

# **WreathsForTheFallen.org**

## **Annual Meeting Minutes**

**March 13, 2012**

### **I. Call to order**

The Annual Meeting for WreathsForTheFallen.org was called to order by Vice President, Bob Larson on Tuesday March 13th, 2012 at 6:30 pm at the VFW Club Room in Little Falls, MN.

### **II. Roll call**

There were 14 members present. A sign in sheet was passed around for everyone to sign which also made them eligible to vote in the elections. Those present were – Ken & Joyce Tveit, Jerry Ratcliff, Norville Pervier, Lorraine Proctor, Bob & Denise Larson, Ron Robbins, Rick & Carrie Johnson, Michael Coffman, Dave Swantek, Freddie Barbeau and John Thomas.

#### **Opening Prayer /Pledge of Allegiance**

After roll call we all stood, faced the American flag 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**

Motion was made by Jerry Ratcliff to approve the minutes from the February 15th meeting. The motion was seconded by Rick Johnson. Motion was approved by all present. The minutes are emailed to all members on record and also posted online on our web page at [www.wreathsforthefallen.org](http://www.wreathsforthefallen.org) for everyone to view. A copy of the minutes are always available at the meetings for everyone to review if necessary.

### **IV. Treasurers Report**

Ron Robbins, treasurer – presented the treasurer's report. He reported that the beginning on February 1<sup>st</sup> was \$ 1,819.14 and after paying promotional and administration expenses of \$ 594.52 and making deposits of \$ 573.68 there was a balance of \$ 1,798.30 in the checkbook at 2-29-12.

The savings account that had been set up at the Deerwood Bank in Brainerd still has a balance of \$ 5,000.62.

Michael Coffman made a motion to approve the treasurers report as presented. Denise Larson seconded the motion, and the motion was passed to accept the treasurer's report, Ron submitted his report for the record.

Ron also had the yearend financial statements available for everyone to view if they so desired.

#### **V. Committee Reports**

We did not have any committee reports. We will have the committee reports at the next general meeting in April. Also at that time we will have signups for additional committees that we feel are necessary. We will continue to have the Wreath Procurement Committee, the Web Site Committee and the Commercial Contributions Committee. Some other committees that may be formed will be a Fair/Event Committee, an Advertising Committee and a Cemetery Committee. Anyone can be on a committee and your help would be greatly appreciated!

#### **VI. ByLaws**

The Bylaws have been revised. Revised copies were passed out to everyone present for their review. Motion was made by Jerry Ratcliff to accept the revised bylaws and his motion was seconded by Ken Tveit. Motion was passed and the revised bylaws will become part of our permanent records. The Bylaws will be posted on the web for everyone to view. Per our bylaws, changes can be made once a year – at the Annual Meeting or by a majority vote of the members at a meeting duly called for that purpose.

#### **VII. Motion Amendment**

A motion was made to amend a prior motion that was made at the February 8<sup>th</sup> 2011 meeting regarding expenditures. At that meeting a motion was passed that any expenses over \$ 400.00 needs to be approved by the Board of Directors. The motion tonight was made to change that motion to read “Any single expenditure over \$ 500.00 requires officer’s approval.” Norv Pervier made a motion to accept this change and Jerry Ratcliff seconded the motion. Motion was approved by all.

#### **VIII. Election of Officers**

Annual election of officers was held. All current officers were reelected and will remain in office.

President – John Thomas

Vice President – Bob Larson

Treasure – Ron Robbins

Secretary – Carrie Johnson

All officers were unopposed.

#### **IX. 2011 Recap**

John Thomas presented a very informative recap of the events and accomplishments during 2011. He had a month by month listing of the major highlights and all the steps and hurdles we had to endure in our first year of becoming an organization.

**X. Keynote Speaker – David Swantek**

David Swantek was our guest speaker for the evening. David is the Cemetery Director at the Minnesota State Veterans Cemetery at Camp Ripley. He gave a wonderful history of the cemetery – from its start to today. He had a video presentation with many pictures from its start in 1994, from when he began working at the cemetery in 1996, all through the planning, construction, earth moving, designing, and set backs of the cemetery, to what it is today. It was amazing to see how it has grown and will continue to grow in the years ahead. He shared many interesting facts with us, and also shared with us the plans for the future of this cemetery along with plans for additional State Veterans Cemetery's in Minnesota. It was a great presentation!  
Thanks to Dave! It was great to have him at the meeting.

**XI. Next Meeting**

**The next officers' meeting is set for Tuesday March 27<sup>th</sup> at the Fort Steakhouse at 2:00.**

**The next general meeting will be on Tuesday April 10<sup>th</sup> at the VFW in Little Falls at 6:30 pm.**

**XII. Closing Prayer and Adjournment**

Closing prayer was given by Freddie Barbeau.  
Motion to adjourn was made by Freddie Barbeau and seconded by Bob Larson.  
Motion passed - meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm.

**THANKS TO EVERYONE WHO CAME TO OUR ANNUAL MEETING!!  
IT WAS GREAT TO SEE YOU THERE!**

Minutes submitted by: Carrie Johnson, Secretary

Minutes approved by: \_\_\_\_\_



Please invite your family, friends and neighbors to join us at our meetings and share our web site: [www.wreathsforthefallen.org](http://www.wreathsforthefallen.org) .

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