



Northern Virginia Firefighters' Emerald Society Pipe Band

Annual General Membership Meeting

January 26, 2022

- I. Meeting called to order at 7:30 pm
- II. Members in Attendance: See attachments for sign in sheet.
- III. Reports
 - a. Agenda
 - i. Jim Martin motioned that the agenda be accepted as provided. Gary Winemiller seconded it and it was passed unanimously.
 - ii. President Matt Lopez temporarily suspended the agenda items for a special guest.
 - b. Special Guest
 - i. John Snyder presented the band a check for \$10,000 from the estate of Ed Snyder to be used by the band.
 - c. President
 - i. Matt Lopez returned to the agenda and presented the President's Report.
 - ii. See attachment of President's Report
 - d. Vice President
 - i. Bill Bryce presented the Vice President's Report.
 - ii. Pete Falcone is a new member of the band and a snare drummer.
 - iii. The band is putting forth a great deal of effort to keep rehearsing and improving.
 - iv. Many other bands look up to us and are trying to model after us because we are still rehearsing and progressing where many of them are not.
 - v. All the hard work is paying off and thanks for working so hard.
 - vi.
 - e. Secretary
 - i. Jim Kraftchak stated that last year's meeting minutes had been sent out to everyone prior to the meeting.
 - ii. Kevin Byrne motioned that we forgo the reading of last year's meeting minutes. Matt Bickert seconded that motion and it passed unanimously.

- iii. Bill Bryce motioned that we accept the meeting minutes as written and that was seconded by Matt Lopez and it passed unanimously.
- f. Treasurer
 - i. Tom Clappi presented the Treasurer's report.
 - ii. See attachment of Treasurer's report.
- g. Member-At-Large Report
 - i. Jim Ryan wanted to congratulate Matt Lind on his promotion as a full member of the band.
- h. Quartermaster
 - i. A copy of the inventory report can be found in the attachments of these minutes.
 - ii. Jason Allen stated that other than Scally Caps and Ties we didn't buy too much over the year.
 - iii. There is still a small handful of people that need uniform items.
- i. Uniform Officer
 - i. Gary Winemiller stated that the Uniform Manual needs to be updated to reflect the changes that have been made.
 - ii. New members need to read the manual and it can be gotten from the band's website under the Staff area.
 - iii. Gary Winemiller also stated that he would like to have an uniform inspection and/or uniform class.
 - iv. Clarification on the proposed unit patch or American flag that it needs to be the same distance down the right sleeve as the band patch.
- j. Drum Major
 - i. Bill Bryce stated that the band has worked hard over the last year to improve.
 - ii. Bill Bryce stated that he is constantly being told by other service bands that we sound awesome.
 - iii. We need to keep doing what we've been doing and continue to improve.
 - iv. One area we need to improve in is marching.
 - v. Plan is to potentially have 1 open rehearsal a month so that students can play with the band.
 - vi. Our annual fundraiser will occur in the late spring this year.
 - vii. We have a number of new events that will be coming up and you should look to TeamSnap for.
 - viii. St. Patrick's Day events are currently being lined up also. Again look to TeamSnap.
 - ix. Looking to get a new official band photo taken this coming year.
- k. Pipe Major
 - i. Jason Allen stated that this year was bit more "normal" than last year was.
 - ii. Everyone is working hard and it's showing.

- iii. We are working to improve how we sound as a group overall.
- iv. There has been a big change for the better that is noticeable over the last two years on how the band has sounded.
- v. We are no longer correcting huge issues but fine tuning small details in the music to make it the best it can be.
- vi. Jason Allen stated that he believes that we are currently the best sounding service band in the area.
- vii. Because of our progress, now its easier to hear when there is an issue with the music and identify it.
- viii. John Burns has passed his audition and is now qualified to attend LODD events.
- ix. We haven't hit every tune in the book yet but we are working on it.
- x. Jason Allen stated that he would like to continue in the role as the Pipe Major for another two years.
- xi. Because there has been interest, we will look into potentially competing in the Service Band category.
- xii. In the future we may be adding a weekend rehearsal in when we are adding new music.
- xiii. There is a possibility that the band will be able to get new chanters to help make it easier to stay in the "sweet spot" and sound better as a band.
- xiv. The band will only be as good as you make it.
- l. Band Manager
 - i. Lisa Heilbraun was unable to attend so Matt Lopez read her report.
 - ii. A copy of the Band Manger's report is attached.

