140th NYVI Meeting Minutes

November 13, 2022

Location: Meeting Room, 1175 Orchard View Dr., Rochester NY 14612

14 members were in physical attendance and 2 members were on Zoom. The Election meeting was called to order by President Sarah Northan at 6:13 p.m.

President Sarah N. welcomed the group.

**Secretary** Susan Berardi read the minutes from September 18.

**Treasurer** Sheila Enedy reported that there were no deposits or payments made since the last treasurer’s report in September. Checking: $2646. and savings $2284.47 pllus a few cents due to the very small interest we are getting.

**Vice President and Membership—**Tom Enedy encouraged as many members as possible to attend Hale Farm Aug. 12-13, a huge event and one of our maximum effort events.

**Old Business**

**Poor attendance** at meetings was a topic brought up in September. In an effort to address that the Board is planning to have many of our meetings at events, either prior to the start of the event day or following it, and include either breakfast or dinner. For example, Newfane events are Sunday only events where the public enters at 10 a.m. Reenactors need to be there prior to that to set up anyway and some military and civilians camp overnight. We could have a breakfast meeting at 9 a.m. there prior to the event. Ft. Niagara, Ft. Ontario and other events could have a meeting and a shared meal either at the start of the day or end of the day after the public leaves. We are hoping this will encourage more participation in both events and meetings.

**Day and Time of Meetings** discussion—Saturday mornings at 10 or 11 seems to be a good time to meet when we are not meeting at an event, as opposed to Sunday evenings. Julie Chamberlain is looking into a location for a **holiday party**. The **election meeting** could be held at the meeting room at 1175 Orchard View Dr. as we are doing this year.

**Civilian** participation is encouraged at events that have seemed just military events in the past like the Forts and Newfane. For example we could have a table representing an organization like the Sanitary Commission. We could have a fashion show at the Gazebo at Newfane. At Fort Ontario we could set up outside the wall a “village” with two parallel rows of civilian tents and the sutlers.

**Military—Mumford** Mike is not interested in trying to organize anything military for Mumford if we are invited back and does not plan to be part of the planning committee anymore. He is considering participation as a soldier home on leave.

Mark Hudson brought up some events we might consider: Fort Tribute in Madrid NY, which is a 4 hour trip from Rochester NY area and the Alonzo Wilder homestead in Malone NY which is a 5 hour trip from the Rochester NY area.

Susan reminded the group that West Sparta is a paid event and it needs to be better supported by both civilians and military.

Tom Enedy reported on Army of the Ohio. Dues $25 from the unit; Feb. 4 winter meeting; unit commanders will rotate at events. Mar. 24-25 possible fun trip to Gettysburg and private tour; Anders and Lavis event in Gettysburg June 23-24 with $15 registration per individual.

A suggestion was made that we put out a survey with a proposed schedule of events and meetings and ask for feedback.

**New Business**

**Black powder and musket discussion**—the law requires permission from the property owners that is displayed. Sensitive areas are not permissible however such as federal and state areas but the Governor’s permission can be obtained. An area like Newfane is called a restricted area but they can also give permission. The governor says the law is not going to affect us and Mike say he has no concerns unless the people running the event do not give permission.

**Fort Ontario** discussion on whether the 140th should take on running the event and making money form it since we no longer are paid by Mumford. Tom Enedy reports that the 140th could take over registration, that there Fort does have insurance so it would not have to add to our insurance.

Motion by Mike O’Connor 140th NY takes over registration and planning for a Civil War weekend at Fort Ontario in Oswego NY for the first weekend in August. Second by Kevin Schoepfel. Passed.

**Recruitment Booth**—at all our events we could have a Recruitment Booth manned by one civilian and one military at a time assigned to man it. There could be a recruitment poster, handouts and a raffle. Mike O’Connor was given a valuable painting by Mike Albanese “Lee’s Surrender at Appomattox” It is very nice; it is not framed. Mike is proposing we sell a number of raffle tickets throughout the year and have a drawing at next year’s holiday party. This could be another way to raise money for the Unit since we lost so much revenue from paid event.

**Election—**V.P. Tom Enedy distributed ballots. For each office, the people running already on the ballot were announced and opportunity given for other nominations from the floor. Ballots were counted for offices in which more than one person was running. Results of the election are as follows. Your 2023 officers are: President Sarah Northan, Vice President and Membership Tom Enedy, Treasurer Sheila Enedy, Secretary Susan Berardi, Military Commander Mike O’Connor and Civilian Coordinator Cathy Curley. There will be no NCO’s this year and the Civilian Committee will be comprised from volunteers at the Holiday party.

(3) Next meeting Holiday Party, Saturday January 14th, location and time to be announced.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m. Following the meeting there were refreshments and a sale of Pat Smith’s Civil War paraphernalia as she is retiring from the hobby. Proceeds from the sale were donated by Pat to the Unit.

Respectfully submitted:

Susan Berardi, Secretary