



MINUTES

of the Wednesday, 12 August 2020 MAGHA Board of Directors Meeting

CALL TO ORDER

The Board of Directors of the Michigan Air Guard Historical Association met as scheduled on Wednesday, 12 August 2020, at the Selfridge Military Air Museum. A quorum being present, Gen Pochmara called the meeting to order at 2:00 pm.

ATTENDANCE

Members present were: Mike Viterna, Mr. Jim Gompers, Mr. Philip Handleman, CMSgt Wayne Fetty, Mr. Roger Krings, Maj Gen Paul Pochmara, Ed Kaminski, John Hogan, Pam Horner, Col Steve Krajnik

Members represented were:

Members excused were: none

Guests present were: none

AGENDA

A motion was made by Ed Kaminski and seconded by Roger Krings to approve the agenda for this meeting as published. Ayes: All, Nays: None. Motion approved.

REPORTS

MAGHA/Air Museum Finance Report (Hogan): John Hogan noted that the current financials are break even. He did bring up the unexpected \$3,500 repair for the air conditioning system in building 1008. A motion was made by Ed Kaminski and seconded by Roger Krings to receive and accept the report as presented. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion approved.

MAGHA membership (Wayne): Wayne provided a summary of the current membership - 681 total members. Regular members – 89, 82 are current - \$25/year (\$2225 total income). All other member categories are as follows: patron (\$1,000) - 67, sustaining (\$500) - 43, lifetime (\$250) – 437, legacy 43, charter - 3 – not sure of the cost of those. For Life and sustaining members, consider asking if they would be interested in donating money for the new hanger and it will bring their membership up to a patron level. The legacy members got in free, so there was a suggestion to send a letter to those

members, and present options to them. If no response, we can consider eliminating the category in the future. Gen Pochmara wants to get income from all members. Wayne said that we had media mania load the module on the website to handle membership. We have to put the database into the system. Thinking of only putting in regular members. Newsletters – send out on quarterly basis - costs \$700 four times a year. We have included a notice that we are no longer mailing out paper copies of the newsletters. Newsletters will be emails. If they want a hard copy, they need to send in a fee to MAGHA to mail the newsletter (\$10).

Gen Pochmara asked how many members we had last year, Pam noted that we had 670 members in the Aug 2019 meeting minutes.

Roger asked if MAGHA has explored a commercial fundraising agency to do this work? Gen Pochmara recommended looking into fundraising commercial companies.

Wayne noted that we get a lot of information on grants, and museums and don't really have the time to look at these programs. It might be worthwhile to have a company assist us in that process.

Wayne Fetty briefed the Board that MAGHA membership as of 8/4/2020 is 683, an increase of 13 from the figure reported at the last Board meeting. A motion was made by Ed Kaminski and seconded by John Hogan to receive and accept the report as presented. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion approved.

Air Park Improvement Project Status:

New hanger update – Pat Koytek has everything he needs to move forward. He has a statement of work which is close to being completed. Will send to vendors to do the bidding. Gen Pochmara asked if the statement of work is in a format to go for immediate bidding? The cost estimate is \$50,000 to \$90,000. Wayne estimates the cost will be under \$60,000.

Ed Kaminski discussed the potential sales of one of the Twin Beach aircraft to raise funds for the new hanger. Platinum Fighter Sales is the largest dealer to sell or buy a war bird. The Twin Beach will probably never fly so will not get a high sale price. The company comes out and does an assessment of the aircraft and provide a cost estimate. There will be a commission that will come out of the sale price. Want to reach out to Platinum Fighter sales to get an estimate. Phil raised a concern about the historical significance of the aircraft, but it was noted that the museum has two Twin Beach planes. The planes are in equal condition, both in bad shape. One plane has Grosse Ile markings that is the one up for sale. Roger thought the planes is worth \$25,000 to \$35,000 as a ballpark. A motion was made by Mike Viterna and seconded by Col Steve Krajnik to approve selling the Twin Beach to benefit the New Hanger project. Ayes: All. Nays: None. Motion approved.

OLD BUSINESS

- 1. Utilities issue** (John Hogan) – John and Wayne are working with the base on the current utility charges. They are concerned that the meter readings are incorrect. They prorate all the buildings except for the library 1008. Their meter readings from Oct 1st through Jul 64 KW hours. If it's a 3 phase it includes a multiplier, not a simple reading. Trying to get a handle on

the how the meter should be read. Would like to get this reading corrected, believes there is a discrepancy and want to get it resolved by the end of Sept. John is certain that we were overcharged, but don't know how much. The gas meters on each building are prorated. They haven't read them, but will start. Most utilities charge more than you use when they prorate. We are hoping to correct the readings for this fiscal year and hopefully get a refund. Wayne noted we paid over \$13,000 which included roof repair which was \$8,000. We are responsible for the roof and windows. Windows can be done with efficiency programs using end of year money.

