Dues	
Dues: 2020	\$ 915.00
Dues: 2021	570.00
Dues: 2022	15.00
Dues: 2023	15.00

Dues: 2024	<u>15.00</u>
Total dues received	\$ 1,530.00
Website subscription	<u>10.00</u>
TOTAL 2020 INCOME	\$ 2,107.54

**Transfers - January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020**

From Checking to Savings	
February 12, 2020	\$ 330.00
December 21, 2020	<u>1,000.00</u>
Total transfers to Savings	\$ 1,330.00

**Expenses - January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020**

Office Supplies	
Ink cartridges (1/2 of cost)	\$ 32.95

PayPal Commissions	
Dues	\$ 14.06
Website Subscriptions	.59
Wayne Lowry 7/3/2020	<u>6.10</u>
Total - PayPal Commissions	\$ 20.75

U.S.P.S.	
P.O. Box (rental – one year)	\$ 134.00
Postage (200 postcard stamps)	<u>90.00</u>
Total – U.S.P.S.	\$ 224.00

Reimbursements Paid (for payments to HGSRA paid to HFRA in error)	
To HGSRA obo Wayne Lowry – Check #173	\$ 200.00
To HGSRA obo David Proulx – Check #174	200.00
To David Proulx – overpayment Check #175	<u>100.00</u>
Total HGSRA Reimbursement	\$ 500.00

TOTAL 2020 EXPENSES \$ (- 777.70)

Checking balance as of December 31, 2020	\$ 505.94
Shares balance as of December 31, 2020	<u>2,973.28</u>
Total balance as of December 31, 2020	\$ 3,479.22

**TREASURER'S QUARTERLY REPORT**

(Partial)

January 1, 2021 – February 10, 2021

Checking balance as of January 1, 2020	\$ 505.94
Shares balance as of January 1, 2020	<u>2,973.28</u>
Total balance as of January 1, 2020	\$ 3,479.22

Income:	
Dues: 2021	\$ 450.00
Dues: 2022	30.00

Donation: Richard Carroll	50.00
<b>TOTAL income thus far this quarter</b>	<b>\$ 530.00</b>
Expenses	
PayPal – (Dues)	\$ 2.96
<b>TOTAL expenses this quarter</b>	<b>\$ (- 2.96)</b>
Transfers from Checking to Savings	None
Checking balance as of February 10, 2021	\$ 1,032.98
Shares balance as of February 10, 2021	<u>2,973.28</u>
<b>Total balance as of February 10, 2021</b>	<b>\$ 4,006.26</b>

A motion was made by Dennis Harrison, seconded by Salty Marak, to accept the Treasurer's reports and to reimburse the Secretary for expenses related to the Association's website, which amount to \$269.99 for two years (2019-2020). Passed with one abstention (the sec'y).

**COMMITTEES – Benefits Committee** – The Chair reported on the current status of the HGSRA lawsuit and urged members to attend by Zoom the February meeting of the Hamden Employees Retirement Board today at 3 p.m.

**Sunshine Committee** – Ralph Dievert was hospitalized recently and is presently in a rehabilitation facility recovering from some mini-strokes that he suffered. We all wish Ralph a speedy recovery.

Gil Spencer is still recuperating at home and frequently keeps in touch with the Secretary.

**History Committee** – The Secretary reported on activities since the October meeting, noting that November 1<sup>st</sup> marked the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the dedication of the department's newest fire station at Hartford Turnpike and Ridge Road, at which HFRA chaplain Rev. Owen Sanderson was also sworn in as the department's chaplain.

**NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS** – None

**OLD BUSINESS** – None

**NEW BUSINESS** – Dave Beaton read a letter from Chief Merwede acknowledging the establishment of a scholarship in memory of our deceased brother, Ff. Sam Jones, to be given to a Hamden High School senior of color desiring a career in EMS to obtain EMT training through Yale-New Haven Hospital. Sam was the department's first African American career member, serving on the department from May 1961 until his retirement in November 1990. The Association will acknowledge its thanks to the Jones family and to Chief Merwede.

**GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION** – Bill Fitzmaurice noted that today marked the first anniversary of his son's swearing in as a member of the department.

The Chair thanked Dave Beaton for attending today and for his participation in the meeting, as well as all others who attended with Zoom. He asked that everyone who attended today to please email the Secretary to acknowledge that they attended because not everyone is visible on his screen.

The Chair announced that the next meeting will be an evening meeting during the second week of June, date to be announced as we near that date. It is hoped that we will once again be able to meet in person by then. As always, the Secretary will notify all members at least one week before the meeting.

The Secretary noted that the five members we have lost since October 2019 will be honored at the October 2021 meeting, perhaps with a dinner. All families have been notified well in advance of the occasion on which their loved one will be honored.

Following adjournment, the Secretary played the 2021 edition of "We Remember," a memorial video tribute that features the photos of all deceased career members of the department since 1918. The video also includes all pre-1942 chief officers, "paid drivers," and the Co. 4 volunteer firefighter who was killed in a pumper accident while responding to a call. The video is available on the HFRA website.

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 1:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "David G. Johnson".

David G. Johnson  
Secretary

18 members: DeBurra, Dobbs, Fitzmaurice, Harrison, Johnson, Koutsopolos, Mangler, Manware, Marak, B. Mikolinski, B., Mordecai, Pratt, Slater, Spencer, Stoehr, Strawhince, Viglione, Wetmore, P. Sr.