IV. New Business

- a. Department Patches
 - i. Steve Boulton motioned that we have the ability to add a department patch to the uniform as stated in the agenda and Matt Bickert seconded.
 - ii. Matt Lopez opened the motion for discussion.
 - 1. Gary Winemiller asked if we would need permission from the organization to use their patch.
 - 2. Garrett McKenzie said that members would need to ask their organization if they can use the patch.
 - 3. Jason Allen stated that members would need to pay to get the patch put on their uniform or do it themselves as the band would not be doing it.
 - 4. Garrett McKenzie asked if it will be required to wear the patch or not. Matt Lopez stated that the patch is optional.
 - 5. Garrett McKenzie then stated that for those without an organizational patch that we would need a standard American flag.

6. Kevin Byrne stated that we may want to separate the shirt and sweater because it may not come off of the sweater without leaving a mark.
 7. Bill Bryce motioned that the wording be changed to only allow the organizational patch to be worn on the uniform shirt. Matt Bickert seconded the motion.
 - a. Jim Ryan stated that he thinks the amended motion is a good idea.
 - b. The amended motion passed unanimously.
 - iii. Gary Winemiller has been asked to update the Uniform Manual to include the updated wording for the organizational patch.
- b. Elections
- i. Board of Directors
 1. Matt Lopez turned the elections over the Jim Martin to run
 2. President
 - a. Jason Allen nominated Matt Lopez and Matt Bickert seconded.
 - b. Kevin Byrne motioned to close nominations and it was seconded by Matt Bickert.
 - c. Vote was held by acclamation and Matt Lopez was voted in unanimously.
 - d. Matt Lopez is reelected as president, congratulations.
 3. Vice President
 - a. Steve Boulton nominated Bill Bryce and Tom Clappi seconded.
 - b. Matt Lopez nominated Matt Bickert and Jason Allen seconded.
 - c. Count was Matt Bickert 7, Bill Bryce 11.
 - d. Bill Bryce is reelected as Vice President, congratulations.
 4. Secretary
 - a. Jim Ryan nominated Jim Kraftchak and Matt Lopez seconded.
 - b. Matt Lopez motioned to close nominations and it was seconded by Jim Ryan.
 - c. Vote was held by acclamation and Jim Kraftchak was voted in unanimously.
 - d. Jim Kraftchak is reelected as secretary, congratulations.
 5. Treasurer
 - a. Matt Lopez nominated Tom Clappi and Gary Winemiller seconded.
 - b. Matt Lopez motioned to close nominations and it was seconded by Matt Bickert.

