

Northwest Michigan Engine and Thresher Club, Inc.

Amended Monthly Membership Meeting Minutes

Date: 5/3/2024

Time: 7:30pm

Place: Sam Zue Building

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

Meeting called to order at 7:40pm by President Blain Tarrant

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

There were three deaths reported. Barb Turner, Alex Younkman, and Dennis Farnsworth. A moment of silence was held for them.

The following members were reported as having been ill, Faye Wurm, Pete Labell's mother, Frank Holzschu's Mother and Norma Hilbrandt. Cards were available to sign at the front entrance.

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

Blain read a thank you letter from Amelia Holzschu thanking the club for her scholarship.

Financial Secretary Barb Hobson reported income of \$44,138.19 for the month of April.

Treasurer Jan Clous reported expenses of \$12,865.24 with an ending checkbook balance of \$136,952.81, \$11,979.60 in the savings, and \$100,639.41 in the money market as of the end of April.

Both reports were approved as read

The following were welcomed as new members by the membership: Troy Crothers, David Demogola, Barrett Negele, Robert Szasz, and David Wurm.

Carl VanWylen reported on donations, a stove, clock, washing machine and mower were available. There was also a generator, Steve Scott will look at it.

Pete Labelle reported that there just are not enough volunteers available to maintain the tracks of the railroad. He has talked to some people about outsourcing some of the work, but it would be very expensive. He will present his findings to the board at a later date. The work on the red RR car is progressing and they need more help there as well. They are hopeful it will be ready by the show.

The work on the Wrangler is 99% complete. A rebuilt motor has been installed as well as a new starter, pins, hinges and other needed parts. It should be back on the grounds soon.

Steve Scott reported the Pettibone has had work done on the transmission, fluids changed, and other items. It now has motor issues and will take more work.

The backhoe is not running yet. Tony has taken the injector pump for rebuild.

Blain reported the work on the bathrooms under the club house is finished. It has been painted and has

new fixtures.

Todd Benson and his crew will be working on the Toy Box building to get it in better shape for the show. The flooring will have to wait until after the show. Ham and Jim have been working on the Post office side as well. They are looking for one of the big blue mailboxes to put out front.

Numbers for fuel usage are being sent to DTE for an estimate to bring natural gas to the grounds. Todd has also been working with his contact.

The add book is complete and copies are available for distribution. Please help get them out. Blain asked if there was anyone who could get some to the St. Ignace visitors center, Kim Yanchich is going north and will try to get some there.

Swap meet flyers are available from Jim Luper.

Blain asked all committees to get written budgets to the board as soon as possible. He asked to please have them in writing. At the committee meeting on the 18th if possible.

The shingle branding had some issues with rude people last year. They need more help to get the shingles done.

Glen Seagraves has been ill. Kelly Green will be taking over the sawmill in the interim. A budget of \$2,000 has been asked for to purchase some of Glen's equipment, fix the blade and other items. **Motion Scott Labbe, 2nd Mellissa Enbody, to authorize \$2,000 for general maintenance and to buy the items from Glen and to allow the saw blade to leave the grounds for repair. Yay/Nay vote passed unanimously.

Frank H spoke about the Huber Steam Engine. He reported there are members interested in working on it to try to get it in better running condition. They will attempt the repairs needed so it can stay with the club for the foreseeable future instead of putting it up for sale.

The Oakley Club has asked the club for a loan of the Eagle tractor for their show which is the same week as ours. They are trying to get 30 Eagles for display for their feature this year. Carl reported that they will sell us the needed rubber cleats for \$200. They will pay for hauling and insurance. Carl reported they will take good care of it. His only reservation is that it will not be here for our show. **Motion Charlie Clous, 2nd Paul Raffel, to allow the Eagle Tractor to go to Oakley and to pay the \$200 for the rubber cleats. Yay/Nay passed by majority vote with around 10 nay votes.

A sign-up sheet is up front for anyone who is interested in the committee that is being formed to create policy and procedure recommendations and review the by-laws for changes needed. The by-laws were last updated in 2013.

Building maintenance, there are many buildings that need repair such as the Club house, Steam building, Foundry, and Front Street. Bids are being sought from outside contractors for much of the work and painting. It has been years since work was done on many of these buildings.

Concrete work is also needed in many areas. Contractors are also giving bids for this work to try to get it done at one time.

Todd March requested a budget to resurrect the Dairy Booth into a soda fountain to support the Buckley Youth Committee. His son-in-law, Joel Struck, spoke to the membership about his proposal. They would like \$10,000 to create a soda shop inside. Last year it brought in \$1800 but they feel the money would be

recouped in a few years. Information on their proposal was on the whiteboard. Discussion ensued, questions were asked about how many youths we have in the group and ~~would the money be spent better elsewhere.~~ Many voiced their support of getting youth involved and fixing the building up. A motion to end discussion was called for. * *Motion Brandon Jenkins, 2nd Steve Scott, to authorize a \$10,000 budget for the work to create a soda shop. Yea/Nay vote passed by large majority with a few nay votes.

Glen Seagraves has a belt lacer he has offered to the club for \$1,200. After discussion, Carl VanWynen said he has one that the club could use. Purchase discussion tabled.

Greg Thon presented a Motion to post the minutes and financial reports in lieu of reading them every month. He said that is the way it is done at many other boards. Mike Woodward stated that the minutes can't be posted ahead of time because they are draft minutes until read at the next meeting. It is understood that the minutes remain in draft form until approved. Mike Woodward responded cursing and was called for point of order by President Blain Tarrant to control the meeting and outburst. Mike then signed his previously prepared letter of resignation and passed it to President Tarrant. Blain accepted Mike's resignation. President Tarrant asked Mike to apologize to the membership for his language. Mike apologized, then Greg withdrew his motion for further discussion.

It was announced that Dues are payable to Barb.

A plow day is being held on the grounds next weekend on the 11th by the IH club. All are welcome.

There will be a Committee chair meeting on May 18th at 5:00pm as well as another on August 23rd.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10pm

Submitted by past Secretary Mike Woodward