

**FRIENDS OF TOWNSEND FIRE
MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES
SATURDAY JULY 19, 2025 9:30AM
LOCATION: TOWNSEND FIRE DEPARTMENT MEETING ROOM**

ATTENDEES: Duane Bann Jonelle Bande Wanda Laste Deb Franzen Dacon Franzen
Terri Heyrman Linda Ziegler Nancy Smith Donna Fischer Dean VanderHeiden
Kevin Osadjan Linda VanderHeiden

Wanda Laste, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:31am.

Motion made to Approve the Saturday June 21, 2025 FOTF Membership meeting minutes
by Dean V, seconded by Linda. Motion carried.

UPDATES:

-Board Vacancy: FOTF Board Member & Current FOTF Secretary, Anita S has decided to resign from her position due to health reasons. She will continue to be part of FOTF but no longer in a Board capacity. FOTF will now have an opening on the FOTF Board. Information was passed around for those interested in this position. Per FOTF Bylaw's, the remaining Board will appoint the new Board member. Then the full Board will meet to discuss & assign roles & responsibilities of each Board member. Dacon mentioned his mother may be interested. Others have also mentioned an interest. Please contact Wanda BY AUGUST 2nd if you would like to be considered for the Board position. Review the Bylaw's available on the FOTF website or contact any Board member if you should have any questions regarding the position.

-Cans: Next Can Run will be Tuesday July 22nd. / Remember NO aluminum foil, NO food tins, NO cat food cans. Just beer/soda CANS. / Joni B created a Garbage Can Topper sign to remind people to separate their Cans from their Trash. We used it for our July 4th Event, and it worked GREAT! Thank you, Joni! We hope to be using more of these topper signs at other Events in the area to collect aluminum cans. / Can Truck (roller) door needs repairs. Looking at feasible options for repair services.

-Online Store: An explanation of 'Kevin O Pickups' vs 'Delivery' when buying on the online site. Kevin will pick up & deliver to the next FOTF meeting when items are chosen as 'Kevin O Pickup'. This also saves you on the shipping costs. 'Delivery' can be chosen if you want your order delivered to your home address. This includes a shipping fee. There was some discussion of a t-shirt vending machine. More research needed to understand if this would be profitable. / Possibly ask at Mikes or Pintsch if they would sell our FOTF t-shirts. Issue

again might be that we would have to carry stock in certain sizes, colors, styles, etc. Donna F will check with Red Arrow to see how they run their t-shirt sales.

-Social Media: Website has been recently updated with July 4th raffle winners. Remember that the FOTF meeting minutes are posted on the website once available.

FINANCIALS:

-July 4th final numbers are not completed yet. Still waiting on bills to come in.

-Grant Committee: Currently have about 5 Grant applications out & pending responses. Grant application for the Hose Washer & Drying Rack was Denied. Next Grant Crew Meeting will be held in August, date pending.

-Donations: A recent donation of \$200 was received for a Pool Fill. This not only gives the homeowner a faster way to fill their pool, but it also gives the TFD a non-emergency training opportunity to work with the pumps, hoses, nozzles, etc.

-Funds Requests: Recent Board Approved Fund Requests include: \$4000 towards the Hose Washer & Drying Rack whose Grant was Denied, \$2500 towards the balance of updated TFD meeting room furniture.

-Recent Expenditures were mostly July 4th expenses.

JULY 4th CELEBRATION:

-The County estimated about **12,000 people** were in Townsend for July 4th !!

-THANK YOU to EVERYONE who helped in any way to make this Event such a SUCCESS! We had lots of new volunteers, and everyone really stepped up. And...Do not forget to RSVP TO ANITA if you plan to attend the Appreciation Luncheon on August 10th.

-We had lengthy discussion on what went well & what needed improvement for next year. Notes were taken regarding the Good & Bad & Suggestions.

-Next year the fourth will be on a Saturday so likely to be even MORE people than this year.

TFD REPORT:

-TFD was paged out thirty-seven times so far in 2025. And its only JULY! That tops 2024 which had thirty pages all year. Keep in mind that an increase in calls means our equipment is being used more than in the past which may lead to the need for more repairs or replacement.

- You may notice the fire trucks heading to Antigo. They are doing the Annual DOT Inspections.

TOWNSEND EMERGENCY SHELTER RESOLUTION POLICY:

-The Town's recently passed Resolution stating details of their Emergency Shelter policy was passed around at our meeting. Calling attention to the final page which states that Friends of Townsend Fire might be called in to Manage the Volunteers at the Shelter.

(Personally, I have to say I am Proud that the Town thinks highly enough of our Organization to give us this responsibility, if called upon. :-) -Wanda)

OPPORTUNITIES:

-We need 2-3 people to help this Wednesday at the Fire Station serving burgers at the MABAS meeting. This should only take about 1-2 hours.

-CAN DRIVE-SATURDAY AUG 2nd: We are considering putting our TFD garbage cans & can toppers out at the Lions Arts & Crafts Fair on Saturday August 2 to collect more cans for recycling. Per Head of the Lions Fair Linda Z, no other organization is collecting cans during the Fair. If we get a crew of about four people to rotate or periodically check the garbage cans throughout the day, empty as needed, put new bags in, take full bags to the can bins... we may be able to collect quite a bit of un-tapped funds. We will see how this event goes, to see if we try this again at other events around the area. If anyone wants to volunteer for a shift or to check cans at least once during the day, let Wanda know.

-TFD Open House is our next FOTF Event. Date yet to be determined (Usually End of Sept or Early October). We try to hold the Open House the same day as the Town's Chili Cookoff, which at this point that date is unknown. But let us start thinking of ideas to make our TFD Open House a fun one! *Noted that more kids plastic Fire Helmets, wrist bands &/or Coloring Books are needed. Deb will order.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

-This weekend is the Pickerel Chain Lake Association Picnic, and the Lakewood Mardi Gras. Support these local Events!!

DATES:

-If interested in being considered for a FOTF Board position, let Wanda know by Sat Aug 2.

-Help needed for serving food at the County-wide MABAS meeting Wednesday July 23rd.

-Lions Art Fair Can Drive: Saturday Aug 2nd. Let Wanda know if you can help!

-Appreciation Luncheon Sunday Aug 10th. MUST RSVP TO ANITA!

-Membership meeting. Saturday August 16th 9:30am. TFD.

Motion made to Adjourn by Dacon F, seconded by Dean V. Motion carried. Adjourned 11:11am.

(Meeting minutes submitted by Wanda Laste, Chair, due to absence of Secretary Anita Szyszkiewicz.)
7/23/25