



*New Jersey State
Retired Police And Firemen's
Association, Inc.*

MINUTES OF MEETING

December 05, 2016

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting of the New Jersey State Retired Policemen and Firemen's Association was called to order by President Valdora on Monday December 5th, 2016 at 12:00 PM. The meeting convened at the Willingboro FOP Lodge, 4136 US Rt. 130, Beverly, Burlington County, New Jersey.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – PRAYER IN MEMORY OF DEPARTED MEMBERS:

President Valdora led the members present in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of our country.

President Valdora read a prayer in memory of our members and all policemen and firemen who have passed away and asked for a moment of silence.

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS AND DELEGATES:

President Valdora conducted a roll call of Officers/Delegates.

President Joseph Valdora

2nd Vice President Dennis Deal

Treasurer Len Mundy

Sergeant at Arms Bill Seaman

Trustee Robert Del Sordo Esq. (exp. 1/2019)

Financial Secretary James Stewart (absent)

1st Vice President David Earle

3rd Vice President Walt Szatjowski

Secretary William McKnight

Trustee Ed Rappleyea (exp. 1/2018)

Trustee Pete Kenny (exp. 1/2017)

ATTENDANCE BY LOCAL:

<u>Local</u>	<u>Local</u>	<u>Local</u>
1. Essex County 0	7. Cumberland Co 0	13. Morris County 0
2. Dissolved 12/31/08	8. Ocean County 1	14. (Merged with Local # 3)
3. Union County 2	9. Middlesex-Monmouth Co 3	15. Cape May County 1
4. Hudson County 0	10. Burlington County 2	16. Atlantic County 7
5. Passaic County 2	11. Gloucester-Camden 4	22. Florida 0
6. Salem County 1	12. Mercer County 3	
		Total in attendance 26

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

President Valdora noted that the minutes of the previous meeting, held on September 26th 2016 had been distributed by email and by US Mail to those who do not have email available. A motion to accept the 26th September meeting’s minutes was made by Local 16, and was seconded by Local 8. The motion was carried.

GUEST SPEAKER :

A presentation was made by Bill Handerhan of NJ BC/.BS Horizon on the change of Medicare Coverage to be placed under Medicare Advantage. According to Mr.Handerhan all benefits will remain consistent with the current coverage. He expects a seamless transition. Questions can be directed to the NJ Pension and Benefits website or phone. (See Below and **Attachment 1.**) Express Scripts will continue to handle the Prescription Coverage. All claims will be handled by NJ BC/BS Horizon as a contractor. A new Medicare Advantage Card with new numbers will be issued to all eligible members shortly. No two cards will be required, but retain the old Medicare card for other uses.

STATE HEALTH BENEFITS PROGRAM (SHBP) AND SCHOOL EMPLOYEES' HEALTH BENEFITS PROGRAM (SEHBP)
<http://www.state.nj.us/treasury/pensions/health-benefits.shtml>

Refer to Attachment # 1 for a handout distributed at the meeting by Mr. Handerhan. Additional contact information is contained on these pages.

A second guest speaker NJSRPFA member Ed Buttimore is running in the primary for the State Senate seat in the 40th District, Bergen and Passaic Counties. He is a retired NJ Division of Criminal Justice Investigator and pensioner. He has been an out spoken editorial writer and critic of the improper and unfair funding of the pension system. He is seeking endorsements of the PBA and FMBA and has been endorsed by our organization. He is seeking assistance in obtaining signatures and volunteers in his primary efforts. Historically the person who wins the Republican primary carries the election.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD:

No Report.

REPORT OF THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY:

No Report.

PENSION BOARD ISSUES:

Member Frank Casey reported on the following Pension Issues :

The number of retirees exceeds the number of active members. The amount of money coming out of the pension fund exceeds the amount coming in. The Governor does not put into the fund the obligated amount of money, and if he did the deficit would cease.

The Transportation Trust Fund Law recently passed favors retirees with pension exclusions for state taxes on pension for those who make under \$ 100,000. per year. The program is being phased in over a period of several years. All are advised to see their tax preparers and advise them of this change.

Senate Bill 2810 if signed by the Governor would mandate the state make the pension contributions quarterly instead of yearly. This would help with the fund gaining interest, however it does not force the Governor to make the full obligated payment. The bill is awaiting his signature.

The change under Chapter 78 which required active employees to contribute an additional 1.5 % to the pension funds is having no benefit. Part of the bill allowed the municipalities and counties to reduce their contributions in an equal amount, the result is no gain to the fund.

