

WreathsForTheFallen.org

Meeting Minutes

September 13, 2011

I. Call to order

John Thomas called the regular meeting for the WreathsForTheFallen.org to order on Tuesday September 13, 2011 at 6:30 pm at the American Legion in Brainerd MN.

II. Roll call

There were 13 members present at the meeting. A sign in sheet was passed around for everyone to sign. Those present were – Jerry Ratcliff, Ron Robbins, Lydia Sasse, Bob Larson, David Dimartino, Ken & Joyce Tveit, Bill & Fran Kokett, Mykel Barthel, Jim Parent, Freddie Barbeau and John Thomas.

Opening Prayer /Pledge of Allegiance

After roll call we all stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

I pledge allegiance, to the flag of the United States of America, And to the Republic, for which it stands, One Nation, Under God, Indivisible, With Liberty and Justice for all.

III. Approval of minutes from last meeting

The minutes from the last meeting which was held on August 9th at the American Legion in Brainerd, MN - were presented. All meeting minutes are emailed to all members on record prior to the meetings and also posted online on our web page at www.wreathsforthefallen.org. Bob Larson made a motion to approve the minutes, motion was seconded by Lydia Sasse – minutes were approved.

IV. Treasurers Report

Treasurer – Ron Robbins, presented the treasurers report. He reported that the beginning balance on August 1st was \$ 2,406.84 minus expenses of \$274.38 and adding deposits of \$ 2,949.51 from donations leaving a balance of \$5,081.97 on August 31, 2011. Treasurers' report was approved as read. Mykel Barthel then presented a check for \$ 518.00 from the Bond Slaves Annual Fundraiser Raffle that was held on September 8th 2011. THANK YOU MYKEL!!!

V. Committee Reports

Wreaths Procurement Committee – Bob Larson, committee chairperson, passed around a sheet to the members present on the sources and costs of the wreaths that he had recently received. He had quotes from Erickson's Greenhouse, Mickman Brothers and Wreaths Across America. Each company had different rates per wreath, terms and various incentives. David Dimartino asked for a breakdown on the delivery charge from Mickman. He knows of someone who may deliver the wreaths free of cost. Bob Larson will check into that and the

wreath committee will continue to work on all the options. They will have an update at the next general meeting in October.

Contributions Committee – Norville Pervier, committee chairman –was not present at the meeting but his report was given by Joyce Tveit. His report stated that we have received \$5,819.51 in contributions. Contributions were from Veterans organizations, companies, churches, county fairs and individuals. Our mailing to individuals was mailed on September 6, 2011.

Web Site Committee – John Thomas, committee chairperson - gave the update on the web page. He reported that additional related links have been added to the site. Logos were added for supporting businesses with the website connection. Lydia Sasse and John have been posting the links and events as they are presented. Any questions or comments about the web can be directed to John Thomas at 218-829-6622 and/or Lydia Sasse at 218-765-4477 or 218-330-1085.

VI. Old Business

County Fairs – John reported that the fairs were disappointing. It was discussed that we may have to have a Fair Committee. Before we commit to having a booth at the fair we need to have commitments from our members who will be able to work. We had great volunteers but not very many.

Brochures –Brochures were available along with the inserts. Everyone is encouraged to get the brochures out and share our organization with everyone.

Cemetery report – John is staying in touch with Dave at the Camp Ripley Cemetery regarding the current number of internments

Facebook update – Laura Dimartino was not present but John will contact her regarding the activity on Facebook.

Logo patch – we have ordered 25 of our new logo patch. The cost is \$ 5.00 each.

VII. New Business

Newspaper Update – John Thomas reported that emails have gone out to all 404 Minnesota newspapers that we have in our database. He had a meeting with the new publisher of the Brainerd Dispatch and there will now be a web link for the Brainerd Dispatch on our web site. It was discussed that there may be a special write-up about our organization on or around Veterans Day!!!

Fundraising – There was discussion about different possibilities to raise money through fundraisers, raffles, drawings, hog roast, bike rides. etc. Dave Dimartino will contact the committee for the Waterfall Up North Ride to see about possible

donations next year. Thanks once again to Mykel Barthel of the Bond Slaves for the donation from their fundraiser !!!

Endowment Fund – Creating an Endowment Fund to perpetuate the future of the wreathsforthefallen was mentioned and will be address again in the future.

Patriot Guard - A letter was sent to the MN Patriot Guard for them to clarify in writing that WreathsForTheFallen.org is a supporting organization and that there be a link on the PG website. Jim Parent will look into having our meetings listed on the PG calendar as a non-mission event.

Meetings- John Thomas will be meeting next week with Pat Cruze of the St Cloud CAP and with Capt Marcel Kobberdahl Brainerd CAP on Monday 9-19-11. He will work on connecting with various other CAPs.

VIII. Next Meeting

The next general meeting for ALL members will be on October 11th at the VFW in Little Falls, MN at 6:30pm (6:00 to visit and eat)
Please watch your emails for updates and news!

IX. Closing Prayer and Adjournment

Closing prayer

Motion to adjourn was made by Ron Robbins and seconded by Dave Dimartino.
Motion passed -meeting adjourned at 8:25 pm.

THANKS TO EVERYONE WHO ATTENDED!!

Minutes submitted by:



Minutes approved by:



Please invite your family, friends and neighbors to join us at our meetings. Share our web site: www.wreathsforthefallen.org

Remember - - "It's not about Us – It's about Them"