

The April 9, 2022 meeting of the Board of Managers was called to order at 9:30 A.M. by Chairman Greci with the flag salute followed by the invocation given by Mr. Dutch.

Secretary McDougall provided the Public Notice of Meeting.

A roll call showed all members present with the exception of Managers DeLaurentis and Oser who were excused due to medical issues.

Secretary McDougall read Communications from New Jersey State FMBA President supporting the Community Nursing Home Program and Manager DeLaurentis asking to be excused due to medical issues.

Treasurer Sutphen reported that everything is on target with the current year budget with three months remaining for this budget year.

Superintendent Veras reported cases of COVID were present at the home. Guests were presenting only cold like symptoms and were being isolated as per state guidelines. Testing is continuing 2 times a week. Visitations are being monitored. Spring cleanup is continuing, new parking signs have been installed in the front of the building. The second COVID Booster shot is under consideration with the medical director and staff. BBQ's are fully booked weather permitting through September 24th.

Committee Reports

Building and Grounds: Mr. Signorello reported that plans are underway to provide 10 more spots around the facility.

Mr. Horvath reported on the Applications Committee meeting on April 5th noting 63 guests at the home. Same is attached to the minutes.

Employees: Mr. McDougall reported the committee discussed potential issues with the rising cost of gas for possible problems with some employees not being able to afford the commute. No action is recommended at this time.

Budget and Finance: Mr. Silvestri provided a written report from the April 5th meeting noting bills in the amount of \$285,360.13. Report is attached to the minutes.

Legislation: Mr. Lugossy reported on several bills up for consideration in Trenton. A2886 provides for Work Place Protections with mental health issues for 1st responders. S2224 Provides for \$500. State income tax deduction for Volunteer 1st responders. S2225 Provides for Cost of training for EMT for Volunteer Firefighters. S2231 provides for exemption for Charitable Registration fees for Volunteer Fire Companies.

By-Laws. Mr. Lugossy reported the committee will have a full report for the July Full Board Meeting concerning the issue of the Executive Board/Full Board meetings.

Museum: Mr. Hull reported that the committee will be seeking additional quotes for the base needed to install the fire ring donated by Livingston Fire Department.

Public Relations: Mr. Wilson reported progress.

Golf: Mr. Genic reported 140 Golfers registered. Still accepting sponsors. Mr. Hull will send EMAIL to managers for sign up to help with the event.

Community Nursing Home: Mr. Dutch reported three meetings have been held discussing mainly choice of facilities in the most southern part of the state and reviewing the agreement with Methodist Communities. They are trying to keep within a 45-minute travel distance. The committee feels the proposed arrangement with the Methodist Communities will work for most of the south including some parts of Ocean. The next step will be to look at facilities that will address Mercer, Monmouth and Ocean. He and Mr. Sanders visited the facility in Ocean City and found it very acceptable. He noted that the Not for Profit Facilities seem to be a better fit for us in that they seem to have more employees to provide care.

Bob Sanders further reported that he was very pleased with the visit at Ocean City. The staff was very interested in our program noting that they have space in their facility for any care you need.

Roger Hull questioned if anyone had looked into the deficiencies recently reported.

Mr. Veras responded that he is familiar with the process and recently had occasion to talk with the State of New Jersey Ombudsman who works on these types of complaints. It could take up to a year to finalize any investigation and it is the facilities responsibility to prove the complaint wrong. It is difficult getting information until such time as the investigation is complete. He will get as much information as possible but may be only able to go so far.

Mr. Hull stated we were ready to enter into an agreement with Friends Village so he wants to be sure everything is checked out. Mr. Veras responded as previously stated as of January 5th following his meeting with the new owners there would be no further discussions with them.

Liaison to State Association: Mr. Lugossy stated he thought there was good back and forth discussion today and had nothing further at this time.

Mr. McDougall reported on the recent meeting between the two committees. Most discussion was concerning the Community Nursing Home Program. One item of importance was the qualifications for admittance to the home. It seems that a one-year requirement may be too liberal and warrants further discussion. He asked for managers to contact him with any suggestions. The other issue is opening the CHN Program up to the entire state. It has been, since day one that anything to do with opening it up to the entire state must not have an adverse effect on the Boonton Facility.

Mr. Jeffer asked if there is anyone in the home with just 1-year service. If it is not a problem, why try to fix it.

Mr. Hull commented that this opens the programs up to more people.