- c. Vote was held by acclimation and Tom Clappi was voted in unanimously.
 - d. Tom Clappi is reelected as treasurer, congratulations.
 - 6. Member-At-Large
 - a. Bill Bryce nominated Matt Bickert and Matt Lopez seconded.
 - b. John Burn nominated Jim Ryan and Gary Winemiller seconded.
 - c. Count was Matt Bickert 14, Jim Ryan 5.
 - d. Matt Bickert is the Member-At-Large, congratulations.
 - 7. Pipe Major
 - a. Gary Winemiller nominated Jason Allen and Bill Bryce seconded.
 - b. Matt Lopez motioned to close nominations and it was seconded by Tom Clappi.
 - c. Vote was held by acclimation and Jason Allen was voted in unanimously.
 - d. Jason Allen is reelected as Pipe Major, congratulations.
 - 8. Drum Major
 - a. Steve Boulton nominated Bill Bryce and Gary Winemiller seconded.
 - b. Matt Lopez motioned to close nominations and it was seconded by Tom Clappi.
 - c. Vote was held by acclimation and Bill Bryce was voted in unanimously.
 - d. Bill Bryce is reelected as Drum Major, congratulations.
 - 9. Jim Martin closed nominations.
 - V. Good of the Order
 - a. Jim Ryan motioned that we open discussions on the patch again, seconded by Tom Clappi.
 - i. Jim Ryan motioned that instead of nothing on the uniform sweater that we all have the US flag on the uniform sweater, seconded by Steve Boulton.
 - ii. Question was asked of Garry Winemiller if we had any issues with putting the US Flag on the uniform sweater?
 - iii. Gary Winemiller answered that there would be no issue with placing the US Flag on the uniform sweater.
 - iv. Jason Allen suggested that Bill Bryce get the Gary Winemiller to approve an appropriate sized flag.
 - v. Motion to add the US flag to the uniform sweater was passed unanimously.

- b. Gary Winmiller suggested that we use some of the money provided by Ed Snyder's estate to create a plaque for Ed Snyder that can be placed in the trophy case at the Academy. Matt Lopez asked Gary to bring it to the board for approval.
 - c. Gary Winemiller stated that the Fairfax County Retirement Association even would be held this year at Brandy Station on September 24.
 - d. Jim Martin asked if LODD events should be placed on TeamSnap.
 - i. Response was that it is going to depend on what type of information we have.
 - ii. If we are the point of contact for an event it will definitely be on TeamSnap.
 - iii. We will try to put what we can on TeamSnap when we have enough information.
- VI. Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm with motion by Steve Boulton, seconded by Tom Clappi and passed with a unanimous vote.

NVFESPB

Membership Sign In

11/26/2022

Printed Name

Signature

Matthew Lopez

James Lind

Matt Bickert

James Ryan

GARY W. WINEMILLER

John BURNS

ANDREW TIMMER

Stephen Boulton

JAMES MARTIN

Matthew Kahle

GARRET McHENRIE

Kevin Byrne

CLIFFORD GIL

F. P. FALCONE

[Handwritten signatures corresponding to the names in the adjacent column]

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President's Report

NVFESPB
Presidents Report
January 26, 2022

- I. After 2020 with COVID shutting down world - 2021 slowly started back up.
- II. Continued rehearsals at the Fairfax County Fire & Rescue's Training Academy high bay intermixed with Zoom.
- III. The Annual Meeting was delayed due to the pandemic until April when we could meet in person – masked and spaced. Seems eerily familiar as we sit here at Centreville's Bingo Hall.
- IV. A Positive – we march on into 38th Year!
- V. Sad - Saw passing of Kevin Byrne's Father, Brother Ed Snyder and Gary Winemiller's Mother
- VI. We recruited new drummers and pipers:
 - a. Andrew Timper, Garrett McKenzie, Jeff Meslena, Matt Kahle, James Lind, Cliff Gill.
 - b. Brought back Giovanne
 - c. Finally elevated John Burns to a full piper
- VII. As COVID retreated for Spring many events opened.
 - a. Despite St Patrick's Day events being cancelled or postponed again:
 - i. Manassas St Patrick's Day – Sinistral Brewing Company
 - ii. Ned Divine's Irish Pub on St. Patrick's Day
 - b. VA Fallen FF's Memorial June
 - c. July 4 Parade in City of Fairfax
 - d. 9/11 Event at Mission BBQ in Chantilly
 - e. ½ Way to St Patrick's Day in Manassas in September
 - f. NFFF Memorial Weekend
 - g. Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Retiree's Association Memorial Picnic in Brandy Station VFD
 - h. NoVa Fire and Rescue Leadership Conference at the National Conference Center
 - i. Vienna Halloween Parade
 - j. Chincoteague Old Fashioned Firemans Christmas Parade
 - k. Multiple FCFRD Recruit Graduations
- VIII. LODD funerals (x8)
 - a. FF Logan Young (West Virginia Air National Guard) in Winchester, VA
 - b. Pipe Sergeant Edward Snyder
 - c. FF Todd Landreth (Norfolk Airport Authority) in Norfolk, VA
 - d. RFF Eldridge in Chesterfield, VA
 - e. FF Jeffery Rizzo in (Loudoun County Fire and Rescue Combined Services) Leesburg, VA
 - f. Lt Daniel Friz (MCPD/MCFPD) in Ijamsville, MD
 - g. Officer Chandler (Big Stone Gap VA PD) in Wise, VA
 - h. Richard Blankenship (HCFRD) in Savage, MD
 - i. Pending for February 2022 – x3 LODD Baltimore City FD (moment of silence)
- IX. We have new uniform paraphernalia for members: ties and scally cap

