Northwest Michigan Engine and Thresher Club, Inc.

Monthly Membership Meeting Minutes

Date: 9/10/2021 **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

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by the Membership

Opening prayer was given by Pastor Hewlett

There were 3 deaths reported. Wayne Webber, Adam VanAlstine, and John Milarch. A moment of silence was held for them.

****Motion Ron C, 2nd Marian C to make a $250 donation to Beyond Basics Literacy program in the name of Mr. Webber. Yes/no vote passed unanimously.**

One member was reported as ill, Mark Guest.

Todd reported a deposit grand total for show of $248,613. 21. Todd reported that we had a very good show that was close to average for attendance. He thanked everyone for their hard work in making it a successful year. The big train had a total of 10,612 riders for the four days.

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

Financial Secretary Barb Hobson reported income of $259,937.28 for August.

Treasurer Jan Clous reported expenses of $69,167.07 with an ending checkbook balance of $211,493.55 as of the end of August. The savings account remained the same at $32,837.05. She also reported that she has opened a PO Box for all future club mail. It will be Box 182, Buckley, MI 49620

Both reports were approved as read

One new member was welcomed by the membership. Kandy Bullis

The sheriff's department reported no major incidents at show.

EMS reported 27 people were treated, 3 transported from the grounds, no fires from the train and 2 campfires had to be put out on Sunday. They were happy with the move from the old spot by the dairy booth to the building by the Webber barn. The roof had to be fixed quickly before show because it was leaking. $5,500 was paid to Buckley and $1,050 to Blair for EMS coverage. This was half of what it has been in previous years. One issue was reported by a member, there were no allergy meds available at the EMS station.

Brandon reported that Wheat and Rye will be planted in the same areas as last year. McBain grain will be buying our leftovers.

All expenses for the music events were covered by donations. Everyone seemed to have a good time and it worked well at building 22.

The new calendars are available for $10.00

Blain and Paula Tarrant were scheduled to take their trailer to the Clare rest area, but it was being paved so the event was canceled.

2022 dues are payable now at $5.00. There were 781 members paid and eligible to work at show time. 543 picked up bands at the sound booth, 111 youth between 8 months and 15 years old picked up bands and most worked somewhere on the grounds during show.

The on grounds shuttles worked well. They plan on revising the routes for next year a little.

Education days for 2021 have been canceled. The October potluck has also been canceled.

The displays of the vintage motorcycles and snowmobiles were very well attended, and the exhibiters were very happy as well and surprised at how many people toured the building.

Carl reported the following donations: Charlie Clous donated a metal detector to the flea market and K & K farms donated $500 toward hay for the animal barn. He made many contacts for future donations.

Mr. Westbrook received a letter from a musician who could not attend the show, Rich and Marjorie Richards, they made a $150 donation. A thank you note will be sent.

Ron Decker will be accepting the scholarship applications until November 1st. Todd read some thank you notes from last years recipients Rachel Hilbrandt and Kylie Gulliver.

There will be an E board meeting on September 24th at 7:00pm.

Todd Read a list of items that the board will be looking at in the future: Snow engine progress toward running on gas, roof on the town hall, parking lot changes and ideas, entry gate changes, the fence project needs to be completed, and zero turn mower replacement.

The oil field lease also needs to be addressed. A letter was sent and signed for by Jaguar Energy, but they have not responded since the letter was sent in April. An attorney has been retained and Brandon has been working with him. No lease payments have been received in many months and the plant has not been in operation.

2 scale model tractors made by A.D. Graham were offered to the club for $8500 by Butch Duer. They are part of 6 tractors made by A.D.: Tom has one, his son has one, Ron's daughter owns one and one was sold and its whereabouts are unknown. The club would like to keep the set together and wanted to purchase the tractors offered by Butch but at the time, the money was not available. Jan Clous purchased them with the intent that the club would purchase them in the future when funds are available. Tom Graham has offered to donate his to the club and feels his son would be willing to sell his to the club for a fair price. This will be looked at by the board in an effort to keep the collection together.

The sound system in the Sam Zue will need to be upgraded.

There will be a work bee tomorrow on the Big Train to get it ready for winter storage.

A member addressed the crowd about possibly having a picnic for members in lieu of the normal potluck. There was discussion on the small amount of time left to plan it. It was felt that possibly the Saturday of the spring swap meet might be a better time and allow planning.

The Boots for kids' bucket will be passed at the October and November meetings.

During the inspection for show this year the health department informed the club that they want all campsites on the grounds for show numbered. It will be looked at.

The election of club officers and trustee's will be at the October 1st meeting from 5:30 to 7:30pm.

With no more bussiness on the docket, the meeting was turned over to Ron Decker at 8:34pm to finalize a slate of candidates for the election.

Ron announced that the election will take place October 1st, from 5:30 to 7:30pm when the meeting starts. Since it is coming soon the following deadlines will be enforced. All absentee ballots must be requested by mail, email, or phone call to Ron or Chris Decker by September 15th. They must be returned and in Ron's possession no later than September 28th to be counted. All members in good standing may vote in October or request an absentee ballot.

The following members have requested to be candidates for the following positions:

1. **President:** **Todd Benson** and **Steve Scott**; the floor was opened for nominations from the floor, none presented, Motion to close nominations.
2. **Vice President:** **Brandon Jenkins**; the floor was opened for nominations from the floor, none presented, Motion to close nominations.
3. **Secretary:** **Mike Woodward**; the floor was opened for nominations from the floor, none presented, Motion to close nominations.
4. **Treasurer:** **Jan Clous**; the floor was opened for nominations from the floor, none presented, Motion to close nominations.
5. **Financial Secretary:** **Barb Hobson**; the floor was opened for nominations from the floor, none presented, Motion to close nominations.
6. **(2) 3-year Trustee positions** are up for election, the following have requested to be on the ballot: **Lisa Gulliver, Jim Luper, and Norm Schutte;** the floor was opened for nominations from the floor, **Kim Yanich** was nominated, he accepted the nomination, with no more presented, Motion to close nominations.

The floor was closed, and the above slate of candidates was accepted for the 2021 election.

All candidates were offered the chance to address the membership to speak on their own behalf, all accepted and addressed the crowd.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:00pm

Secretary, Mike Woodward