Inspections: Mr. Hull reported he has provided Mr. Veras with a list from his recent inspection. He noted tiles missing and need of repair near the museum entrance.

State Association: Mr. Ordway reported he will need the bank information for direct deposit of the May Insurance Tax Check. Other items of importance will be mailed to local associations.

Mr. Greci reported that new plaque has been installed in the entrance way.

Mr. Greci asked the board if a change of meeting date in July would be acceptable. This is due to a conflict with Mr. Veras schedule and fourth of July week. Managers said leave it as scheduled and Mr. Veras can provide a written report.

Mr. Apgar questioned a comment in a letter from Mr. Hankins about care of a guest. Mr. Veras responded that this is a temporary, special situation that overtime will hopefully go away. The family has been fully involved with the issue and as part of the application there is a sign off by the POA or guest acknowledging situations like this. Mr. Greci also said the person is from his county and he has taken care of the matter.

Tom Sutphen discussed the Wildwood dinner, meeting and reimbursement to managers. He also discussed mileage reimbursement to managers who may want or need to attend an executive board meeting or other committee meetings. Following discussion Mr. Freeman and others stated a decision need to be made today for Wildwood so plans can be made. Mr. Freeman made a motion that there be no reimbursement to the managers from the home. Mr. Hull second the motion. Mr. Wilson stated that we need to have a presence in Wildwood. Mr. Washer stated his association does not pay the full amount allowed for life members. Mr. Ordway advised that as far as he knew at this point the usual tables set up in the hallway would be available from approximately 7:00 A.M. to 10:30 A.M. Mr. Freeman rescinded his motion. Further discussion was that the meeting on Thursday in Wildwood stay the same as advertised followed by the usual dinner and participation in Convention Hall on Friday morning. Mr. Greci asked for a show of hands 12 in favor of keeping everything the same as in the past for the convention.

Discussion on the question of managers being reimbursed for their mileage if they attend the executive board meeting. Mr. Wilson made a motion second by Mr. Silvestri that all managers be reimbursed for attending Executive Board or other meetings. Roll call vote all in favor.

Mr. Jeffer commented on someone becoming disabled in Line of Duty and that the state statutes require us to take care of them if they choose to enter the home and provide whatever is medically necessary. Mr. Greci said he will have the attorney look into the matter.

Mr. Wilson stated he doesn't think we need the lobbyist we have retained any longer. Mr. Wilson made a motion to rescind the contract with PPAG second by Mr. Hull. A long discussion took place as to misrepresentations and possible conflicts and a suggestion that Mr. Hagen worked for Mr. Burzichelli or in the same office. Mr. Wilson suggested Mr. Hagen should have made us aware of the reintroduction of the senate bill by Senator Cruz. Mr. Lugosy noted the firm is well respected and very influential in Trenton. A roll call vote was taken 6 in favor and 13 against.

Mr. Silvestri moved payment of bills in the amount of \$285,380.16 second by Mr. Hull with all in favor.

At 10:54 A.M. Mr. Greci asked for a short recess, the board resumed business at 11:06 A.M.

Mr. Matthews moved and second by Mr. Sanders Resolution 5-2022 Approving Affiliation Contract Award with United Methodist Communities Pursuant to the Fire Firefighters Community Nursing Home Program.

Mr. Greci stated that every manager and guest will be allowed three minutes to comment or make any motions on the Resolution. Mr. Wilson made a motion to table any discussion until the July meeting. There was no second so the motion failed.

Mr. McDougall stated he would call each manger by the roll call. Mr. Greci said that before we start he would like to get clarification on John Lanes January 5th letter of support for the Community Nursing Home Program and other letters and emails from Executive Committeemen and Vice President Hankins. He asked Mr. Ordway if as president he approved these communications or are they representing themselves. Mr. Ordway responded they are representing themselves. Noting no formal vote has been taken by the executive board but it does represent a number of opinions of Committee people. Mr. Hull commented on some of Mr. Wards and others letters noting they are opinions as well. Discussion followed with secretary Mc Dougall reading the entire resolution so everyone was familiar with what was to be discussed. Mr. Greci asked if this was a line item in the budget that was submitted to the governor. Mr. Veras responded that it is a line in the budget.

Mr. McDougall began the call of comments from the managers.