2. **Operations Report** – Wayne reported that the museum of open every weekend, about 50 visitors per weekend. Volunteers are working Tues and Fridays and the participation is outstanding, volunteers have grown in size. Getting a lot of work done, and getting some things cleaned up. The Bobtail has needed new brakes for over 4 years, and that is almost completed. Wayne noted that we have been going through all the artifacts of the second floor of 1007 and the second floor of the library. Have found items not related to the museum or Selfridge and looking to sell those items to help with operations of the museum and the new hanger. The Japanese nee mortar cannon was sold to raise funds – got \$1,000. The German officer sword is estimated at \$1,000 – for sale. The lawn mower engine blew up which is needed to mow under aircraft – replaced the engine. Generous donations covered part of the cost of the engine. Wayne noted that we had an inquiry if we needed help from the sheriff's dept, they have deputies doing community service. They offered to bring out a bunch of law officer cadets (high school students). Wayne is meeting with them on Friday to do a walk through – it was thought to have them assist clearing out underbrush, and hope to get them to come back to do work we don't have time to get to with our normal volunteer group. Hope to be a continuing operation with the sheriff's office.
3. **Insurance** (Mike) – Mike noted that we were lacking declaration pages, will have full report at the next meeting explaining our full coverage and deductibles and liabilities. John mentioned that we haven't had any claims. Packard engine – expensive to replace. One policy is \$1M, \$1M liability, \$1M board liabilities, the one that concerned Wayne is \$187,000 on content. Mike said there is additional coverage of \$180,000 and \$185,000. Jim Gompers noted that there is a limit under \$200,000 for everything we own. From a risk mgmt. perspective – three things we need to look at: 1. What do we own - need to replace in case of fire or explosion. Decided at the last meeting, need a valuation of those things. 2. What is our liability to the whole world – depends on event, have a liability for \$1M, excess or umbrellas coverage – least expensive cost of \$1M on top of that. Total coverage is \$2M. 3. What is our liability for our volunteers? Typically, that's handled by a workman's compensation policy – could purchase a policy for a facility (Michigan sponsored operation). That would cost about \$800 a year. Previous administration decided we didn't need this. Wayne noted the value of the SPAD is min \$250,000. Most of the items are irreplaceable (Wright flyer).

NEW BUSINESS

1. **New Personnel:** The following new personnel are working at the museum: Steve Mrozek – curator at the Dossin Museum at Belle Isle – our new curator, Tom Demerley – resources for talents and writing, Pam Horner – Board Secretary, Ed Kaminski – new Assistant Director. We also have about 5 additional docents and grounds people. Some came to visit the museum and asked about volunteer work.
2. **Lou's memorial and dedication update:** The date is set for 30 August 2020 at 1400, sent invitations out. Initially trying to hold it to a limit of 200, the governor reduced the limit to

outdoor events to 100. Right now we have about 110 attendees (doesn't include the color guard or organizers), trying to keep the number under 150 attendees total. Color Guard has been assigned (Selfridge unit). The museum will rent round tables to ensure social distancing and limit the number of people per table. Two 30 x 30 canopies, and can get another 20 x 40 if needed. There will be a video of pictures that will run and will have a large screen TV, and a PA system will be set up from Heritage House; C-130 almost complete for dedications; Family is providing lunch for everyone. Ed asked if we should close the museum during the dedication, and it was decided that we should post that the museum will be closed on 30 Aug. Anyone attending that hasn't RVSP, please let me know as soon as possible.

3. Retirees: Dick Souls is the current curator – not doing as much work as previously. He is working with Steve Mrozek with the transfer. Darrell Rohrbeck – 95 years old, retired. Had a little dedication for him.
4. Fundraising – Ed Kaminski made the following suggestion for fundraising:
 - a. Museum specific calendar – Ed suggested that we prepare a museum related calendar to send to membership to raise funds to support the museum at various amounts. Yankee Air Museum started this about 4 years ago, get a 5 – 10 % response. Has to be mailed out in November since it is a calendar. The cost is inexpensive and easy way to raise funds.
 - b. Symposium – Christina Olds – daughter of fighter pilot about her father's career (WWII and Vietnam War) – would like to have her speak to the community council, Third Tue in April 2021; will be held at Zuccaro Banquet hall. We would charge to attend the event to raise funds to support the museum.
 - c. Museum sponsored tour to England – July 2021 – going to the flying legends air show – largest war bird air show in Europe – anniversary on the Battle of Britain; Smithsonian did tours and using their contacts/vendors. The date would be a weekend around July 10th. We are working on getting the trip organized and then look at potential roadblocks regarding travel. Ed has done something similar and cleared a profit of about \$20,000.
5. Donations for the new hanger – how are we approaching this. Wayne – letter to lifetime members and use that as a reason to donate, to raise their level to patron. Roger thought we decided that some donations were for specific limit items, and not the general fund. The Go Fund Me account was for the hanger (approx. \$4,000), and \$10,000 from Candice Miller was for the hanger. Would like to include a fundraising level to show how much funds were raised (i.e., thermometer). John thought we should have an entry into Quickbooks for the new hanger (restricted funds). There was \$30,000 set aside for the hanger at previous meetings, need a separate line item for the \$30,000 and any additional funds that come in to fund the new hanger. Need two fundraising operations – daily working items and the hanger fundraising. Ed Kaminski made a motion for a separate line item and track the amount of fund raised towards the hanger for the maximum cost – create a display for marketing and was seconded by Roger Krings. Ayes: all. Nays: none. Motion approved. Let John know if any specific funds came in recently and he will keep track. Ed thought we should take all proceeds and identify the percentage to the general fund and the amount to the new hanger.
6. Philip – wanted to added a word of encouragement, glad to hear it is happening. Ed asked if he is willing to work with Ed on these events, and he agreed, based on availability. Would be willing to assist but not to get involved in micromanaging.

7. Motion to adjourn – John Hogan made a motion to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Wayne Fetty. Ayes: all. Nays: none. Motion passed. New meetings are quarterly: Nov, Feb, May, Aug - second Wed of the month.