

WreathsForTheFallen.org

Officers Meeting Minutes

December 19, 2013

I. Call to order

John Thomas called the December officers meeting to order at 1:00 pm on Thursday December 19, 2013 at the Fort Steakhouse in Fort Ripley MN .Officers present were – John Thomas, Norv Pervier, Ron Robbins, Carrie Johnson and Bob Larson our wreath procurement officer.

II. Minutes from last meeting- Minutes from the November general meeting which was held on November 12, 2013 were approved by everyone present. November officer's minutes were not complete at the time of this meeting.

III. Treasurers Report

Ron Robbins-our treasurer will give his report at the next general meeting. At that time he will have the year end balances in all accounts and also the year end report. Total contributions to date are \$49,426.92. Expenses for the wreaths will be paid as soon as we receive the final invoices from the wreath suppliers. Motion was made by Bob Larson and seconded by Norv Pervier to pay all receipts for the wreaths purchased. Motion approved by all officers.

IV. Topics Discussed

Wreath laying ceremony recap: Everyone shared their thoughts on how the ceremony went.

Radios will be provided by the same people next year which was good news.

Section leaders – maybe increase the number to 3-4 helpers in each section.

Wreaths & Bows – we talked about the difference in the bows on the wreaths.

Wreaths – all suppliers made excellent wreaths with no damaged ones this year.

7 ceremonial wreaths – maybe next year WFTF.org will provide presenters.

Cookies – very good – we had extra which we donated them to Camp Ripley.

Cemetery help – maybe next year have more help at the cemetery.

A huge thank you to the cemetery staff who volunteered their time to help us.

Staging went very well although more instruction may be necessary next year.

Parking issues – not enough space – need more radios, signs, vests, cones.

Maybe get a separate group just to help with the parking next year.

Wreaths for buried veterans and those with spouses was discussed. Next year we need to clarify that procedure better.

Information table was busy – maybe get another table next year.

Section Leader comments – need pens that write in freezing weather, need more help, cards hard to handle in the cold and some of the names of those buried were not on the list. John will look into that to see why.

Roger Danielson made up a sheet of his observations and suggestions that he had sent to John. John asked all of us to do the same so that next year will be even bigger and better.

V. What to call the 'Wreath' – We had some discussion as to what we should call the wreath that we place. It is not a Christmas wreath but should we call it a Honor Wreath? We will have more discussion before we order brochures this year.

VI. Matching Funds – John has received interest from a couple businesses that would like to have a matching fund program set up. He will look into it further after the first of the year.

VII. WREATH REMOVAL - We have to remove all the wreaths from the gravesites on Saturday February 1st 2014. WE WOULD APPRECIATE ANYONE WHO CAN HELP TO BE AT THE CEMETERY AT 11:00 AM. Please dress appropriate for the weather.

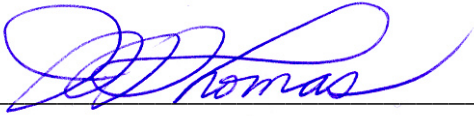
VIII. Next General Meeting

We did not schedule a meeting at this time. We have to remove the wreaths from the cemetery on Saturday February 1st so that might be an option. We are also aware of weather related issues. John will send out an email with any information.

IX. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn meeting was made by Norv Pervier and seconded by Ron Robbins at 2:18 pm when Carrie had to leave. Meeting adjourned at 2:18 pm. Thanks for a great meeting – have a Merry Christmas and a great New Year !

Minutes submitted by: Carrie Johnson – Secretary

Minutes approved by:  _____
John Thomas - President

If you have any questions or need any information please log into our web site at www.wreathsforthefallen.org or call John Thomas at 218-829-6622