

# Never Forget 911 Memorial Inc. Board Meeting

February 20, 2025, 5:45 pm

## Bedford Branch Library

### Attendance

Present: Bernadette Opsahl, Robert Opsahl, Myrta Gschaar, Henry Jordan, Al Prieur, Scott Heacock, Kevin Wexler, and Jodi Russ

Guest: Dane Turpening (Owner of Toledo Twisted Iron 700 N Wheeling St, Toledo, OH 43605)

### Approval of minutes and treasurer report

- Minutes motion by Scott, Second by Kiven. The minutes from the last meeting were approved.
- Treasurer Report motion by Kevin, Second by Robert. The Treasurer report was approved.

### Myrta called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

- Open Business:
  - Register Agent on Lara has not been done. Myrta sates Swift forms show its processing. Myrta was advised not to use the Swift forms and to manually update the Lara forms.
  - Business Plan Updates, Jodi states still waiting on bios from the members. She received Myrta's and Henery's bios. She has all mug shots except for Robert's. She still needs the dates filled out on the business plan draft presented.
  - Scott Heacock presented the new rendering, and states can use for marketing. Dane states using chrome is not recommended. He also suggested Galve Steel. Galvanized steel is a type of steel that has been galvanized by the application of a zinc coating throughout its body so that it can be protected from corroding.
  - Focus group by Kevin Wexler (Reminder to send all final leads and quotes to Kevin anytime and present them at a board meeting.)
    - Perfect Site Property Maintenance (Landscaping) should still be contacted for a quote.
    - Al updates Bill Decker Sr. (Al Prieur father-in-law a builder in Bedford Township) has not been contacted yet.
    - On hold contacting Heidtman Steel Products Inc in Toledo, OH, because we are collaborating with Dane Turpening, Owner of Toledo Twisted Iron.
    - Pending to contact Laurie Gross President at Gross Electric, Inc in Toledo, OH
    - Table contacting Jamiesons' Audio/Video in Toledo, OH and Phillips Pro AVL in Temperance, MI
  - Kiosks quotes (Hardware, Software, Microsoft Windows on a Specialized computer) are still needed and Jodi will oversee. It was discussed possible Jamiesons' Audio/Video in Toledo, OH and Phillips Pro AVL in Temperance, MI are not the appropriate companies to get quotes for Kiosks.
  - Myrta mentioned Amy Weinstein from 9/11 Memorial Museum in NYC provided 3 links from [Voices](#) to use for the Kiosks grid. The links were reviewed, and those links are not what we were looking for. We can use it for content download under hard copy index. Amy also mentioned she will approve a dedicated page for our project on their website ( [911memorial.org](http://911memorial.org) ) to include our rendering and other information about this project.
  - The Kiosks links for the Grid presented at last meeting were reviewed and agreed to use.
  - Table influencer Gene Stock, because we need a presentation to see what he wants to do.

- Table Donation letters because it was discussed to get everything in place before we start sending out letters or asking for donations.
- Table Amber Grant and all other grants till we have donation letters, marketing materials and an online presence to include the Carney Family Charitable Foundation grant in NY.
- Score mentor second contact Mike Messmer chairperson of the NW Ohio Score. He is going to review the business plan and advise accordingly. He also gave a lead: Center for Non-Profits located in Toledo. They will help with finding grant writers, grants, donors, maintaining donors, in addition to pro-bono legal services. Other leads given: Community Foundation for SE Michigan and Michigan Organizations for Non-Profits.
- Old Business:
  - Jodi mentioned she has not yet but will contact someone she knows with Robotics to see what platform they use for their workspace.
  - Robert states he has not researched Microsoft 365 nonprofit free hosting.
  - Robert states he can not work on the website until he gets web content and a framework to work off. Bernadette mentioned if the temporary site would be helpful. Answer no.
  - Collectively contacting all the other memorial sites already built to get more ideas. It was asked if anyone wants to take trips to other sites.
  - July 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025, Bedford Township fundraising is still on table pending website and marketing material. The Spaghetti dinner is tabled.
  - The interview with the Bedford press is still on the table.
  - Need Marketing ideas to include a QR Code.
  - Approved to use GoDaddy with a preloaded template to host our website until Robert completes a professional website.
  - Myrta will continue working on being a part of community events.
  - Myrta is getting a piece of ground zero steel from NYC for the project.
- New Business:
  - **Side meeting:** Scott and Dane Turpening had a meeting during the board meeting discussing construction. Dane will crunch the numbers and get back to us with a quote. Underground electric was discussed for the flag spotlight. For more information see their notes for more details.
  - Myrta nominated Kiven Wexler to be a director on this board. Bernadette 2<sup>nd</sup> and all in favor was agreed to nominate him. Kevin Wexler accepted.
  - Jodi mentioned that the boards are asking when we are returning with the business plan to include a budget.
  - Myrta discussed wanting to find a grant writer to join the board or hire one. Dane suggested focusing on fundraising because we would get funding faster and easier than applying for grants.
    - First fundraising was discussed: Something that can allow for \$20 per person involving the community. There are thirty-one thousand residents in the community, the donations will add up to over 600k if each resident donates \$20. Discussion to come back to the next meeting with an idea.

## Other

- Meeting adjourned 7:51 PM

## Tasks

- Jodi to contact Nick from Robotics to find out the outcome of his research on Google and MSN platforms.
- Jodi to ask Karen from the Bedford Press if she wants to interview the board.
- Jodi or Robert will review the recruiting and donation request letters.
- Robert to work on website framework ideas.
- Robert to check on grants for hosting and investigate the cost for Microsoft 365 for Nonprofits.

- Myrta to make a binder of learning materials that can be obtain free from the 9/11 Memorial & Museum.
- Myrta to update Register Agent with Henry Jordan at 6655 S Summerway Ct Lambertville, MI.
- Scott to get a quote for moving trees from his connection he mentioned at the 11/21/24 meeting.
- Bernadette to resend Myrta's business proposal to Jodi using her personal email and no longer share files using her work email.
- Bernadette follows up with Myrta uploading her recent interview to the website.
- Bernadette to correct the spelling of Kevin's last name on the website.
- Myrta to email new rendering to Amy Weinstein.
- Myrta to follow up that we are added to the list of memorials on the following website:  
<https://voicescenter.org/living-memorial/memorials>
- Bernadette to follow up, adding all videos associated to the project to the website. Bernadette to follow up that all meeting minutes and agendas are available on the website.

## Next meetings

Board Meeting March 20, 2025 @ 5:45 PM (Attendee the Board Room E)

Meet with the Bedford Township Board date TBD (Need to have completed business plan)

Ronald Vega (architect) second virtual meeting date TBD (Sometime before March 2025)

Scott Bollin Owner and CEO at Summerlyn Builders meeting TBD (Goal in the month of May 2025)