Mr. Signorello stated he is confused about the many letters and is upset by the letter from Mr. Lane and believes comments and letters should come from the top as many people in Union county have questions and are confused. He received four calls. He noted the letter from the FMBA President which in Union County 10 of 11 communities are FMBA or IFF.

Mr. Greci inquired of Attorney Ward if we are in violation of state statute if we go ahead with the program. Mr. Ward responded that he did not believe we are in violation of the state statute.

Mr. Hull questioned the three-minute rule thinking that it was for guests only. Mr. Greci said for this it is three minutes or we would be here until 4 PM. Mr. Hull questioned a proposed agreement with the masons back in 2009-2010. Mr. Ward said there was no agreement just discussion.

Mr. McDougall stated he felt that the committee had been reporting and making progress for 6 months and efforts were being made to derail or postpone the project. It is important to start the project at the beginning of the budget year. He received two emails objecting to the program. He is in favor of moving the project forward and that ample time exists to answer questions that have been raised.

Mr. Sutphen: stated we have already voted for the program and feel the people in the southern part of the sated deserve the same care and that we move forward.

Mr. Dutch stated there was validity in Mr. Lanes letter and that the compendium says that the president and vice president take care of daily activities and other matters are handled by the Chairman of the Executive Board. Also at a meeting not long ago Mr. Ordway said you can do what you want Mr. Lane is in Charge. There have been comments about other parts of the state that can be included as the program gets off the ground. A current guest at the home from Camden County who was in the Collingswood Methodist Home inquired if he could go back there and we told him probably so. He had nothing but praise for the Collingswood facility.

Mr. Silvestri: No Comment.

Mr. Freeman: Stated he had been to all his county meetings explaining the program and heard no objections. He cited the decline of guests that are a two-and-a-half-hour distance away and do not have

regular visitations. Some meetings he attended they have people waiting to come into the program. The discussion in 2009/2010 was about building another home. We are not building another home a has been suggested in some communication he saw. Some people deliberately give out false information. He can't see why anybody would vote against it.

Mr. Sanders: Stated Cumberland county is the poorest county in the state. There are three nursing homes in his county and local EMS and Doctors he talked to said they wouldn't put their family in them. The Ocean City facility is great. Since being a Manager he has had 11 inquiries and had three people up here, too long of a ride. The first person I had in the home I needed to represent the family because they couldn't make it up hear. He got a standing ovation at his county chief's meeting when he told them about the program.

Mr. Horvath: Stated in September he voted for the program. He attended several county meetings telling them this is a trial program. He finds it hard to believe anybody would vote against firemen in another part of the state. He has been hammered. He doesn't agree with them, in the past week after letters came out his Executive Committeeman has been saying there are no negotiations between the two groups and I know it's not true as a meeting was held the next day. He said through him and all the stuff sent out he is being hammered and knows what's right for the southern home. He does not know what he will do. Average nursing homes are \$10000. He said he has no problem with the state health care program but the firefighter or his family must foot the rest of the costs. People don't know what it costs to run the home and wonder why there is a 12-15-Million-dollar budget.

Mr. Jeffer Stated he respects everyone in the room We are all volunteers trying to do the right thing. As a lawyer there are two issues. First can the board do what you want to do with the home in the south it's a legal issue Our job is to run this home not get in another home someplace else because the ride is too far. If law was changed he would vote for it. The Bylaws Section 8 does not allow for us to do what is suggested. If you want to, change the bylaws to make this happen. He asked that a letter he received from some Executive Board member be made part of the minutes. He stated he has dedicated his life to upholding the law. Change the law and he would be happy to do this There is room here and when you come here there is fire stuff around everyone has something in common. He voted against this in September and is still against it.

Mr. Matthews: Being from the farthest county south he is absolutely in favor. Good thing for the fire service in this state. Mr. Jeffer pointed out some things in the law but it says nothing about 565 Lathrop Ave. It doesn't say you can have other places It also doesn't say that you can't have other places. Its a good program and a lot of effort has been put into it.

Mr. Apgar: Inquired of Mr. Ward as to his comments and was looking for a guarantee of the legality. Mr. Ward had replied that he was comfortable with moving forward. Mr. Ward also said no lawyer will guarantee but he felt confident. Mr. Apgar Is new to this as he was not a manager when this was voted on in September. He has talked with some managers to become familiar and presented it in a conversation at his association. But did not ask for a vote of support. How could you not vote for the southern guys. He is 40 minutes from Boonton. Does the other program the state have work for individuals? It great for the families. The proposed contract calls for \$400. Per day which equals \$12,000 a month to be in a home. What do you get for that? As the new kid on the block he will vote his conscious.