NJSRPFA member Marty Barrett was reelected to the Pension Board, by only 341 votes. He is a voice for retired Police and Fire Fighters. It is essential the organization vote and support those trustees who are advocates for us, as emphasized by President Valdora.

REPORT OF THE TREASURER:

Treasurer Len Mundy gave the financial report for the period of March 28, 2016 thru December 01, 2016. He reported the following:

Cash on hand as of March 28, 2016	\$	10,585.25
Total Receipts	+ \$	2,040.45
Disbursements	- \$	<u>4,078.78</u>
Cash on hand as of December 1, 2016	\$	8,546.92

A motion was made by Local 16 seconded by Local 10 to accept the Treasurer's reports as presented. Motion carried. (**Refer to attachment # 2**)

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES:

LEGISLATIVE

Trustee Robert DelSordo Esq. reported on the following:

Things are generally quiet he reports within the legislature. The Governor's signature is pending on the time but not amount required quarterly payments to the pension funds. The Governor has made no commitment.

Bob represented our Organization at a presentation in Cape May for the Disabled American Veterans, and to the U.S. Coast Guard Base in Cape May. The presentations of wreath bandanas and a U.S. Flag and model USCG Cutter were well received and appreciated. He stressed the need to increase the public status and awareness of our organization via public service acts and participation. He gave as examples our participation in the "Dollars for Decks" restoration project on the Battleship NJ and the Veteran's Association on the Camden County College campus.

AUDIT COMMITTEE

No Report.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

No Report.

BY-LAWS COMMITTEE

No Report.

LIAISON COMMITTEE

Local 1- No Report.

Local 3 – No Report.

Local 4 - No Report.

Local 5 - Dolores Most is recuperating following an injury. She is expected to make a full recovery. All members wished her well.

Local 6 - No Report.

Local 7 - No Report.

Local 9 - Thanked President Valdora for the new organization website. Christmas Party will be on December 14th and the cost is \$ 15.00 Contact Local 9 President Mike Burns for additional information. Trustee and Local 9 Member Ed Rappleyea is recovering from a serious illness. All wish him well.

Local 10 - Christmas Party on December 10th.

Local 11 - Christmas Party on December 10th, 12 noon at the Adelpia Restaurant, cost is \$ 20.00 raffle tickets which include a special Lady's basket made by Trustee Bob DelSordo Esq.

Local 12 - Christmas Party on December 16th

Local 15 - No Report.

Local 16 - Christmas Party on December 17th, Angelo's Fairmount Tavern, Chinese Auction will be held, also featuring a Lady's Basket provided by Trustee Bob DelSordo.

Local 22 – Local 22 President called and thanked President Valdora for information provided on Survivor's Benefits. Also any member moving to Florida is asked to contact Local 22 and sign up.

MEETING VENUE/REFRESHMENT COMMITTEE

The meeting dates for 2017 were set as follows :

Monday January 30

Monday March 27

Monday June 19

Monday September 25

Monday December 4

President Valdora stated he would be scheduling the meeting at several different locations in 2017 and this would be discussed in the January meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

None received.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

President Valdora discussed the following unfinished business:

He urged all Locals to submit their Local Officers names and contact information to him as soon as possible.

President Valdora stated he has organizational cards and decals available,

He added there was a test case pending on the status of the Medicare Advantage plan and as details became available these would be made known.

NEW BUSINESS

President Valdora nominated Pete Kenny of Local 9 to complete the term of Trustee Ed Strittmatter regrettably who passed away.

The nomination was seconded by Local 16 and the motion was passed.

President Valdora stated he would be presenting the goals and direction of our Organization for the future. Some points he will be exploring are the mining of retired members of the PBA and the FMBA, both organizations who do not strongly stand behind the retired personnel. The political and financial support of candidates in the legislature and Governor elections who stand behind the retired Firefighters and Police

Officers. To recruit more diversity in the membership of our organization. President Valdora said he will have more on these issues at the next meeting.

The Organization's website is up and running with new additions planned. President Valdora said the site can be accessed at :

New Jersey Retired Police and Firemen's Association
<http://www.njrpfa.org/index.html>

President Valdora suggested all members view a website regarding pensions :

“ Bury pensions blog”
<https://burypensions.wordpress.com/>

GOOD AND WELFARE

No Report.

The next meeting will be held on Monday January 30
at the Willingboro FOP Lodge, 4136 Rt 130, Beverly, Burlington County, NJ.

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Monday January 30

Monday March 27

Monday June 19

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ADJOURNMENT - A motion was made Local 16 and seconded by Local 8 to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed and the meeting closed.