

Northwest Michigan Engine and Thresher Club, Inc.

Monthly Membership Meeting Minutes

Date: 10/2/20

Time: 7:30pm

Place: Sam Zue Building

Executive board members present: Todd Benson, Brandon Jenkins, Mike Woodward, Barb Hobson, Janice Clous, Larry Clous, Frank Holzschu, Carl VanWylen, Ham Hobson, Steve Scott, Jim Luper Ron Decker (Past President)

Meeting called to order at 7:30pm by President Todd Benson, everyone was reminded to observe social distance and safety protocols.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by the Membership

Opening prayer was given by Brandon Jenkins

There were no new deaths reported.

No illnesses were reported. Todd welcomed Chase VanAlstine back after a long recovery from an accident.

Secretary Mike Woodward read the minutes from last months membership meeting. They were approved as read.

Financial Secretary Barb Hobson reported income of \$1,695.85 as of September 30th. \$22,000.00 was transferred from the savings to cover insurance.

Treasurer Jan Clous reported expenses of \$29,944.46 with an ending checkbook balance as of September 30th of \$2,842.67. Savings balance is \$23,669.18

Both reports were approved as read

The following were welcomed as new members by the membership, Johanna Fairlamb and Nicholas and Nicole Grosse.

The croplands have been tilled and seeded. Svec farms donated the wheat seed and Dutchman farms planted rye and fertilized. All the crops should be sprayed in the spring for weeds. They were a lot of weeds mixed in this year.

The well testing has been ongoing. Larry and Jan have been taking care of it and it will need to be done again in two weeks.

There are still some who have not paid their 2020 dues. No late fees will be charged, and you must pay 2020 to be able to vote in the election. Barb has 2021 dues forms.

There is a white board in the Sam Zue. If you have any projects or maintenance that needs to be done, please put them on the board. Anyone can add an item to the list. There is also a place to put donations if you have any.

Jim Luper has been working with the web provider on a member log in section that was approved by the board. A mockup will be made available for review. Jim was not able to make it tonight due to work duties.

A lot of buildings on front street will need maintenance to the shingles and fronts as well as others on the grounds.

The 1st set of trucks for the new passenger car on the big train are complete. The 2nd set is being worked on. It was originally scheduled as a two year project but is ahead of schedule. Steve reported that new brake shoes are purchased.

More 5' or taller fencing is still needed for the fence project around the grounds. Some temporary fence has been donated.

A new committee head list and list of what e-board members will be over each committee will be compiled after the election is complete. If there have been any changes in your committee leadership, please let the board know.

A newsletter went out to all current members last Monday. It should have been received by Wednesday. It explains the procedure that the election committee and legal council have decided to use for a fair election. Due to so many things being up in the air on restrictions and pending legislation it has been decided that the election will be an all absentee ballot election so all members who want to participate can have the chance to do so. You may request a ballot tonight in writing, Mike has forms to put your request on at the front table that must be filled out and turned in tonight. Each person must fill out their own request. All requests turned in tonight will be delivered to the election committee. You can also write to Ron Decker requesting a ballot. Requests must be made to Ron Decker by October 21st and ballots received by the election committee no later than November 25th. Inspectors have been chosen and will meet on December 4th to count the ballots. The inspectors chosen are John & Gloria Crofoot, Frank & Martha Darling and Larry & Norma Hilbrandt. Results will be released in an e mail by Mike Woodward.

There will be an E board meeting on October 16th at 7:00pm.

Larry Hilbrandt reported that two trucks on the Spirit of TC and more will need to be replaced. They need sixteen new wheels casted. It will run around \$400. They will be needed first thing in the spring for the train to be running for show 2021.

Tony S spoke up that he felt if any candidate wanted to speak on their own behalf they should be allowed too. Todd offered the floor and the following candidates spoke to the members present: Kim Yancich, Ginger Farnsworth, Steve Scott, Alex Younkman, Mike Woodward, Barb Hobson, Ham Hobson and Larry Clous.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:10pm

Secretary Mike Woodward