Mr. Lugossy Reported in the past several months he received a call from someone whose father is a firefighter. He is in his 90's. It got to the point where family could not take care of him and inquired about the firemen's home. She said they cannot make the trip to Boonton. She finally ended up across the river in Bucks County Pa. This is the New Jersey Firemen's Home, twenty-one counties. We can use this as a starting point in the southern counties. If it works well, we can look to the northern counties. He is 100% for the program. If there is a legal issue let it be resolved. The budget has been approved by the Governor and been looked at by others in Trenton so it means a lot.

Mr. Giglio: Stated he understands the people down south. For him from Monmouth County. It takes him an hour 15 to an hour and a half from Monmouth county. He is concerned we are opening up a can of worms and soon every county will want their own. Then we will be sitting in an empty building here.

Mr. Strube: Stated it took him one hour and fifty-seven minutes to get to Boonton this morning. He said there was no way his mom would have been able to make that trip if his father was in the home. This is not about the money we are not asking to build another facility. Small amount to pay to take care of everybody down south. If someone from the south wants to come to Boonton they can still come here. He is 100% in favor.

Mr. Hull: Stated he thinks it is pretty clear where Ocean County stands, right in the middle of the state. He stated the way we conduct ourselves as Managers is disappointing. Doctored Bylaws, hidden surpluses, relationships with lobbyists, holding a gun to the states head. Concerned about the letter from Mr. Lane and if the Governor really knows what we are doing. There a lot of questions not answered such as can we afford it, is there a cap where is funding coming from? By opening it to outside this building there is a fraternal benefit here. It remains the family choice to come here or not. Will there be a need for two in Ocean County? How far do we go? Ocean county is in the center of the state and could benefit from it but the majority down there are against it. Information was presented from 209-2010. It looks like Deja vu all over again. He feels for the southern end including Ocean County but I don't think we can afford it, opening up Pandora's Box.

Mr. Denny: stated a lot has been said and a lot of good points have been brought up. He has a two and a half to three-hour drive. In time his wife would not be able to make the drive. Not looking to build other homes in the south. We are looking to rent beds to have place for our people to go. It is a pilot program. If it goes well, we could expand. If it doesn't, we turn the key. We wouldn't know if we don't try. A choice would still remain for me to come to Boonton. It is like a corporation; you have a main office with satellites. Mr. Veras would be in control. He is all in favor 100%.

Mr. Wilson: Stated he is not against the southern firefighters in the state and not against firefighters down there being able to get the benefits. There are 43 empty beds here now. What would we get for \$850. In Boonton vs. \$10 to 12 thousand elsewhere. He has visited friends, and families in nursing home that are not up to par. He said he asked the question in September what is it going to cost? The answer was nothing as we have empty beds, we have surplus. Then the budget and it had \$2.5 Million in it and a surplus that didn't exist. He has compassion for people in the south but can't vote in favor. He believes we are inappropriately going to expend monies that are not meant to be spent anywhere except in Boonton.

Mr. Washer: Stated he is a new guy as well. He was not aware of this until his county meeting in October. His only question is as, Nick and Roger said if we expand this program and it does work? When

it was first brought up at a county meeting there were questions asked and Tony did not answer. It went on and on and letters were sent out more felt against it. In his opinion he feels it being the demise of the Home if it were to expand this more into each county. He will be voting no.

Mr. Ordway: Stated that he and anyone he has talked to wants to keep the Boonton Home open. No one has ever said anything about closing the home. He said that when he looks at the statute it talks about the Boonton Home. Why was a bill put together to allow other things to go on if the statute didn't limit you to Boonton. Tired of hearing the North/ South thing. We are Firefighters in New Jersey. The state started a program five years ago to take care of firefighters in their home or in a facility anywhere in the state or out of the state The death benefit does not change by where you live it is across the board the same for everyone. They would like to expand their program but we don't know what this program is going to cost. They don't tell everyone where you have to go. There is a choice. They would like to start a cancer screening program but can't do that because they don't know if there is going to be money to start it. He is opposed to the program and hope that it fails in the vote today. He wouldn't want to see any firefighter harmed in any way so when he says fails he was only talking about the vote today.

