

January 2019 Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:05pm.

There were (22) members present.

The minutes for the December meeting, as previously emailed to the members, was approved unanimously.

Treasure James Miller did report a January Bank Balance of \$21,814.63, prior to up and coming deductions of \$598.58. After said deductions, the balance will be \$21,216.04. Reported numbers include the Future Fund of \$7,000.00. Said Treasures Report was unanimously approved by all members present.

January 2019 Birthdays were recognized as: Cindy Whitenour, Michael Holbrook, Ken Blackford, Rick Graves, and Howard Bass.

A correction to last month's minutes, Randy Covington's birthday was also in December.

OLD BUSINESS

- Michael Holbrook noted that the club only owes \$246.25 on the Z-Track mower, a total of only (3) more months of payments and asked for a motion to approve paying it off early. Said motion was made and approved unanimously by all members present.
- Many thanks went out to Ron Melaga and Howard Bass who do a lot of the mowing when Philip cannot due to the field conditions. It was noted that Charlie Lasley had to do some significant repairs which included replacing the blades, replacing one of the spindles, along with lots of other hardware. It was stressed that if the grass is even slightly wet we absolutely do not use the mower on the lowest setting.
- Michael also mentioned that Bill Hamby was taken to the hospital for a scheduled Gall Stone procedure and ask everyone to wish him well. He also mentioned that Nelson Hole's wife has now fallen ill to the point that she can no longer walk. He also asked for everyone to wish them well.
- Michael went on to mention that Charlie had previously suggested handling the keys differently this year and thought it to be a great idea. New keys will be sent out at the March Meeting for those who have paid their membership dues. For those not attending the March meeting the keys will be mailed out the same week. The Gate lock will be changed the second week in March. All members who have not paid dues by the March meeting will fall off the roster with all flying privileges discontinued. While it was suggested to use a combination lock instead of keys, members were reminded that the club had some bad experiences with combination locks years ago, stating that the combination usually gets loaned out way too much. Combination lock was not adopted as an alternative to a key lock. A new lock will be placed on the gate in March for all paid memberships.

- It was then mentioned that Nelson Hole, due to his wife's current health condition, has decided to withdraw from running the Giant Scale event this year, but George Welcome has offered to be the CD and take over. Michael offered to help George get his Contest Director status well before the event. George did suggest having the event dates different from last year's as to not land on the Joel Noel event. It was suggested to have the event sometime in September or much later in October. George asked to give him more time to think about the date.
- Ken Blackford mentioned that himself and Rod Stauffer did finalize some information from their main contact at the Fairgrounds and that they are now ready to sanction the event through AMA. It was asked for a motion to approve the date of August 3rd, which is exactly in-line with the previous year's events. Said date was approved. Ken did say that as soon as the sanction was approved, they would then get the flyer and information to John Welcome to start pushing the event on Facebook.
- Mark Pfaff was asked if he had any updates on the Heli event. He stated that there was nothing to report. He did remind everyone that the already approved dates were June 19th – 21st.
- Butch Pendergrass reminded the club that the War Bird Event would be the previous weekend, June 13-16th.
- Ken Kayser asked for someone to get him any known event dates and he would be glad to put them up on the website. Ken Blackford agreed to send him the list.
- Michael Holbrook said that he has been asked by many people to CD the Electric Event again this year but stated that he will need a lot of help this time, August 22-24th.
- Michael also stated that the board decided to keep the event budget at \$8,000.00 this year with hopes that we don't get rained out during any one event.
- It was asked that everyone please stay off the grass with your vehicles, as the field is really wet.
- Michael Holbrook mentioned that while it is on the books for the board to discuss the Shelter Project early in 2019, he stated that the board have discussed and would like to ask the club for another month to roll up some numbers on what it would take to really "spruce up" the existing Shelters with new tin, new supports / boards, and paint in order to compare to brand new Shelter numbers. Chris Baker was asked to help with getting some quotes.
- It was mentioned that the board did discuss having better road signs displayed at least for events. It was then mentioned if there a possibility of having permanent signs out at the corners. Ken Blackford offered to investigate what could be done while expressing concerns of possible limitations.
- It was also suggested by a member to put better coordinates or location on the flyers. Rod Stauffer stated that if you enter 1800 Poindexter Rd. it will take you right at the top of the dirt road.
- Michael did say that Ken Kayser put together a temporary budget for 2019. Michael said that he wanted to take another hard look at the budget for the membership dues. During the next two weeks a better estimate of those dropping off the roster can be obtained.

- Conversation took place about the RAMS Facebook page is open to the public for the positive promotion of our club. Members should always refrain from posting anything negative for this reason. The Facebook page is for the positive promotion of our club to outside members and NOT a forum to discuss internal club dislikes. Michael asked that if someone has an issue with something pertaining to the club, the board, or someone personally within the club, to please talk to the board or bring it up in a meeting instead of posting negative comments on a publicly viewed club group page. It was suggested if something is posted in bad taste towards the club that the administrator should ask the publisher to take it down. If the publisher does not take the post down, then the administrator should have the authority to remove the post and possibly implement restrictive access to said publisher of the negative post. Rod reminded that the club years ago did go through a very bad situation centered around our Social Media, publicly viewed, account that ended up getting way out of control, resulting in a massive split within the club membership. It was also suggested that the administrator should have the authority to automatically remove negative post without having to go through asking the publisher to take a post down. It was stressed again that if someone has a beef with something to please talk to the board first.
- Michael asked who has been maintaining the Security Cameras. Ken Kayser said that he has been checking on cameras in that all you have to do is check the SD card and Batteries. Ken graciously stated he would continue to upkeep the cameras for now.

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NEW BUSINESS

- President, Michael Holbrook nominated Butch Pendergrass as the Safety Officer, Chico Arguello as Deputy Safety Officer, with Chris Baker and George Welcome as Members at Large. All said nominations was unanimously approved.
- It was reminded that the membership dues, if paid on-line, are \$120.00 per year, \$130.00 if paid by check or other method (cash). It was noted that it makes things so much easier if they are paid on-line that the extra \$10.00 difference should be looked at as administrative charges. However, it was mentioned that the Volunteer Voucher credits are still in place. Michael went on to say that the reason membership amounts for individuals are always different on the budget details is due to PayPal fees for on-line renewals and those who work the events are most likely using their Volunteer Vouchers to help towards their membership dues. Club were due by the first meeting in January, members intending to renew, but have not to date, need to do so as soon as possible.
- It was noted that the club received an email from Steven Balazs (Matt's father) who is moving to PA said in the email that he regretfully cannot rejoin, but he has never been around a better group of guys than the ones in the RAMS Club and is very thankful for all of the help he has received. Michael went on to say that this is the reputation we want our club to exhibit.
- Charlie Lasley stated he and Nelson Hole did identify the problem with the generator and could fix it for \$116.82. Money was approved to proceed with fixing it. James Miller will order the part.

- Ken Blackford offered to get estimates for fixing the wheels on the Flight Stands.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50

The 50 / 50 was won by Butch Pendergrass, who took home \$35.00 while the club netted \$39.00.

Ken A. Blackford

1-8-19