

Northwest Michigan Engine and Thresher Club, Inc.

Monthly Membership Meeting Minutes

Date: 8/4/2023

Time: 7:30pm

Place: Sam Zue Building

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, and everyone welcomed at 7:37pm by President Todd Benson

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by the Membership and an opening prayer was given.

There was 1 death reported. Don Nichols, A moment of silence was held for him.

One member was reported ill last month, Bob Voice.

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

Financial Secretary Barb Hobson reported income of \$5,540.79 for the month of July.

Treasurer Jan Clous reported expenses of \$40,253.93 with an ending checkbook balance of \$13,197.03 and a savings balance of \$141,923.07, \$30,000 was transferred to the checking.

Both reports were approved as read

Todd announced that pre-registration for the show camping was happening at the East end of the building.

The following were welcomed as new members by the membership. Charlie Ellibee, Richard West, Jacob Schaaf, Rachel Place, Rebecca Terry, Joel Struck, Peggy Drabek, and Steve and Carrie Sewell.

Todd announced that the Woods mower had been paid for.

Personal golf cart registration and insurance are due to Kim.

Todd announced that he had signed the contract with the Wexford Sherriff.

The Osceola Sherriff's posse met with Mike, Jan, Larry and Todd and looked over operations for the parking lot. The meeting went well. There will also be a couple of organizations working as crossing guards and in the parking area.

Jim Luper has the new calendars available for \$10.00.

The County camping permit has been applied for, and the road commission has given approval.

All of the promotional books are gone. If you have extra, please bring them back.

Jim has accepted the donation of the train cars from Bob Carr. They are the same gauge as the Spirit of TC. We will have to arrange pick up.

DTE energy approached Todd about wanting to participate and make a donation. They donated \$1,148 for the OSB for the toy box/post office floor. They want to hand out flyers at the show. They gave us \$1,200 and will pass out their flyers.

The show campground permit takes effect tonight so you can place your campers in the show area.

The porta-john contract is set, and they will be bringing them in after the fair.

Brine has been applied to the grounds and the water testing is done.

The rye has been harvested and is on the wagons. The wheat did not grow, it was too short. It also got wet. The threshing crew dried it out so it will be ready for show.

Norm has the radios purchased by the club and is programming them.

2022 dues are still payable through the end of tonight's meeting at \$35.00. Some are behind 2 years and owe \$40. If the ones who are two years behind don't pay tonight, they will be taken off the membership rolls. Barb read a list of those still owing for 2021.

Please get your blue forms to Ham if you have personal equipment or items on the grounds.

Ham also asked all areas to have their fire extinguishers put out by Monday morning the 14th.

The Snow engine is running. They had it going last weekend for the first time in 50 years. Tony thanked all who helped, and they stood to be recognized.

Work is progressing on the toy box/post office building and there will be a work bee tomorrow.

Todd announced that an offer was made by Jim Dunmeyer to donate \$86,000 towards the machine shop. He has already donated \$14,000. His offer does come with some requirements for his donation. The board will be meeting with him to discuss it and go over the specifics.

A proposal was made by Jan and Larry that if the club would buy another zero turn, they would take care of all the mowing and maintenance on the mower. The board discussed it and reviewed the different proposals made by several dealers and decided on one from Ellens Equipment for \$14,499 and voted to bring it to the membership for possible motion and approval. The mower selected is on the grounds as a demo and has worked very well. The mower donated by Steve Scott is also still working well. ****Motion Lan Bridson, 2nd Jim Luper to approve the purchase of the mower from Ellens for the \$14,499 proposal. Yes/No vote passed unanimously.**

The Wrangler is not healthy, it has cylinders leaking and will probably need a new motor. Prices for a replacement are being looked at. A new one would run around 70-80 thousand at a discounted price, around \$90,000 without discount. Right now, a rental is being investigated for this year's show. Used ones are also being looked at.

The memorial service will be on Saturday at 6:30pm

Frank is working on the hauling of the tractors. Some are already on site.

There will be movie nights from 7-7:30 on Thursday, Friday and Saturday in the Sam Zue. Some door prizes will be given away.

There will be a pre-show meeting on Wednesday night at 7:30pm in the Music building. There will also be the morning meetings on Friday, Saturday and Sunday in the music building at 8:00am.

Todd is still working on music for Thursday, Friday and Saturday. He has booked Sam Cronkite for Friday, and Kate Hose for Saturday from 7-9.

The EMS and Fire contracts have been signed with Blair Township and Northwest Wexford fire authority.

Barb reported on Education Days, there are still some school openings to fill, and she is contacting them. Todd reported that DTE may help out with some donations.

The hog kettle popcorn will be back. Barb reported they will be moving outside the big kitchen as it is not being used this year.

It was reported that more volunteers are needed to help with duties on the grounds. New members need guidance. Sean has some new members that are looking for a place to work. The sponsors are responsible for guiding them and watching over them. The committee list is posted on the member pages online. Barb asked all to pay their dues at the show if possible. Envelopes will be handed out when you pick up your bands.

Todd presented a flyer for Anderson Farms for an event they are holding on September 16th.

The election is coming up for trustee and officer positions in October. All who wish to run should get their name to Ron Decker by September 1st.

Scholarship applications are also due to Ron Decker by November 1st.

The General store volunteers are meeting after tonight's meeting.

There are work bees tomorrow for the flea market and toy box building. The tractor shack will be opening up on Sunday the 13th. Please don't drop off tractors or set them up before that time.

Please put your names in your camper window and No water is to be hooked up directly to any camper.

It was reported that the club house windows are leaking and will not open and close properly. It needs a lot of maintenance done in the future.

The meeting adjourned at 8:43 pm.

Submitted by Secretary Mike Woodward.