Mr. Greci inquired of Mr. Ordway about the cancer screening if it was the Captain Buscio program. Mr. Ordway responded it is a cardio/pulmonary not cancer. Greci stated he understood they were starting a cancer study in Newark. Ordway responded they are part of the program but it costs \$900 a test. Mr. McDougall asked if it was covered by insurance. Ordway said not now and that is why they are getting involved.

Mr. Freeman asked if we could get an outside legal opinion from someone before we vote. Mr. Greci stated we have an opinion from our attorney and that is that he is confident that it is legal. That's what we are going by. Mr. Ward stated that if anyone wanted to challenge this, it should have been challenged back in September and there were time limits to challenge these things.

Mr. Ward stated that the statute doesn't say anything prohibiting this. It is up to the managers and the governor to decide how you operate the home. The Governor has approved it and back in September nobody challenged it. That is when it should have been challenged. This is today just to decide whether we are going to select the United Methodist Community Homes.

Mr. Greci asked for comments from guests.

Glen Corbet from Waldwick: Stated a lot of anger in state, in his mind the home is secondary to the relief. Two entities need to coordinate with each other. He presented a letter to Mr. Veras requesting a copy of the Home 990 Report.

Mr. Hankins: Stated Mr. Horvath brought up about his spouse noting the Health Care Reimbursement does take care of a spouse the program does do that. Commented about John Lanes letter a letter of memorandum that was discussed in a meeting with the joint committees would be required before a hearing in the assembly or the law would go through. It was posted on letterhead and John Lane signed it without a vote of the association, doesn't really stand much weight. Executive Committee was not happy with that letter. If the letter wasn't done more would have been done look up A6210 or 6233. That is what would have been in the proposed law. The Home was created by the firefighters of the State of New Jersey IT has developed into a little bit more and better. He agrees with it and everybody

likes what goes on up here. That doesn't mean the board of managers should extend authority outward into other associations. They agreed to add the Million and a Half into the budget because they didn't want to hold up the budget. They wanted to work things out. The one-year thing is an issue or a person could transfer. There a lot of things that have not been ironed out with the committees. A lot of questions need to be answered.

Mr. Greci had a question stating that the program was brought up at the Full Board meeting in September. In October he said it would be great if we could piggyback on to your program and ever since then till now he did not receive any message or phone call from anyone in the State Association.

Mr. Hankins stated he did not know what piggyback means.

Greci responded, to work together. With our long term nursing care down south and your care, I said in October it would be good if we could piggyback on your program. The cooperation is what he is looking for. But when items come up for discussion at the board everybody starts getting blasted and there's a phone call in which Mr. Hankins said Tony, what's going on and we need to discuss this further. Greci asked if it has been discussed with the committees as it been going on since September. Hankins said the last he heard we were going to go with the village down south. This was the first time he heard we had a plan to go with someone else. Hankins stated the program is discriminatory to the firefighters in Sussex County. Hankins said it is something that needs to be discussed more.

Lawrence Handlin, Hudson County East Newark fireman: Stated he is here because he has no representation, Mr. Oser is not available. So he will speak on behalf of Hudson County Exempts, "we do not agree with this program". He commented about the New York Firemen's Home and the only other one in the country and the distance to get to that facility from certain parts of New York. The opinion of his association is that the path has been laid to the Home through relief, through health care and if that's not enough, they come to the home in Boonton. The statute says Home not homes. He said maybe the Managers and committeemen can run a bus ride for the family to come up once a month. He asked for Mr. Veras to check past records and see how many people actually visit the home.

Rich Otterbein Fireman Essex County: Stated passing this resolution would be disingenuous and certainly not in good faith. He referred to Mr. Lanes letter the NJSFA is willing to work on an agreement which is in the best interest of the firefighters in the state. Discussions between the two committees should continue on the Community Nursing Home Program. He thinks it would be better if we could come out with a common program that both groups could agree to. He challenged Mr. Veras to provide numbers of visitors here at the home vs. United Methodist Home. He is concerned about the program being discriminatory by not including facilities in each county. He has a firefighter from Essex County who is in a home and his wife does not drive. There is no way she would have him in the Boonton Home. He has urged that the program will be for the south, that it will not be in the north. IT is discriminatory. He urged a no vote.

