



**FRIENDS OF TOWNSEND FIRE
MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES
SATURDAY, JULY 20, 2024
9:30 a.m.**

Location: Townsend Fire Department Meeting Room

Attendees:

Duane Bann	Dawn Herlache	Kathy Peters	Linda Vander Heiden
Dacon Franzen	Joe Heyrman	Tom Peters	Bruce VanOss
Deb Franzen	Terri Heyrman	Anita Szyszkiewicz	Pam VanOss
Michelle Grobe	Wanda Laste	Dean Vander Heiden	

Chairperson Wanda Laste called the meeting of the Friends of Townsend Fire Membership to order at 9:27 a.m.

Dean Vander Heiden made a motion to approve the June 15, 2024 meeting minutes, seconded by Anita Szyszkiewicz, motion carried.

Firefighter Memorial Plaques

- Dacon Franzen and Chief Herlache to create criteria for name placement; that is, retirement or in memory of (an active member of the fire department who has passed)
- Recognition portion of plaque is for active years of service; 5, 10, 15 years in 5-year increments
- Chief Herlache to provide list of names for both the retirement and in memory of plaques
- Anita Szyszkiewicz to talk to Linda Ziegler regarding the plaque design

Grant Writing – Dawn Herlache

- Grant writing crew on summer break, will resume meetings in Fall
- Grant received from Uncle Sam Assistance to Firefighters grant (FEMA) for thermal imaging cameras is \$9,800. Townsend Fire Department cost will be \$500
- Insurance companies may have grants or damaged cars available for firefighter training (State Farm donates totaled cars)
- Costco has grants available
- Sam's Club/Walmart has grants available. For additional information go to Walmart.org
- If anyone is interested in joining or helping the Grant Committee, please contact Ray Scheifen at rscheif@netwurx.net

Can Recycling

- Bins at Townsend Dump and Topsy's are full and will most likely be two runs to the recycling center in Antigo
- Kevin Osadjan will be taking over the can recycling process
- The last can recycling run made \$500
- The Lion's Club has offered FOTF the aluminum cans collected at the August 3rd craft fair, help will be needed to pick up the cans
- Anita Szyszkiewicz will contact the Wabeno school administration office to see if kids need community service points-help with recycling

Financial Report- Deb Franzen

- July 4th was successful with an approximate profit of \$30k
- Over 10k people attended the Townsend July 4th celebration

Online Media

- Website
 - 1,721 Site visitors last 12 months
 - 124 Site visitors Last 30 Days
 - 9 Conversations
 - 2,316 Social views last 12 months
 - 346 Social views last 30 days



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Online Media (Continued)

- Website performance is at 81% compared to same type of organization
- New feature, scheduled posts, going to try it out
- Donation Button
 - Anita Szyszkiewicz has all the information, just needs time to get it done
 - Anita Szyszkiewicz will post winners of the July 4th prizes on the website
- Facebook
 - 1,637 Post Reaches
 - 822 Post Engagements
 - 5 New Page Likes

July 4th Event – Deb Franzen

- Group Meeting with all organizations involved in the event will be held on Monday, August 22nd
 - FOTF Mailing
 - Include craft show information
 - List of all sponsors and events
 - The cost of inserts should be shared between event committees
 - Use a QR Code on the backside of the letter for a list of all events taking place in Townsend on July 4th
 - Fire department is only responsible for what happens in fire station
 - Include a flyer in the local newspapers (share cost with event committees)
 - Discover guide – how it is laid out
 - Town Board responsible
 - Chamber of Commerce
- New cash boxes worked well
- Recommendation to sell 50/50 raffle \$10 for one and 3 for \$20
 - Clean rounds (dump tickets after winner announced)
- Lots of donated prizes. Local businesses supported (52 prizes total)
- When soliciting prizes use the reasoning that when you donate, it brings in business
- Upgrade prizes and place on a pallet for viewing
- Prizes on the stage for display
- Food
 - Beer and soda sign (BIG)
 - Corrugated boards for signage (pricing)
 - Multiple orders sites
 - Tape lanes on floor for direction
 - Sell double decker burgers?
 - 2025 increase food numbers
 - Sell leftover food to festival committee
 - Sell sweet rolls and coffee at 8:00 a.m.
 - Less salt on the popcorn.
- Timing concerns start/end of event
 - Start at 8:00 a.m.?
 - Do raffle drawing earlier?
- Raffle ticket \$2 vs \$3?
- Look at the type of meat purchased for raffle – cost vs. value of tickets
 - Talk with Steve next spring over at Mike's Special \$5 raffle



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July 4th Event – Deb Franzen (Continued)

- No angel board next year
- Fireworks very disappointing
- Email Wanda with 4th of July comment.

Smokey The Bear Poker Run

- Event was held on Saturday June 15, 2024
- Run by the Wisconsin DNR & US Forestry with six Northern Oconto County Departments participating.
- Thanks to all the bakers and volunteer!
- Dacon Franzen indicated that the event appeared to be a success; getting people out, visiting fire stations, and various stops.

Weinerfest North Event

- July 27, 2024
- Noon to 4:00 p.m.
- FOTF Meet raffle help needed
 - Need 8 ticket sellers
 - 2 people to drop off bank deposits
 - 2:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.
 - Pam & Bruce VanOss
 - Tina & Dawn Herlache
 - Dean Vander Heiden
 - Raffle ticket sellers
 - Anita Szyszkiewicz
 - Kathy & Tom Peters
 - Tina & Dawn Herlache
- Anita Szyszkiewicz to send an email to membership asking for additional help for raffle ticket sales.

Online Store

- The online shopping cart shipping charges are under review by the BOD.

Other Business

- Weinerfest Meat Raffle, Saturday, July 27, 2024
- Townsend Fire Department/Town of Townsend Chili Cook-off, Saturday, September 28, 2024.
- Reminder...
 - Do not forget to check out the FOTF Facebook page, website, and online store.

Future Meeting Dates:

All membership meetings will be on the third Saturday of the month at the Townsend Fire Department meeting room at 9:30 a.m.

August 17, 2024

October 19, 2024

December 21, 2024

September 21, 2024

November 16, 2024

January 18, 2025

Motion to adjourn meeting by Dawn Herlache, seconded by, Terri Heyrman, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 10:50 a.m.

The meeting minutes are the interpretation of the writer.

Respectfully Submitted – Anita M. Szyszkiewicz, Secretary