**Presque Isle Community Men’s Club**

Meeting minutes November 7th, 2024

Opening: Meeting called to order by President Mike Bugenske at 9:00am with 13 members and 2 guests. Our 2 guests were Harold Ruder and Nancy McKinney

Opening song: Jay Kettler

Pledge of Allegiance: Mike Bugenske

Prayer: Jay Kettler

Introduction of Guest Speaker: Mike Bugenske

Lisa Hilberg will be discussing the topic of "Current Hot Topics in Education”. Dr. Lisa Hilberg earned her Ph.D. in Educational Leadership from Eastern Michigan University. She was a teacher and principal with Alpena Public Schools

Lisa started out the discussion with a story about her father having a “Do not resuscitate order” (DNR) and suffering a medical condition while at his birthday party celebration at the Aplex. He passed out and turned grey, Lisa immediately called 911 and they directed her to have someone go and get the defibrillator that all public places are now required to have. The good news is that the paramedics were able to resuscitate him, and he made a full recovery, but the not so good news is that he actually has a DNR order on file and that the family was not 100% aware of nor really aware of how it is worded. So, if you yourself have one or care for a family member that has one – you really need to review that has been signed and make sure it is worded for your best interest.

After the above discussion, Lisa presented several topics as follows:

* Home schooling – there is no accountability requirements in Michigan. She normally saw 2 extremes, either the parents went above and beyond or they simply were disengaged and did nothing (in my summary, the parents were not responsible and negligent in this case). Parents do not need Teaching Credentials. Other options than Public schools are Parochial or Charter schools.
* Separation of Church and State – there is no requirement by the state to buss kids to school. However, if a public school offers bussing it must buss the parochial kids as well. Children are allowed to pray in school, as long as it does not disrupt anyone else. All schools still recite the Pledge of Allegiance on a daily basis. In 2013, Governor Snyder signed a law that all classrooms in all public schools must display the US flag. There is still some children that do not show the proper respect when saying the Pledge of Allegiance and teachers do not enforce this.
* Read by Grade 3 law – while this is the law, there are a lot of ways to get around it and when Covid hit and the schools closed, this was a major hit to the kids in the lower grades.
* School Standards and School Curriculum – School Standards are the “Goals” that have been set and the Curriculum is the “Plan” to achieve the “Goals”
* Cursive Writing – this is “optional”, but still taught in Alpena schools
* Social Emotional Learning – this is taught now, but was not taught in the past. Lisa mentioned this is now a huge issue in the schools where the kids are more likely to have behavior problems that in the past. In her experience, this is mainly due to experiences the kids are having at home
* Lisa mentioned it is now law that students can “Test Out” of classes if they already have the skills
* CRT – Critical Race Theory is not taught in Alpena schools
* The Covid school closure was very traumatic for all involved as it was never done before. The teachers and administrators had little time to prepare for it. At least with today’s technology, they were able to get some form on remote learning in place. Another challenge was feeding the kids who depended on the school for breakfast and lunch.
* The final topic was the state lottery. $.27 of each dollar spent on the lottery was supposed to go to the School fund. However, politicians got involved and were able to move this money into the general fund. So, there is no accurate way to really ensure that these funds are only used for schools

Break and 50/50 Drawing:

* $13.00 won by Mike Grochola

Officer and Committee Reports:

* Minutes: Mike Grochola
  + October’s minutes were submitted, Motion by Dennis Fay to approve the minutes, 2nd by Dave Wolf, All Ayes, motion passed
* Financial reports: Mike Grochola
  + Submitted October 2024 report. Motion by Dave Wolf to approve the report, 2nd by Mark Kinney, All Ayes, motion passed
  + Paid expense of $9.00 for donuts (paid cash to Mike Bugenske)
  + Paid expense of $204.00 for liability insurance for the year
  + Paid expense of $383.76 for the next 2 years of hosting the web site
  + Mike Bugenske requested that any 50/50 winnings that were donated back to the Men’s Club be placed in the Presidents Dinner fund. Mike Grochola will make this adjustment
* Project Evaluation Committee: Mike Bugenske
  + Nothing new to report
* Health and Family Committee: Bob Beres
  + Nothing new to report
* Scholarship Committee: Bart Hellmuth / Tim Lutes / Russ Kauffman
  + Nothing new to report
* Next meeting set-up:
  + Dave Wilson and Larry Fields volunteered

Old Business:

* None

New Business:

* Mike Grochola was elected to another term as Secretary and Treasurer. Motion by Mike Bugenske to nominate Mike Grochola to both positions, 2nd by Dennis Fayf, All Ayes, motion passed

Announcements:

* Rusty Kauffman just celebrated his 86th Birthday on November 3rd
* Wednesday 11/20/24 at 9 am Breakfast at the Route 65 Diner.
* Thursday 12/5/24 Monthly meeting at 9:00 am at the PIHA clubhouse.  Ashley Simpson from the Michigan State Police will speak on the topic of "MSP FIRE INVESTIGATORS ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES
* There are Presque Isle Community Men’s Club coffee mugs available for sale – see Mike Bugenske to get these limited edition mugs

Meeting adjourned at 10:40am by President Mike Bugenske