Victor France Morristown Fire Department President North Jersey Vol. FA. Heard a lot today and a lot from his Fire Department and North Jersey VFA. Going back with what Mr. Ordway said, and what some managers said He opposes this. He is concerned about the statute and the attorney's response. He was enlightened by things said today and what's going on with Mr. Lane and the Executive Committee He believed Mr. Lane was acting in full representation the SFA in his mind that crazy. Thinks the board should lay back on this.

Al Evangelista Stated he wanted to be clear that he is not representing Pompton Lakes not Passaic County but representing himself. He stated changes happens for a reason and it's not what changes but how we do it. Many changes in his community over the years. They addressed changes through planning and studies. There is a problem as he sees it that all our firefighters have different stories. The president of the state association brought this up and that if it is not his name on it then they should not be speaking. He is not against a satellite home and this our base where it began. He said he made an unpopular statement at his meeting that maybe it is time to get rid of this home. We should do an actuarial study. He asked how many guests at the home, Mr. Veras responded 63. Things change that was the bottom line, we have to serve the firefighters. He again suggested we do a study on the home and perhaps make a little money back on our expenditures here. He has a brother in S. Carolina and he gets the \$6,000. from the state and will not come up here. He asked if the person that is in Pennsylvania getting the same allotment. Mr. Strube responded it is based on bills. He said there should be a formula and it should be looked at. We need to get the two groups together. We can't have the back and forth. People are angry and the bottom line is there needs to be a plan. He inquired about the one-year eligibility. He is against that; you have to earn this benefit. He thanked the Managers and the State Association representatives for their time they put in.

Manager Mc Dougall commented about the expansion of the program and that John Lane first brought this up in a telephone call. We discussed this at length and we both agreed that any expansion could not have an adverse effect on the home. We agreed to continue the discussions about expanding the program from the start, and then move forward. A lot of comments made today will be brought back to the committees for discussion.

Mr. Keyser inquired about a statement from the attorney of a Pilot program and that if we don't like it we can turn the Key. He said you can't just turn the key. Mr. Ward responded that he did not say a pilot. It's a plan, it's a start, It's a starting point of the plan from the program approved back in September.

Mr. McDougall called the question.

Mr. Jeffer said you can't do that. He said he can make a motion to table this, too. He went on to say that what he is hearing between the state and the Firemen's Home is that we have worked on this back and forth for years. He proposed if this were to be tabled that it be automatically brought off the table a year from now. We give both groups a year to come up with a workable solution. He then made a motion to table the resolution and have it brought before the board off the table in one year. Tim Apgar second the motion. A roll was taken 8 Yes and 11 No. Mr. Greci stated motion defeated.

Mr. Greci stated Resolution 5-2022 that we have been discussing. Mr. Signorello questions the process of open ballot or closed. Greci responded if someone wanted to make a motion they could. Mr. Freeman made a motion for a handwritten ballot. Mr. Washer questioned why we need to have a closed ballot. Mr. Ward responded that he is asking for this issue only Mr. Dutch second the motion Mr. Greci asked for a raise of hands on the motion Nine in favor. Mr. McDougall advised motion fails.

Secretary McDougall called the roll on the resolution 5-2022, 8 Yes and 11 No Resolution defeated.

Mr. Sanders left the meeting.

Mr. Freeman moved Resolution 6-2022 second by Mr. Strube. Mr. Ordway stated there is no need for this as the committee we have is doing a good job. Mr. Wilson commented that due to the defeat of the

previous resolution there is nothing to market. Mr. Ward stated this is to market the home. Mr. Wilson stated the majority of what he read was about the southern homes. Mr. Wilson said the resolution says between \$75,000. And \$105,000. And that he could do a lot with his Public Relations Committee if he had that amount of money to work with. Mr. Hull said there was a marketing committee and he was the chair and then Mr. Dutch abolished the committee. He thought this had been turned over to Mr. Veras to market for staffing issues. He believes this is the job of the managers to market the home. Mr. Dutch responded that he is absolutely right that he did that when Mr. Hull reported it should be the manager's job. Mr. McDougall called the roll 10 no 8 yes d, resolution defeated.

