

Northwest Michigan Engine and Thresher Club, Inc.

Monthly Membership Meeting Minutes

Date: 9/8/2023

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 at 7:48pm by President Todd Benson

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

There was 1 death reported. Pete Foster, A moment of silence was held for him.

Fay Wurm was reported to have been ill last month. A card was passed around.

Todd thanked everyone for a very successful show and a round of applause was given for all.

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

Financial Secretary Barb Hobson reported income of \$295,000.77 for the month of August less \$7,100 for the return of the start up cash for a total of \$287,900.77.

Treasurer Jan Clous reported expenses of \$118,579.15 for August with an ending checkbook balance of \$218,182. 86. The savings balance was \$111,923.07 and she reported that \$30,000 was moved into the checking before show. Both reports were approved as read

No new members were brought in this month.

The Sherrif's department reported no major issues during the show other than one alcohol related issue and a couple of generator complaints.

The new radios are in the East gate. Kim will get them charged and move them to the club house for winter storage.

The EMS crew reported 16 calls, 4 transports, and 30 campfires extinguished Sunday afternoon.

Jim has calendars for sale for \$10.

Blain and Paula Tarrant took their rig to the Clare welcome center, and all went well. The display was well received, and a lot of traffic went through.

Todd reported that he felt the Osceola Sherrif posse did a fantastic job parking the cars during the show. Many positive comments were given both in person and online through social media. It went very efficiently.

The memorial service went well and all thought that the move to Saturday was well received and that it should stay at that time for the forceable future.

The Snow engine had great crowds and the building was full during all the scheduled times. It went very well.

The movie night went well all three nights with around 100 people each night. Todd will send thank you's to all the donors. Hudson tractors donated the popcorn and the International Harvester club also made donations.

The toy box building was made ready just before the show and many did a lot of work to get the toys brought in. The Burns family who loaned them were very pleased. Todd thanked all who made it happen.

Paul reported the train had over 7000 riders for the show, which was good considering the train had a few issues and was shut down a few times.

The Spirit of TC had over 3000 riders.

The campground inspection went well with the new inspector with no complaints.

Todd announced that the temporary campground permit for the show has expired. All campers need to be moved into one of the two member campgrounds. No campers can be left in the West woods.

Security Sanitation did a great job with the porta-johns again this year.

It was reported at an earlier meeting that Scott Labbe would be taking an engine to the Escanaba show. He was not able to make it due to some issues but a friend of his took the engine to the show for him and all went well.

All the straw bales from the show are gone, the rye was taken to McBain grain, and they bought 45 bushels that passed the moisture test. It helped pay for the animal feed for the show with a little profit left over.

All were reminded that 2024 dues are now payable at \$10.00 per person.

Todd received a report from the North gate committee. All went well and they would like to do a little tweaking on a few issues for next year.

Todd was offered a donation of an old barn if the club wants it. He is talking to them and will bring more info later.

The snowmobile exhibitors reported they had a great turn out and more future exhibitors are interested in future shows.

The special music events Thursday, Friday and Saturday went very well.

Jim Luper reported that the donation of the scale train cars need to be hauled from Traverse City to the grounds. Let him know if you can help.

Jim Luper spoke about education days. He did a role call of the areas to see which ones will be attending. It will be September 20th and 21st and start with a meeting at 8:30am with coffee and donuts. As of tonight, there are 10 schools coming with 3 pending. A potluck for members will be held at 3:30.

The hog kettle popcorn at the show did not happen this year as planned. It is hoped that it will be brought back next year.

Ellen's donated the use of a small loader for show, the club just had to pay for delivery. Members were able to get the Wrangler running and some skid steers were rented as well as a side by side. The board is exploring options for the future.

Scholarship applications are due to Ron Decker by November 1st so they can be reviewed. Active working youth are preferred.

Todd announced that Anderson farms will be hosting “Matt’s ride” on September 16th on 48 Rd in McBain. There will be a tractor ride, and all are welcome.

Boots for kids will be held at the October and November meeting. Buckets will be passed.

The next E board meeting will be on the 15th at 7:00pm in the club house.

Todd reported that the mowing crew has asked for the small garage in the old caretaker’s house be cleaned out so the mowers can be stored inside for the winter. ****Motion Bill Meyers, 2nd Brand Jenkins to have the garage cleaned out for use by the mowing crew for storage of the mowers. Yes/No vote passed unanimously.**

Jan has absentee ballots available. Please read the instructions. They need the name and address on the return envelope so they can be matched to those requested. You can e mail Barb or Jan to request a ballot. You must include your name and address.

Todd reported that the e board held a meeting tonight before the membership meeting regarding a proposed donation by Jim Dunmeyer for a machine shop. The requested location has been staked out North of the Weber barn. Please take a look at them as they will probably be voted on at the October membership meeting.

The meeting was turned over to Ron Decker. He began with a story of a person who came to him at this year’s show. This person told him that they really liked how all the members treat the guests and how they thought it was great how they participate and how the youth are involved. Ron just wanted the membership to know of this interaction.

With no further club bussiness being had, the meeting was officially turned over to Past President Ron Decker for the formation of a slate of candidates for the October board elections.

Ron announced those who had contacted him requesting their names be put on the ballot.

President: Blain Tarrant, **Vice President:** Steve Scott, **Secretary:** Mike Woodward, **Financial Secretary:** Barb Hobson, **Treasurer:** Jan Clous, **Trustee: (Two positions up for election)** Larry Clous, Ham Hobson, and Scott Labbe.

Nominations from the floor for **President** were requested, Todd Benson was nominated, and he accepted. With no more nominations a motion was made and passed to close nominations.

Nominations from the floor for **Vice President** were requested, Kim Yancich was nominated, and he accepted. With no more nominations a motion was made and passed to close nominations.

Nominations from the floor for **Secretary** were requested, with no nominations put forth, a motion was made and passed to close nominations.

Nominations from the floor for **Financial Secretary** were requested, with no nominations put forth, a motion was made and passed to close nominations.

Nominations from the floor for **Treasurer** were requested, with no nominations put forth, a motion was made and passed to close nominations.

Nominations from the floor for **Trustee** were requested, with no nominations put forth, a motion was made and passed to close nominations.

With all election business completed the Slate of Candidates was finalized.

Ron Decker announced that Only Card-carrying members in good standing for 2023 will be allowed to vote, all absentee ballot requests must be made by September 27th, and must be post marked by October 2nd to be counted. You must request your own ballot and cannot request one for someone else. It can only be mailed to the requesting members address not another person's and only One ballot may be returned per envelope. You must bring your membership card to receive a ballot. Voting will begin at 5:30pm on October 6th and conclude when the membership meeting starts at 7:30pm.

All candidates were offered the chance to address the membership on their own behalf. The following spoke to the membership: Blain Tarrant, Scott Labbe, Steve Scott, Kim Yancich, Larry Clous, Todd Benson, and Ham Hobson.

Meeting adjourned at 9:25pm

Submitted by Secretary Mike Woodward