

Hamden Fire Retirees' Association, Inc.  
Minutes – July 14, 2022

President Bob Mordecai called the 50<sup>th</sup> regular meeting of the Hamden Fire Retirees' Association, Inc. to order at 7:10 p.m. on Thursday, July 14, 2022, at the Hamden Elks' Hall.

The Chair opened the meeting by having members and guests stand for the Pledge of Allegiance. All in attendance remained standing for a moment of silence in memory of Members Richie Lostritto, who passed away on May 27<sup>th</sup>, and Ray Dobbs, who passed away on June 20<sup>th</sup>.

**MINUTES** – The Secretary read the minutes of the April meeting. A motion was made by Jim Leddy, seconded by Chick Manware, to accept the minutes as read.

**COMMUNICATIONS** –

**TREASURER'S REPORT** – The Secretary-Treasurer read the report for the first quarter.

2022 First Quarter - January 1, 2022 – March 31, 2022

|                                      |                 |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Checking balance as of April 1, 2022 | \$ 355.57       |
| Shares balance as of April 1, 2022   | <u>3,975.22</u> |
| Total balance as of April 1, 2022    | \$ 4,330.79     |

Income:

|   |              |
|---|--------------|
| Dividend (2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter - Shares Account) | \$ 0.45      |
| Donation (Slater)                                   | 20.00        |
| Dues  |              |
| 2022  | 150.00       |
| 2023  | <u>30.00</u> |
| TOTAL dues paid this quarter                        | 180.00       |
| TOTAL income this quarter                           | \$ 200.45    |

Expenses

|   |               |
|---|---------------|
| Office Supplies   | \$ 20.20      |
| David Johnson (Website expenses – 2 years)                  | 331.56        |
| Robert Mordecai (Refreshments – Apr. meeting)               | 121.25        |
| U.S.P.S. (4/6 – 100 Forever postcard stamps, April meeting) | 40.00         |
| U.S.P.S. (4/19 - Postage – R. Carroll cert.)                | <u>4.50</u>   |
| TOTAL expenses this quarter                                 | \$ (- 517.51) |

|                                    |           |
|------------------------------------|-----------|
| Transfers from Checking to Savings | \$ 452.81 |
|------------------------------------|-----------|

|                                      |                 |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Checking balance as of June 30, 2022 | \$ 490.87       |
| Shares balance as of June 30, 2022   | <u>3,522.86</u> |
| Total balance as of June 30, 2022    | \$ 4,013.73     |

Activity since June 30<sup>th</sup>

|  |              |
|--|--------------|
| 100 Forever 1 <sup>st</sup> Class stamps | \$ 50.00     |
| Sec'y/State Annual Report for 2022       | <u>50.00</u> |
| TOTAL                                    | \$ 100.00    |

A motion was made by Kerry Castracane, seconded by Paul Turner, to accept the second quarter report. Passed unanimously.

**COMMITTEES – Benefits Committee** – The Chair reported on the status of the Agreement between the HGSRA litigants and the Town.

**Sunshine Committee** – The Secretary reported that several members participated in the Honor Guard for Richie Lostritto and Ray Dobbs.

**History Committee** – The Secretary reported he had received several items for the HFRA archives from Denise White, daughter of member Guy White, who is now in a nursing home in Florida. Included were HFD badge No. 64, an HFD pocket badge, a Volunteer Co. 9 badge, Guy's 1970s HFD helmet, a leather helmet that had belonged to a helmet belonging to a retired Bridgeport chief officer Victor McLaughlin who retired in the 1970s. Also included was a Hamden fire mark plaque, many of which were cast during the mid-1970s. This donation was acknowledged in a thank you letter to Guy.

The Secretary also received a donation memorabilia from the widow of HFRA member, Lieut. Frank Critchett. Included were Frank's firefighter and lieutenant helmets shields, as well as a Unit Citation awarded to Frank and his crew of Engine 9 for a June 1988 rescue of an injured man off a long logging trail in the area of Hamden-Bethany town line.

The Secretary also acknowledged receipt of two 70-year old photos received from Ernest Hines, widow of Lt. Bill Hines, of his crew taken in the summer of 1952 in front of Headquarters.

The Secretary also reported that Mayor Garrett's chief of staff, Sean Grace, had informed him that the money set aside a few years ago to help renovate the old one-room schoolhouse for a possible fire museum is still in the budget. The Mayor is apparently very interested in seeing this project through. The only thing needed now is for a committee to work on the project.

The Secretary reported that the members of the Mt. Carmel Volunteer Fire Company has decided to donate their building to the Town for exclusive use of the fire department. If the property is ever sold, the entire proceeds must be used for capital expenses at the discretion of the fire chief. The Agreement has yet to be finalized, but when it is there will be a formal ceremony to which all present and past career and volunteer personnel will be invited.

**NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS** – None

**OLD BUSINESS** – A motion was made by Dave Johnson, seconded by Harold Mangler, to admit Margaret Lostritto and Niki Dobbs as Honorary Members of the Association. Passed unanimously. The Secretary will notify them for their induction at the October meeting of the Association, when they will also receive memorial plaques honoring their husbands.

**NEW BUSINESS** – The Secretary reported that he has made the website an archive that will be available to all members and non-member subscribers once it has been reconfigured to make it easier to retrieve the over 800 pages posted on the site since June 2009.

Kevin Shield has volunteered to be the Association's coordinator with Local 2687 for all future Honor Guard duties. Though retired, Kevin remains a regular member of the Department's Honor Guard.

The Secretary also requested a member or members to coordinate the scheduling of future meetings with the Elks, including the menus when meals are also made available.

There was a discussion on the possibility of having a summer family picnic at Brooksvale. The Chair suggested that the Secretary email all members to see who would participate if such an event were to be scheduled.

**GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION** – The Chair noted that the next meeting is scheduled for an afternoon meeting during the second week of October. The exact date and location will be announced as the date nears.

Don LaBanca suggested that the Association back a plan to have the bridge over Lake Whitney in Spring Glen be named in memory of Co. 4 Firefighter Edward Meegan, who was fatally injured when Engine 4 flipped over at the old bridge at that location while responding to an alarm in December 1927. Don will head a committee, assisted by the Chair, to investigate the procedure required to have bridge named for Ff. Meegan.

A motion by Don LaBanca, seconded by Don Buechele, to adjourn at 7:54 p.m. Passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



David G. Johnson  
Secretary

Members

(20): B. Amatrudo, D. Baker, D. Berardesca, D. Buechele, K. Castracane, T. Doherty, P. Frodel, D. Harrison, D. Johnson, J. Koutsopolos, D. LaBanca, J. Leddy, H. Mangler, F. Manware, R. Mordecai, J. O'Dea, K. Shields, R. Surprise, P. Turner, R. Viglione.

Guest (1): Barb Johnson