

Northwest Michigan Engine and Thresher Club, Inc.

Monthly Membership Meeting Minutes

Date: 4/14/2023

Time: 7:30pm

Place: Club House

Executive board members present: Todd Benson, Kim Yancich, Mike Woodward, Barb Hobson, Janice Clous, Larry Clous, Lisa Gulliver, Brandon Jenkins, Ham Hobson, Blain Tarrant, Jim Luper Ron Decker (Past President)

Meeting called to order at 7:32pm by President Todd Benson

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by the Membership.

Opening prayer was given by Sean Emery

The following deaths were reported since the last meeting, Joyce Winters, Edna Nurmy, Clover McKinley, Pat Sullivan, Dale Hayfer, and Marge Wichern. A moment of silence was held for them.

The following members were reported as ill, Alex Yonkman, Tony Suykerbuyk, and Pastor Hewlett. Cards were passed around.

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

Financial Secretary Barb Hobson read the income reports from November 2022 thru March of 2023. Barb reported income of \$11,865.37 for the month of March. The report was approved as read.

Treasurer Jan Clous read the expense reports from November 2022 thru March 2023 and reported expenses of \$4351.55 for March with an ending checkbook balance of \$28,966.95. The savings balance has a balance of \$211,868.64. The report was approved as read.

Todd introduced Sean Emery. He will be handling the membership and chaplain duties as Pastor Hewlett is unable at this time. The following were welcomed as new members by the membership, Steve and Samanta Guloch, and Charlotte Williams.

Paula Tarrant reported for Jim Luper that the calendars have not gone to print yet.

Todd reported that the Promotional book will be going to print next week. It is in proofing. A different printer is being used this year; they were \$1,000 less than all other bidders. Todd hopes to have them by the May meeting.

Todd wanted it noted that the Parking lot crew did not resign but retired. Someone still needs to step up and take over the position. The Kingsley wrestling crew has offered to work again this year.

Brandon couldn't be here tonight, but Todd reported that he wants to talk to Bill Fenton about the crops. Tom Anderson has proposed a plow day for 2024.

A reminder was given that 2023 dues are payable to Barb. She has envelopes tonight and thanked all who have paid so far.

Todd read from the October 2022 meeting minutes. At the meeting it was proposed to raise dues to \$10.00 in 2024, and then to \$20 in 2026. The \$10.00 maintenance fee would still apply. It has also been proposed that Vendor fees, Guest camping fees and other fees be reviewed. These items are going to be discussed at E board and membership meetings in the future.

Donations: Carl reported that Glen Arnold is working on a donation from a hardware store. A generator was donated and is on site. Some other small items are also being considered. Mike W reported that a small paper cutter was donated by the Pahl's. He wanted it on record that it will be housed at his residence for use by Theresa as it is a little too new to display in the print shop. Carl reported Frank and Martha Darling will also be picking up some donations.

Todd asked Norm Schutte if he had any information on portable radios for use at the show. Norm has been working on it. He said that we may be able to purchase enough for use at show for the cost we have been renting them for. They are multi-channel and would work across the grounds. Blain Tarrant will work with Norm and report to the board.

Mark Ogden will be looking at the North gate area to see what needs to be done and can be done in house.

Steve Scott reported that Tony will still be working on the Snow Engine as his health allows and his crew will be working as well.

The refurbished rail car is progressing nicely. It is hoped that it will be ready for this year's show.

Todd reported on the Toy Building and Post office. The building plans are done and have been sent to the planning commission. Zoning and Permits have been approved. An addition was added to the original plan for the proposed post Office. A 10' gap will be left between the General store to accommodate the roof lines. Todd reported that in the future anything built on the grounds will have to have plans and go through the planning and zoning departments.

Greg Beerens will be contacting the company who has provided railroad ties in the past. It is anticipated that they will get us some again.

It was proposed and passed by the board to allow advertising banners to be sold and placed on the South fence facing the parking lot. They will cost \$20/sf and the business will provide their own banner. The club will also provide 2' x 6' banners for advertising for the tractor dealers who donate the tractors for the shuttles. They will be placed on the sides of the shuttles. The club will also be providing transportation costs to the dealers for donated tractors.

Ham showed the membership the new blue papers for personal equipment on loan and stored equipment on the grounds. The board asked all to please fill out these forms. The old book has not been found and it is necessary to have a list of non-club owned equipment and goods on the grounds.

Todd was contacted by the Cherry Festival. They would like to have the club represented at the parades this year. Contact Kim Y if you are interested.

Todd reported that the machine shop project needs to move forward. The size, location, etc. need to be defined so it can move forward. The board will be discussing it at a future meeting. It needs to be put on the priority list. Some money has been donated for it.

An addition to the steam building was also discussed. A new boiler and the tugboat engine need to be covered by this addition. Steve Scott said he has been making plans for the building and has a sketch to present to the board for consideration.

Items proposed for purchase for the hospitality building were presented by Natalie McGahan. They include a design for a metal license plate. Demos were shown to the membership and a show of hands was taken on who may be interested. A large number showed interest. Both designs were discussed, and consensus was the design with "Always the third week in August" was the most popular. Her complete proposal was presented to the board at the March E board meeting and approved. Natalie asked for permission to sell some of the items purchased at the May membership meeting and swap meet to gauge interest and give members a chance to purchase. ****Motion Mike W, 2nd Larry C to allow Natalie to sell hospitality building merchandise at the May swap meet and club membership meetings and to authorize her to purchase 250 license plates in the design that had "always the third week in August" printed on it as discussed. Yay/Nay vote passed unanimously.**

A man lift and or a crane rental may be needed for projects on the grounds this summer.

The May membership meeting will be May 5th. It will be the potluck meeting, Potluck starting at 6:30, meeting to follow at 7:30

The May swap meet will be the 19th and 20th.

An E board meeting will be held on the 19th at 7:00pm

The annual Committee meeting was discussed. It has been sparsely attended the past several years. There has not been much productivity coming out of the meeting other than determining the number of golf carts. Todd proposed that the annual committee meeting be done away with. Barb suggested letting committee chairs talk at membership meetings if they need something. After discussion it was determined by the majority consensus of all present that future committee meetings be cancelled.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm, submitted by Secretary Mike Woodward