

August 2019 Minutes

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

Michael reported the Board Members did meet during the month of July. Field mowing, upcoming events the Port-a-Jon and the Shelter Project were discussed.

The Minutes for the July meeting were approved by all members present.

There were (27) members present down at the field.

Club President Michael Holbrook opened with giving special thanks to George Welcome who cooked for us at the July Meeting. He also asked the club to keep Bill Hamby in our prayers as he is undergoing some Keymo Therapy in dealing with some health issues followed by stating that Steve Usher is also about to have some surgery.

Birthdays for June were noted by Ron Melga as follows: Matt Balazs, Tommy Cheek, Timothy Holland, Mark Pfaff, Tommy Pfaff, Deryl (Doc) Holliday, Harland (Sandy) Hotham, Terry Marshall, Daniel O. Vazquez, George Welcome, Charlie Laslie and Adam Miller.

Michael went on to mention that the Winston-Salem Club is having "Scale" event the Friday of 8/9/19 thru the weekend for \$20.00 landing fee plus \$10.00 for each following event.

James Miller went over the Treasure Report, reporting a bank balance of \$19,395.07, stating that 2-outstanding checks for the Shelters are in the budget and that there is a little bit of the money from the Swap Meet already showing up in this report for \$439.91 which came from PayPal, making the PayPal balance \$927.90, this being on top of the previously mentioned \$19,395.07 bank balance. James also mentioned that the rest of the Swap Meet figures were handed to him tonight and are not yet reflected in this report.

Said Treasures Report was approved by all member present.

Michael Holbrook stated that he wanted to give a little Mid-Year Review, stating that the numbers have changed so much due to the Swap Meet and that this month was just a very busy month. He went on to say that the Swap Meet should clear around \$1,200.00 - \$1,300.00, in that this year 117 tables were sold compared to 104 last year. He also mentioned that since a lot of people are out on vacation and just not building as much during this time of year that this is still pretty good. He went on to say how well he liked the new layout with the center of the floor being open for people to put some of their assembled planes out for display. Michael also noted that with everything so far this year plus the current membership, we are \$2,000.00 ahead of last year. He followed by saying that the following 2-events need to hit \$2,000.00 each for us to hit the \$10,000.00 budget for the Shelter Project, even after spending \$6,000.00 on the field this year compared to only spending \$4,000.00 a year for the last 3-years.

He went on say that over the last 3-years the club has spent just shy of \$3,000.00 a year for the mowing which didn't include mowing the Heli Deli, Ditch work or trimming in general around the field. He stressed how this was a great deal, but we knew that the time would come when we would have to do something

different. Michael mentioned that landscapers charge \$35.00 - \$60.00 pre-acre depending on the terrain, which could cost us from \$10,000 to \$14,000 a year to mow our field. He also said that our current landscaper simply said that we couldn't afford to have him mow the field. Michael followed by saying that we could have members take turns at mowing the field, but he said that he has never seen it really work out. He also stated that he did see the need to exercise using the emergency funds for the first time since he's been in office to at least get the field mowed in July. He proposed that (with approval from Howard Bass) we could have Howard mow the field for \$500.00 a month from now until the end of the year, with Howard agreeing to mow as many times as it takes. This also includes him trimming. He followed by saying that the newly elected board in January could decide to explore new solutions, or, keep Howard on board.

Michael went on to report that Phillip's reel mower has once again broke down. He followed by saying how cheap and a great deal Philip has been giving us for so many years and that he was able to do so by mowing the field only on his time and fit it into his schedule. He stated that Philip said that he didn't think this mower was worth fixing, but he could purchase another used reel mower for \$4,000.00. Michael stressed that this would be a big risk in that this mower could also break down as frequently and that he'd rather see the club keep buying "Zero Turns" than to risk buying another used reel mower. Michael told Philip that he didn't think the club would agree to buying another used reel mower and that he would bring it to the members.

Michael asked if people liked the way the field has been mowed so far by doing it ourselves. Ken Kayser spoke up and agreed to not buying another used mower but stressed that money should be put aside for servicing our existing mower, stating that now it will get used a lot more frequently.

Michael expressed his opinion that we should be able to get by with our current mower for the rest of this year but stressed that we might need think about investing in another higher quality mower at some point down the road.

It was asked, since we now have a lot different type of grass, if it could be mowed lower. The answer that came back was, no, that this is as low as we can cut it with our current mower. It was also mentioned that a new reel mower could cost around \$60,000.00 plus the high maintenance cost or could cost the club \$16,000.00 a year to have a service mow it with a reel mower all in the effort to mow it closer with a reel mower.

