

**FRIENDS OF TOWNSEND FIRE
MEMBERSHIP MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2023
9:30 a.m.**

Location: Townsend Fire Department Meeting Room

Attendees: Dacon Franzen Dawn Herlache Wanda Laste Bruce Van Oss
Deb Franzen Joe Heyrman Ray Scheifen John Zeller
Roberta Glisczinski Terri Heyrman Nancy Smith Linda Ziegler
Michelle Grobe Dee Johnson Anita Szyszkiewicz

The meeting of the Friends of Townsend Fire Membership was called to order by Wanda Laste at 9:31 a.m.

A motion to approve the August 19, 2023 meeting was made by John Zeller; seconded by Linda Zeigler and carried by membership.

Updates by Wanda Laste

- **Recycling**
 - Town of Townsend has agreed to place a fenced in area for recycling aluminum cans at the dump. The cage will be located upon entry in the front right corner.
 - The FOTF recycling banner will need to be updated to reflect aluminum cans only.
 - Dee Johnson has donated two fence panels for the cage.
 - Old Town Hall may no longer have a recycling cage.
 - There will be two recycling cages: Topsy's and the dump.
 - Funds raised from the Old Town Hall and Topsy recycling bins totally \$511.
 - Thank you to those who assisted with the recycling pick-up on August 29, 2023.
 - The next recycling pick-up will be on Tuesday, September 19, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. The meeting place is Topsy's.

Board Updates by Wanda Laste

- **Board Members**
 - Wanda Laste, Chairperson
 - Deb Franzen, Treasurer
 - Anita Szyszkiewicz, Secretary
 - Joe Heyrman, Vice Chairperson
 - Kevin Osadjan, Director
 - Dave Seeber, Director
 - John Zeller, Director

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- **Projects of Note**

- By-Laws
 - Signed by Board on September 25, 2023 meeting.
 - Will be sent to membership electronically.
- Processes
- Insurance
- Media/Publicity

Financials

- Deb Franzen met with Co-Vantage and Laona State Bank to discuss checking, savings, money market, and CD opportunities.
- Current saving account balance \$112k; checking account balance \$5.7 K.
- FOTF received a donation of \$500 from Sandy and Walt Larson as a thank you to the volunteers working the meat raffles.
- FOTF/Fire Department was thanked on the front page of the Beacon newspaper.
- Ray Scheifen, Deb Franzen, and Wanda Laste met to discuss 501c3 accounting basics. Thanks Ray!
- Truck donation acceptance is on hold until 2024.
- FOTF will officially be rolled out to the public January 1, 2024.

Open House-Educational Event/Townsend Chili Cookoff

- **Date/Time**

- Saturday, September 30, 2023
- Set-up at 10 a.m. all are welcome to help.
- Noon to 3:00 p.m.
- Poster distributed for posting in various businesses.
- All are to wear Fire Department Volunteer Shirts.

- **Highlights Fire Department**

- Smoke house
- Photo opportunity
- Kids fireman hats
- Sparky the Fire Dog mascot
- Fireman gear available to try on
- YouTube Videos
- In conjunction with Chili cook off, Piñata hanging from fire truck.
- Cookies and Beverages

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Open House-Educational Event/Townsend Chili Cookoff (continued)

- **Highlights Townsend Chili Cookoff**
 - Deserts (please consider baking).
 - Cookoff
 - Pumpkin painting
 - Bean Bag Toss
 - Apple Bobbing
 - Football Fun
 - Candy Count
 - Piñata on Ladder Truck

Media/Publicity

- **Logo Vote include all attendees listed above**
 - Ballots Distributed to rank first choice.
 - Option 1 received 13 Vote
 - Option 2 received 12 Votes
 - Option 3 received 12 Votes
 - Option 1 is the new FOTF logo
- **Social Media**
 - Kick-off date pushed to a future date.
 - Facebook Page is ready to go, need logo.
 - Anita Szyszkiewicz and Joe Heyrman to meet to work on website.
 - **Action Item:** John Zeller to continue wordsmithing and collecting quotes from FOTF Chair and Town Board for the press releases and content.

Fundraising and Educational Events Ideas

- July 4th
 - Announcements to attendees – Concession stand at ballpark before/during fireworks.
 - Discontinue food sales no later than 5:00 p.m.
- Following are fundraising ideas and will be discussed at future membership meetings.
 - July 4th
 - Spring Cash Raffel
 - Leap Year Calendar
 - One month Calenda
 - Fall Raffel – Hunting Theme
 - 50/50 Raffles at /Various Events
 - Ice Out Raffle

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Fundraising and Educational Events Ideas (continued)

- Sell
 - Flower
 - Roses for Mother's Day
 - Trees
- Sweetheart Dance
- Snowmobile Races
- Life Link Helicopter
- Pancake Breakfast
- Pumpkin Bowling
- Mini Golf
- Brat Fry
- Contributions
 - Goal Donations
 - Matching Fund Donation – Employers
 - Grants
 - Estate Planning
 - Will
 - Minimum Distributions
 - Social Media posts
 - Additional Flyer insert July 4th Raffle Mailing

Other Business:

- Lions Trunk-or-Treat is October 31st from 4-6 p.m.

Future Meeting Dates:

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

September 16, 2023
October 21, 2023
November 18, 2023
December 16, 2023
January 20, 2024
February 17, 2024

Anita Szyszkiewicz made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Dawn Herlache seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 10:36 a.m.

The meeting minutes are the interpretation of the writer.

Respectfully Submitted – Anita Szyszkiewicz, Secretary