

Northwest Michigan Engine and Thresher Club, Inc.

Monthly Membership Meeting Minutes

Date: 8/02/2024

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 7:28 pm by President Blain Tarrant.

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

There was one death reported; Sara Adams. A moment of silence was held for her. Jim Gelinis is recovering from hand surgery and Tom Barber is recovering from back surgery.

Secretary Kelley VanAlstine read the minutes from the July membership meeting. Bill Myers made a motion to accept the minutes as read, 2nd by Linda Stark. Motion Carried.

Financial Secretary Barb Hobson reported income of \$8,130.89 for the month of July with \$212.16 in the money market.

Treasurer Jan Clous reported expenses of \$29,472.49 with an ending checkbook balance of \$65,981.50, \$11,981.10 in the savings, and \$101,267.77 in the money market as of July 31. Motion to accept the financial reports as read by Paul Raffel, 2nd by Bill Myers. Motion carried.

The following were welcomed as new members by the membership: Gabe and Jesse Kee, Suzanne Taylor Hedges, Grace Thon, Ava Thon and Ryan West. Please see Sean if you are a newer member and you haven't received your new member book yet.

Carl VanWylen reported that we have received some old wooden casting molds and a 1937 Co-op tractor in superb condition as donations to the club. In addition, there is a boxcar that belongs to a club member that is being parted out. Please let Carl know if you are interested in this.

Pete LaBelle shared that the red railroad car has the new steel for the roof and the bus seats acquired. This should be completed by next week. The new ties and spikes have been delivered for the track. Repair will begin on Monday. For safety reasons, please keep yourselves and your campers 25 feet away from the tracks while the work is being done.

The majority of the brush chipping has been completed. The safety lane on the west side of the tracks still needs to be cut and chipped. Volunteers to help with this would be appreciated.

The Toy Box and Post Office are not completed but will still be open for the show.

A new steel roof has been put on the well building. The steel used was leftover material from other projects.

There will be a committee chair meeting on Friday, August 23rd. Discussion of this year's show will be on the agenda along with ideas for improvements for next year.

There were many committees requesting help during the show. If you have some time to spare, please offer your assistance somewhere on the grounds. If you have a member come to you and ask to help, please let them help. If you don't need the help at the time, please let them sign up for a shift or take them to someone who does need help. Don't discourage them by turning them away.

Reminder that there are no dogs or bikes allowed on the showgrounds beginning the Sunday before the show.

The soundbooth will be open Tuesday afternoon before the show to get membership arm bands.

Blain shared that our current tax attorney has resigned because they no longer feel they can help the club with our tax issues. The eBoard has agreed to hire a new attorney that works with non-profit organizations. This attorney recommends that we also hire an accountant to help with our taxes. The eBoard has a meeting scheduled next week with the new attorney to answer many questions we have and how to proceed forward from where we are at now. Blain will update the membership after the eBoard has more information.

Larry Johnson, a former member, will be allowed to attend the show as a guest this year. It was decided by the eBoard not to reinstate his membership at this time, as he requested.

Please remember to sign in at every meeting. This helps us keep good records as a non-profit organization.

The wrong coal, which was too small, was delivered to the showgrounds. Tom has contacted the company and another load is being shipped. The company will take the wrong coal back.

The gas and fuel that is on the showgrounds is for club use only. However you may purchase it for personal use as well.

There is a pile of logs that need to be cut up by the steam engines. They need to be cut up for use or moved from the steamer area before the show.

Any campers that are on the showgrounds need to be registered. The green note card given at registration must be displayed in a visible location on your camper.

The oil well has been sold again. The new owners need to sign a new contract with the club.

The fire extinguisher inspector will be here August 12. All fire extinguishers need to be certified. Please have them available for the inspector on that day.

Please make sure that you have a blue sheet filled out for any equipment you have on loan to the club or personal property that is housed on the grounds outside of show time. Please see Ham Hobson to do this.

Blain reminded members that this is a family show. No open carry, no recreational marijuana use, alcohol use at campsites only and most importantly, be nice.

If you have a personal golf cart on the grounds, you are obligated to give someone in need a ride.

The August meeting is the last night to register personal golf carts. Any arriving after this date will not be allowed. Please see Kim Yanich or Bill Myers to register.

Please be aware of your electrical usage if you have power at your camper. Some areas are not wired with enough power to run air conditions. Breakers will trip or it could become a fire hazard.

Any member that plans to run for election for next year, please let Todd Benson know before the September meeting.

Ron Stark shared that the PA system will only be used for emergencies during the memorial service on Saturday evening and the Sunday church service.

The pre-show meeting will be Wednesday at 7 PM at the music barn. Morning meetings during the show will be at 8 AM.

With no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 8:20 PM.

Kelley VanAlstine, Secretary