

New Berlin Veterans Memorial Society
Sept, 15, 2011
VFW Post # 5716 City of New Berlin

Please note: Minutes are unofficial until approved by the New Berlin Veterans Memorial Society at their next regularly scheduled meeting.

Present: President Ted Wysocki, Don Reynolds, Dave Gilligan, Rush Wilkens, Lee Sisson, Mayor Jack Chiovatero, Don Hermann, Bill Ray, Mary Jane Whitty, and Secretary John Vogel

Excused: Treasurer Bernie Hintzke, and Alderman John Hopkins

Meeting was called to order by President Ted Wysocki at 7:00

Approval of Minutes – Bill Ray made a motion that the July 7th and the July 28, 2011 BOD minutes be approved. It was seconded by Don Reynolds and passed unanimously.

Old Business

Financial Status – No financial report was presented. Ted mentioned that the bylaws were amended to include a monthly treasure's report and he will talk to Bernie about this. Ted also mentioned that in the future, we may not have monthly meetings. Ted also mentioned that he had received a bill for office support (such as coping, scanning and e-mail work). Ted said that we would defer discussion on the bill until Bernie is here at the next meeting.

Web Site Update and Avastone Microsoft Access Data Base – Ted said that there were reports and operations that he would like the software to do. He said that this could be done by someone who would be extremely knowledge of the system. However, Ted would like the system to be "idiot" proof so that any one of us could do it. He will work with the programmers to see if this could be done and at what cost. He also talked about capturing in-kind donations.

Tree replacement and site issues – Rush reported that since being installed 5 of the 6 maple trees have died. He reported that he is looking for insurance that if we replace the trees, even at no cost, that they will grow successfully. He said he had a lead to an Arborist Company that will come out to our site to evaluate our tree problem. Rush said that he would keep us updated. There was a discussion on expanding the brick layout. For future expansion, we want to keep the memorial bricks where they now our. Site committee will come up with a recommendation.

Marketing Update – Don Reynolds reported that we took in \$300 in picture sales plus \$100 for brick sales. Cost of material for the pictures was \$50. We had a profit of \$350. Many thanks to Rush, Bill Ray, Don Reynolds and Dave Gilligan for their efforts in making the day a success. Approximately 150-170 attended the event. Dave reported that plans are already in the works for the Memorial Day brick laying. Rush will look into purchasing additional shirts. Rush said there is a possibility that we could get some free advertising from the Waukesha Freeman. He will investigate further.

Annual Meeting – John Vogel updated us on the annual meeting which was on Thursday, July 28th at the library. John said that there were around 28 attendees. 8 were members, the rest were made up of Board Members and their spouses/guests. The following BODs were nominated and elected at the meeting:

3 year terms – 2011-2014 Ted Wysocki, Lee Sisson, Rush Wilkens, Bill Ray
2 year terms -- 2011-2013 Mary Jane Whitty, Dave Gilligan, Don Reynolds, Don Herrmann
1 year term -- 2011 John Vogel, Jack Chiovero, Bernie Hintzke, John Hopkins

The bylaws call for election of officers at the 1st meeting following the annual meeting.

The following officers were nominated:

President – Ted Wysocki

Vice President/President Elect – Lee Sisson

Vice President Marketing – Dave Gilligan

Past President – Don Hermann

Secretary – John Vogel

Treasurer – Bernie Hintzke

Rush Wilkens make a motion that we accept the nominations. It was seconded by Don Reynolds and passed unanimously.

Insurance – Rush said that they had checked out 4 insurance companies. All around \$700 for liability Insurance and an umbrella policy for the Board of Directors. Next is casualty Insurance for damage to the statue and property in the \$500 range. Don Reynolds and Rush are leaning toward West Bend Mutual. West Bend Mutual also includes Attorneys fees. Don R talked to Mark and the city leans more toward us owning the statue. Next step would be to meet with city hall to address Atty. Schober's concerns in his letter and get a lease in place.

Lee Sisson had concerns that we will have a \$1,400 annual obligation. He said there were alternative. What if we turned ownership over to the city? He said we should work out an agreement with the city that would call for us to be responsible for management, promotion and preservation while they have ownership. We have precedence with the Historical Society Park being owned by the city including every building on the site. Historical Society is responsible for the maintenance and ongoing preservation of the site. Also the Soap Box Derby paid for the track and building and turned it over to the city. Don R thinks there is a higher risk if we turn it over to the city.

After discussion **Ted looked for a motion to authorize Don R and his committee to go ahead with negotiations and the possible acquisition of both casualty and liability insurance not to exceed \$1,400.** John Vogel wanted to know if we once do this, why would the city want to change the arrangement in the future? Someone suggested that we tell the city we can't afford it any more. **Ted than made the above motion and it was seconded by Rush. The motion carried with John Vogel and Don Hermann voting no.**

Newsletter Distribution – Lee has been publishing a newsletter since May, usually once a month. He is sending it through email. 62 of our 120 members are getting it. He said that there were individuals who are not members that would like to receive the newsletter as well as donors who are not members. We have over 200 email address that we are not using. It was the consensus of the group that we sent the email to all that we have an email address.

New Business

Ted said that he had received two \$50 donations. He wanted to know if we should offer them a membership. The consensus was yes.

Ted reported that the golf outing took in \$5,800 which means each charity would receive a little under \$2,000.

Mary Jane Whitty presented the members with patriotic table clothes to be used at the 4th of July event and other. We thank her for the donation.

Motion by Rush Wilkens and seconded by Bill Ray and passed unanimously to adjourn at 8:41.

****** Please note****Our Next scheduled meeting date will be on Thursday October 6, 2011 at the VFW Post at 7:00.**

Respectfully Submitted by

John Vogel