- X. Board has approved but the membership will need to formally adopt a by-laws change:
 - a. Allow active, retired, volunteer or former members of a public safety agency to wear their agency patch on the right sleeve of their uniform short sleeve shirt and sweater.
- XI. Band to receive from Jon Snyder a monetary donation from the will of Ed Snyder.
- XII. The board approved an honorary plaque for FS417 Centreville VFD for their support of our band during this COVID pandemic allowing us to rehearse and meet every week until our ultimate return to the FCFRD FRA.
- XIII. I am optimistic about 2022 for our board, our band, and the fire service.

Treasurer's Report 2021

Transaction Ledger- NVESPO 2021							
Date	Description	Income		Expense		Check No.	Balance
		(Gig Income, Donation, Merch)	(Uniform, Gear, Storage, Admin, Food/Drink)	Amount Received	Amount Paid		
1/1/2021	Public Storage		Monthly Fee		\$ 105.00		
2/3/2021	Public Storage						\$ 9,717.27
2/22/2021	Backyard Grill		Monthly Fee		\$ 105.00		
			Ed Snyder Funeral		\$ 285.49		
3/1/2021	Deposit			\$ 1,000.00			\$ 9,326.78
3/1/2021	Profitowers		Eds Funeral Flowers		\$ 82.66		
3/1/2021	Team Snap		Yearly subscription		\$ 99.99		
3/3/2021	Mbl Deposit	Eds Family donation					
3/4/2021	Public Storage		Monthly Fee	\$ 500.00			
3/16/2021	Go Daddy		Annual Renewal		\$ 105.00		
					\$ 159.98		
4/5/2021	Public Storage		Monthly Fee				\$ 10,379.15
4/6/2021	Go Daddy		Annual Renewal		\$ 105.00		
4/7/2021	Mbl Deposit				\$ 359.64		
4/12/2021	Office Depot	Dues	Admin Supplies	\$ 100.00			
4/19/2021	Mbl Deposit	Dues		\$ 716.00		\$ 9.53	
4/21/2021	Mbl Deposit	Dues		\$ 900.00			
4/26/2021	mbl Deposit	Dues		\$ 405.00			
4/27/2021	mbl Deposit	Dues		\$ 100.00			
5/4/2021	Public Storage		Monthly Fee		\$ 105.00		\$ 12,125.98
6/4/2021	Public Storage		Monthly		\$ 105.00		\$ 12,020.98
6/9/2021	Mbl Deposit	St Pats Gig		\$ 100.00			
7/6/2021	Public Storage		Monthly Fee		\$ 105.00		\$ 12,015.98
7/22/2021	FTD Florist				\$ 95.02		
7/29/2021	Bill Bryce		Reembursment		\$ 25.00		
8/3/2021	Public Storage		Monthly Fee		\$ 105.00		\$ 11,790.00
8/13/2021	Quality Inn		NFF Deposit		\$ 200.00		
8/25/2021	Mbl Deposit	4th July Parade		\$ 500.00			
9/3/2021	Public Storage		Monthly Free				\$ 11,985.96
9/20/2021	Mbl Deposit			\$ 600.00	\$ 105.00		
9/29/2021	Mbl Deposit			\$ 120.00			
10/4/2021	Tribute Store		Quatermaster return	\$ 222.90			\$ 12,600.00
10/4/2021	Public Storage		Monthly Fee		\$ 105.00		
10/4/2021	Tribute Store		QuaterMaster Supplies		\$ 222.90		
10/4/2021	Gettysburg Eddies		Band NFF Meal		\$ 400.68		
10/5/2021	Gettysburg Quality Inn		NFF Hotel		\$ 2,908.00		
10/6/2021	FTD Florest				\$ 174.79		
10/14/2021	Mbl Deposit	NFF Reimbursment		\$ 624.00			
10/22/2021	Boston Scally		Quatermaster- Scally's		\$ 862.67		
10/25/2021	Mbl Deposit	NFF Reimbursment		\$ 1,917.00			
10/25/2021	Branch Deposit	NFF Reimbursment		\$ 362.00			
11/3/2021	Public Storage		Monthly Fee		\$ 105.00		\$ 10,436.03
12/2/2021	Mbl Deposit	Boston Scally Reimbursment		\$ 120.00			\$ 10,331.03
12/9/2021	Jason Allen	Quatermaster Reimbursment			\$ 180.00		
							\$ 10,271.03
12/31/2021	Yearly Totals:			\$ 8,286.90	\$ 7,223.45		\$ 10,271.03

