

WNGF Board Meeting – 19 Sept 2023 – 1730

Mike Williams - Executive Director	Robert Ronge
Gary Ebben – President	DJ Klauser
Meredith Conn – Secretary	Eric Killen
Greg Cullen – Vice President	Rafael Conde
	Rene Simpson

Not Present: Christina Schmoker, Jamie Butcher, June Dykstra

1. Consent Agenda – Review of YTD finance report and minutes from 16 May 2023.
2. Rob – Donor Identification Committee Report
 - a. Guest speaker Eric Killen is the CVSO for Eau Claire County. Discussed his work with a foundation to establish a veteran’s memorial in Altoona. Also presented product Old Glory Magazine.
 - i. Eric is new to the Donor Development Committee, but spent years in the Wisconsin National Guard.
 - ii. Foundation member Chippewa Valley Tribute Foundation – 7th year. Before they started asking for donor money, they wanted to have a story to tell and have a good sale.
 - iii. Focused on products in the beginning – pamphlets, magazine, newspapers. Getting those out in the public has been key.
 - iv. Stone sales, annual auction combined with a “Dining In”. Have raised as much as \$40K. It’s a great way to market the cause.
 - v. Eric is willing to allow the foundation to use any material from his book/Old Glory magazine to help market our foundation.
 - vi. BLUF – If we’re going to really raise money, we’ve got to impress them and appear as a first rate, professional organization.
 - b. Discussion among board about how we can improve the foundation with ideas
3. Rene – Grants and Scholarships
 - a. Changes are coming forth from MFFA side – becoming more stringent. Service members will have to dig into their TSP as a loan. This may result in more requests for assistance.
 - b. Currently have three service members that need assistance
 - i. 2 ANG and 1 ARNG – 2X \$775/person for rent and one ANG member just moved into home and having a multitude of maintenance issues. Having a baby in March.
 - ii. Have a few candidates for scholarships. Working on changes on the forms with the committee before end of the year.
4. Gary comments:
 - a. Welcome Michelle Baer as our new Treasurer and thank you to DJ for all the work you’ve done for the foundation!

- b. Keep in mind we will be transitioning the Executive Director, we'll need to consider the possibility this will be a paid position, possibly contractor. Tabled for November meeting.

5. Next Board Meeting is scheduled for November 21, 2023.

Meredith C. Conn

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Secretary