



Smoking Shields Cigar Club of New Jersey

General Membership Meeting Minutes

February 17, 2022 1600-2000 hours @ RailRoad Cigars, Newark

This was a General Membership meeting of the NJ Chapter and was broadcast on Facebook Live for those who could not attend.

Location of Meeting

The meeting was held at:

RailRoad Cigars

188 Pulaski Street

Newark NJ 07105

Officers

Christopher Dottino – President -Present

Joe Quinn – Vice President -Present

Dominick Albanese – Secretary - Present

Tim Musto – Treasurer - Present

Paul Piano – Sgt. At Arms – Present

Trustees

Anthony Cacchione - Present

Joey Mac Dizon –Absent

Scott Hobbs – Present

Vito Spadea – Absent

Jorge Martinez- Present

Attendance

See SSNJ Member Sign In Sheet

Opening

This was a monthly scheduled general membership meeting with the purpose of complying with Bi-law meeting requirements to discuss general club business and concerns.

The meeting was called to order at 1900 hours by President Dottino. Meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence for those who have fallen. .

Minutes from last meeting: The minutes were read from the January General Meeting previously conducted on January 17, 2022 at The Cigar Den, East Brunswick NJ. A motion was made to Accept the Minutes as Prepared by the Secretary- Motion Passed

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Musto spoke about consolidating and renaming our accounts that are used. He also spoke about opening a separate Savings Account with a \$10,000 start-up amount. Good and Welfare \$18,697.18 General Account (renamed to Operations Account) \$9,153.12 Treasurer's report provided by Treasurer Tim Miusto. Combined total for both Accounts \$27,850.30. Eighty (80) members are currently paid up on their 2022 Membership Dues.

President's Report

- Reminder that March 9th Tennessee Beer Hall in AC is meet n greet- Tickets available through TicketLeap (Smoking Shields A/C Events) or at the door.
- Flier has been created for the 2nd Annual Motorcycle Run- Thanks for those who helped create it.
- Members are asked to take a Sponsor Form (\$100) donations are being sought from businesses or individuals looking to make a donation to us.
- JR Lounge event for Morris County PBA Conference is Feb 24th, Four (4) members will attend in an attempt to generate Club Interest
- Motion to send \$1000 to Trooper Archer who suffered a medical emergency- Motion Passed
- Motion to send \$1000 for Ocean County S.O. Stockhoff killed in off-duty MVA- Motion Passed
- Spoke about our Big Dinner for this year, 5 Year Anniversary- Set for September 29 at Grand Marquis in Old Bridge- More info coming within next month. Looking for Membership help

- Reminder that membership renewal is going out for 2022- If you pay dues in 2021- Dues are still due by March 31st for the following year.
- May 6th Carteret Elks is having an event for Toys for Tots- If interested; email events email.
- By-Laws are being finalized by Board of Directors for submittal and approval by National Chapter
- First Annual Cigar Night Hosted by Jacksonville Fire April 28 1800-200- Promoted by South Trustee Scott Buccine
- March 21 is the next meeting at Stix in Rahway- Danny from Stix in attendance. Special Cigar being promoted that evening. All Members in attendance asked to purchase one (1).
- March 27th Coffee & Cigars @ Cave in Newark 1100- Meeting Rules do not apply.
- April 21 1800 @ Barristers in Union- Set-up by Trustee Anthony Cavallo
- South Lodge Meetings: February 22nd @ Black Horse, March 29th @ SeaGars, April 26 @ Lit Cigars
- Membership News: Congrats to Mike Merritt on his recent Retirement
- Congrats to Sgt. at Arms Paul Piano and his wife- expecting a baby in July of 2022.
- Thank you to the Members that set-up and participated in the after Vigil get-together at Mane Street Cigars in Woodbridge
- By-Laws Clarification: Active Members are defined as: Active and Retired Law Enforcement, Active or Retired Military & Fire Fighters Civil Service. Volunteer FireFighters are not considered Active, they are Associate Members. Associate Members must be invited in by Active MEMbers.
- Moving Forward Member Applicants will be required to provide ID as proof of eligible employment- Membership will be verified by Member Committee- Anthony Caccione

Floor Discussion:

- New T-shirt design brought up by VP Quinn- Still waiting on final design
- PBA Local 102 - Cigar Night May 3rd
- Rob Snowfield spoke about a Networking system of knowing where members are for local meet-ups or get-togethers.
- We need our own SSNJ app developed so we can keep our stuff private and off of Facebook.
- Robert Snowfield spoke about adding Paid EMS to our Active Membership definition in By-Laws
- Hoping to get a SSNJ Photo Opp at Seaside PBA Polar Bear Plunge
- New Associate Member Victor Lopez and 2 Members from Harrison PD that came to check out the Club
- You are permitted to put an Agency Patch or Military Patch on your Club Shield. You may also add a "Retired" Thin Line Rocker.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 1933 hours by Pres. Dottino.

Minutes prepared by: Secretary Dominick Albanese

Approved by: Chis Dottino