Quartermaster's Report

NOVA Pipes and Drums - Inventory - Yearly Membership Meeting

Item	Quantity	NOTES
Kilts		6 Various sizes and condition
Tunics		13 Various sizes and condition
Caubeen		4 Winter only
Probie Kilt		2 32 and 46
Band Sweater		8 S/4, M/1, XL/1, XXL/2
Band Sporrans		1
Sporran chains		4
Sporran straps	4 sets	
Belts		8 Various sizes and condition
Belt Buckle		9
Flashes	3 pair	
Kevin's shoe buckles	6 pair	
Rain Capes		7 Various sizes and condition
Tunic stripes		8 4/Pvt, 2/Corp, 2/Sgt
Sash's		0
Piper shoulder boards		14 4/Pvt, 6/Corp, 4/Sgt
Drum shoulder boards		15 Pvt/3, 5/Corp, 7/Sgt

Band Manager's Report

Annual Meeting - Not able to attend

Subject: Annual Meeting - Not able to attend

From: Lisa Heilbraun <gigczarina@yahoo.com>

Date: 1/26/2022, 4:05 PM

To: William Bryce <wtbryce@gmail.com>, Matthew Lopez <mlopez22152@yahoo.com>, Tom Clappi <LtDan07@aol.com>, Matthew Bickert <matthewbickert3@gmail.com>, Jason Allen <novairishpipesqm@gmail.com>, Jim Kraftchak <jkrafty@cox.net>

Hi Guys,

I am out of town treating a patient today in Orlando and can not make the meeting tonight. Would you please read a short statement for my Gig Manager Report? Sorry to miss the meeting. Hope it all goes well!

Thank you everyone for your continue time and dedication to the band. We have done a lot of great events this past year even with the difficulties placed on us by the pandemic. The next year is looking even better. Even though Alexandria St. Patrick's Day parade has been cancelled, we are planning for Manassas and NY. Please look at TeamSnap for more details. We have been asked to perform at a brand new gig, something very different, the Fire and Iron kickoff party for their big motorcycle ride on Thursday, July 28th at 6:00pm in Harrisonburg, VA. We would play the opening ceremony and then are invited to stay for a country music concert and party to follow. A bus would be provided to and from the event, and they will pay us \$1,000. We could come home that night or stay the night returning the next day. It is a week night so please discuss this and gage band interest.

Lisa Heilbraun

Gig Manager

Mobile: 703 217-1157

Website: <http://novairishpipes.org/>