It was mentioned that the reason for the mower motors blowing up was due to cutting it when the grass was so high. It was also mentioned how many times people had to follow right behind Philip to gather all of the thatch up because it was being mowed so high.

At this time, it was asked of the club to vote on hiring Howard for said \$500.00 a month from now until the end of the year. Ken Kayser made a motion. It was approved by all members present.

It was also noted that it takes 5+ hours to mow and trim the 4.5 acre field.

It was asked why we don't spray around the shelter, so we don't have to trim as much. Michael said that Howard already sprays.

It was asked why we don't purchase some cheap used mowers for \$100.00. Many were opposed to said idea for many reasons.

Adam Miller of once "Millers Landscaping" did mention that some turf companies do offer the option to lease a reel mower for several times a year, but he didn't have any information on cost and the maintenance.

Michael went on to say that his quality Zero Turn mower can mow down to a little less than 1" at 12mph.

It was asked reported that our current mower is now paid-off.

OLD BUSINESS

Michael spoke about the Shelter project in that Butch Pendergrass has pulled \$1,600.00 out of the Shelter Fund for the 6" x 6" post. Michael went on to remind the club that that several months ago when the club voted on the loan for the Shelters that some people asked if we should wait until the end of the year to vote on the loan to see if the club would have the money at that time. Michael then warned the membership that something could happen out of the ordinary. He followed by saying, "here we are, we've changed our plan on how we're mowing and it's already costing \$2,000.00 more per-year", and that we will not have the money without going into the general fund to finish the Shelter with only \$1,400.00 left in the Shelter fund. He said that we are going to have to have loan money and that Butch and himself are going to have to pick up the slack to prevent having to go into the general fund, which the club voted against.

NEW BUSINESS

Michael Holbrook reported that there was nothing new to report for the Electric Event with Rod doing the PA, George doing the cooking, Randy to haul off the trash, Chris to run the balloon and ribbon cutting contest, Howard to go down to Anderson RC to get some certificates and take down some flyers and Ken Blackford to put out the signs on Thursday. August 23-25th \$25.00 landing fee, anything electric, and if anyone hasn't heard..... it is the....."Must Fly Event of the Year" with many great raffle prizes.

Michael spoke in place of George Welcome's absence in that George is building a Giant Scale "Hots" fully loaded for the main prize raffle for the Giant Scale Event, September 13-15th. Said "Hots" design was designed by once member, Dan Santanch (which the Giant Scale event is named after) who worked on the design down at the field many years ago which ended up being known for the most.

Butch Pendergrass spoke to the fact that the "Flying Tigers" RC Club did not make any money on (2) of their events this year due to the weather and that they have only made \$400.00 all year long for their club.

Ken Blackford spoke about the Swap Meet in that it looks like the event will take in exactly what we did last year after incurring an extra dollar per table in the rental fees and after seeing the exact same number of people walk thru the door, 164 people. Ken went on to say that himself and Rod have some homework to do by highly considering changing the event date in that perhaps the reason the foot traffic

is as low as it is because a lot of people during the first of August are on vacation with their families and possibly saving up for school. Ken went on to say that the Annex building is blacked-out from October thru early May due to the ice rink. He also mentioned that the Education building could be another venue option, but they only have only a small window of time in March. Rod Stauffer reported that that building would also cost \$400.00 more and he wouldn't want to take the risk. He went on to say that to change the date we'd have to consider something in September or after May and would lean towards something in September. It was asked if we could pick another location all together. Ken said that they do plan to look at it, but we would have to deal with cooking our own food again and renting and setting up the tables ourselves. Rod went on to say that the venue we're in now is great and they need to look at what dates are available in front of and behind said block-out dates from October thru May.

Ken Blackford asked, wanting to double-check, if the Shelter project was still on even after the mowing situation. It was confirmed that the project was still on track.

It was also reminded to the club that Philip still owes the club some money on one of the previous loans for the mower repair. It was reported that he does still owe \$385.00. Michael asked if the club would consider foregoing said loan for all the year's he gave us such a good deal on mowing the field. 26 were in favor with only one opposed.

It was asked by one of the Heli Pilots if he could put down a temporary landing pad right in front of him inside the 25' between the pilot line and flight line, only when he flies, to be taken up when he is finished. He was granted permission to use said pad.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55.

The 50 / 50 was won by Michael Holbrook.....\$45.00/ \$46.00 who donated his half into the Shelter Fund.