Mr. Lugossy moved the resolution 7-2022 Approving Contract Award for Housekeeping and Laundry Services to Coreworks and second by Mr. Sutphen. Mr. Ordway asked that the change in costs for the new firm? Mr. Veras responded approx. \$140,000.00 more per year. Mr. Veras said the current vendor is not providing the services necessary. Mr. Hull questioned the timing. Mr. Veras responded if the current vendor is replaced that Notice is required. Mr. Hull said it looked like there are some hidden charges. A one-year term and if we don't renew it for 5 years there is some sort of a penalty. Mr. Veras said it is like the dining contract, that the new contractor would be making a capital investment in new equipment. So if we cancel the contract we will be on the hook for a certain amount of their capital investment amortized over five years. Mr. Hull questioned a raise in contract for management and not staff. Veras responded that there are raises for staff. Mr. Hull has concerns for the current staff here at the home that are employees of the cleaning company or employees of the home? Mr. Veras responded they are employees of the Health Care Services Company. Mr. Veras said that some of the current staff that are good may be asked by the new company to stay on, maybe one or two. Mr. Washer asked if it was a competitive bid and Mr. Veras responded yes. Secretary called the roll on Resolution 7-2022. Vote of 17 yes 1 no.

Resolution 8-2022 Authorizing Award of Contract for Pharmacy Service to Witz End – Freedom Pharmacy. Mr. Wilson moved the resolution second by Mr. Freeman. The current contractor will be serving Institutions and they are going out of business They were bought out and are giving up all the small accounts. Some of the employees left to form this company The pharmacists last name is Witz and that is where they get the name from. They have access to all our records so the transition will be smooth. Mr. Ordway inquired about change in cost.. Mr. Veras responded that there are no costs to the home. Our only costs are for aspirin and small items like that. Secretary McDougall called the roll, 17 in favor. Mr. Hull did not vote as he stepped out of the room.

Mr. Greci stated Public participation saying that he thought that had been covered.

Mr. Ordway asked Mr. Greci to convey some questions he had back in October and November to the home committee members so that can discuss same. He also asked if the Executive Board could vote to overturn the two resolutions and Mr. Ward responded NO.

Mr. Matthews stated that in January Mr. Hankins came to his county meeting and voice opposition to the program and he did not want to get into a discussion and there were local and state politicians there. He disagreed with what Mr. Hankins said. He agreed that both boards need to work better together. He stated that there are two autonomous Boards. We are all here for the firemen in the state and said that the program that has been worked on did not pass. Hopefully the two boards can come up with a solution. No one wants to see this place go away. Is absolutely pristine.

Mr. Otterbein Inquired of Mr. Greci about responding to questions from people. That if they don't know where to go for an answer and if somebody from Essex County has a question and they don't know to come to me and they go somewhere else they are entitled to an answer.

Mr. Greci stated he thought Mr. Otterbein misconstrued what he was saying. Greci stated that if someone had a question about the state he would refer them to Otterbein and if someone had a question about the home he should refer them to me. It seems that in some outside agencies are going to the state association and asking questions about the home instead of contacting the manager.

Mr. Frato said he didn't plan on saying anything today. He thanked Mr. Greci for getting the plaques up. He said he thought "you guys made a very bad mistake turning that resolution down." Because it was for personal reasons because of pressure by certain entities. He said "believe me the state is not your friend".

Mr. Handlin a follow up to Mr. Otterbein, how do I get representation?


Mr. Greci responded If you can't get representation, you call the home and we will help you. Mr. Handlin said he was talking about the manager questions noting he is taking all the calls. Mr. Greci said give out his number and email and he will be happy to help. Mr. Mathews inquired of the process to replace Manager Oser.

Mr. Hull made a motion to adjourn.

Mr. Giglio said he is happy to be at the meeting and thanked everyone for their well wishes during his recent surgery.

Mr. Wilson asked Chairman Greci if we needed to do a resolution to cancel last year's resolution which was passed at the 2021 Convention dissolving the Board of Managers? Mr. Ward stated he didn't think we have the authority. Mr. Jeffer said we could talk about it in the July meeting.

Mr. Hull made a motion to adjourn second by Mr. Washer at 1:26 P.M.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Paul C. McDougall". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Paul C. McDougall, Secretary

Audit & Finance Committee Report

April 5, 2022

The Audit & Finance committee held its monthly meeting at the home on Tuesday, April 5th, 2022. Attending this meeting were Mr. Freeman, Mr. Silvestri, Mr. McDougall, Mr. Horvath, Mr. Sutphen, Mr. Hull and Superintendent Veras, also in attendance, Mr. Greci.

We reviewed the revenue & expenses from March 13th through April 5th and all expenditures appear to be in order.

The vouchers were reviewed by me in compliance with section 2, article 5 of the bylaws for the New Jersey Firemen's Home. The total bills for the period amounted to \$285,360.13.

There was a discussion on interest rates and future bank deposits. There was also a discussion about preparations for the Wildwood convention.

The next meeting of the finance committee will be held on Tuesday, May 3rd, 2022 at 8:00 AM, at the home.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ken Silvestri

Audit & Finance Committee Chairman

Applications Meeting 04/05/2022

The Applications Committee meeting was held on Tuesday April 5, 2022 at the Fireman's Home Boonton New Jersey at 09:00 hours.

Attending the meeting were board Managers Bruce Horvath, Albert Freeman, Paul McDougall, Joe Signorella, Peter Jeffer, and Tom Washer. Representing their respective departments were Ms. Amber Lee Brundrik, and Mrs. Ursula Baumgartner,

The Census as of April 5, 2022 is as follows. Long term care (58), which includes (3), in Lathrop Station. (5) In Residential, for a total of (63). Since the February meeting (4) Applicants have been admitted to the home. With sadness we have loss (1) brother who has answered his last alarm. (1) Applicant will be coming in on Thursday 04/07/2022, this will move total to (64), and another is set to come in on 05/03/2022.

During the meeting (8) applications were gone over, some applications were from the previous month. (1) Applicant withdrew their application. (2) applications were coming off the list, (1) for refused admission, (1) declined admission, (1) Medical expired and there has been no response, (1) due to come off in June information missing no response at this time, (1) in process updating medical information, (1) care needs cannot be met at this time, will be reevaluated in (6) to (8) weeks a letter sent to family advising of what needs to happen, (1) all information has been received their admittance to be announced.

Managers hopefully in your mailbox the new census sheets will be there. If not they will be there for the next time, some corrections were being made.

Copies of this report have been submitted to the Board's Secretary, and the Board's Stenographer.

The next meeting of the Applications Committee will be Tuesday May 3, 2022 at 09:00 hours.

Respectively Submitted
Bruce R. Horvath
Applications Chairman

April 8, 2022

Board of Managers
New Jersey Firemen's Home
Lathrop Avenue
Boonton, NJ

Gentlemen:

Each of us are members of the Executive Committee of the New Jersey State Firemen's Association and represent our respective Counties of New Jersey. We are elected representatives chosen by the life members and delegates to the NJSFA each year. We have a responsibility to all the members of our Association and their families.

Over the past several months there has been an ongoing conversation regarding the need for an additional firemen's home in South Jersey, funding for nursing home beds now known as the Community Nursing Home Program of the NJFH, and how best to care for the needs of our firefighters.

To put it simply and succinctly each of us have specific concerns relative to the concept of the Community Nursing Home Program. First and foremost is whether the Board of Managers have the statutory authority to enter into such an arrangement with facilities other than the New Jersey Firemen's Home. Second, and perhaps more importantly, is whether this program will then result in the NJFH losing the ability to be exclusive in selecting who can enter the NJFH. If a firefighter enters a facility as part of the Community Nursing Home program being funded by and through the NJFH who then receives benefits from Medicare or Medicaid and what impact will that have on the NJFH and the members who are there and who may ultimately come to reside at the NJFH?

A larger question is how does the Community Nursing Home Program benefit the vast majority of firefighters of the State of New Jersey? One could argue that the funds allocated for this program would be better spent affording other care that would be far more reaching than 15 nursing home beds. One such proposal that is currently being looked at is cancer screening that could reach thousands each year and result in numerous lives saved. Early detection has been recognized as the most important aspect of dealing with cancer.

We are specifically asking that the proposed Community Nursing Home Program be tabled. Further, we want to work with the New Jersey Firemen's Home to design and implement a care program that serves the best interests of our entire membership and not just a handful of individuals.

Gerard Naylis, Bergen County Executive Committeeman
John Lane, Passaic County Executive Committeeman
Daniel Scheuer, Sussex County Executive Committeeman
Frank X. Walker, Salem County Executive Committeeman
John Phillips, Hunterdon County Executive Committeeman
Lawrence Handlin, Hudson County Executive Committeeman
Eugene Minell, Morris County Executive Committeeman
Richard Ottenbein, Essex County Executive Committeeman

Allen Kurdyla, Somerset County Executive Committeeman
Nicholas Florio, Union County Executive Committeeman