PRESQUE ISLE COMMUNITY

MEN’S CLUB

Meeting Minutes June 2, 2022 9:00 A.M.

**Opening:** Called to order 9:00 a.m. by President Mike Bugenske with 14 members in person, 1 member on Zoom, no guests

Opening Song Jay Kettler

Pledge of Allegiance Mike Bugenske

Prayer Jay Kettler

**Introduction of Newcomers and Guests:** Mike Bugenske welcomed guest speaker Olin Joynton, President of Alpena Community College 2004-2015, who now lives in Bowling Green, Kentucky

**Program:** Joynton’s presentation, entitled “Why Not Open Borders”, covered the history of US immigration including the Chinese Exclusion Act. US borders were mostly open in the 1800s and early 1900s. Around 1920, the surge of the KKK and their political power prompted some limitations to immigration. From 1921 to 1965, there were severe limits to immigration except for western Europeans. The Immigration Act of 1965 abolished the National Origin Act thus allowing those with family here to immigrate. From 2001 to 2010 the US allowed10.5 million legal immigrants per years, and1.4 million of those were deemed undocumented. During Trump’s presidency there was a travel ban of east Mediterranean citizens due to terrorism. The unintended consequence of this policy affects seasonal workers who enter then return home; when the borders are hardened, they stay illegally and raise families rather than risk being refused reentry.

So far, the wall between the US and Mexico, which is a Clinton through Trump presidency project, has cost eleven billion dollars. Border patrol costs have gone from $263 million to $4.9 billion in 2021. There were 1 million arrests in 2021, and 1 ½ million expulsions in the last six months of 2021. Labor supply and demand affects immigration as well. Immigration peaks when the economy is strong. During the Great Depression and during the mini depression in 2008 and 2009 there was little immigration due to lack of jobs. Highly skilled immigrants are overrepresented by scientists, MDs, accountants, professionals, and men (women were deterred). Thirty-seven percent of Nobel Prize winners are immigrants and 16% of high-tech firms were founded by immigrants. These immigrant-founded firms export to their own countries thus improving the balance of trade.

From 1980 to 2000, the increase in foreign-born tech, science, and math entrepreneurs had no effect on native employment; instead, they produced a 3-4% increase in overall wages in the US. Acquisition of the English language by immigrants occurred slowly as the first generations retained their native language, second generations became bi-lingual, and third generations mastered English thus advanced in graduate and professional degrees. Regarding the health of immigrants, studies show they become less healthy in the US due to lack of health insurance and, if they have health insurance, less usage of it due to religion, culture, etc. For those who claim there is an increase in crime with immigration, 1.6% of crime is caused by immigrants compared to the 3.4% national average. Conclusion: Open borders deserve a trial run.

**Break and 50/50 Drawing by Bob Beres:**  Ken Diamond won $9 which he donated to the Club

**Business Reports and Meeting Set-up:**

April Minutes presented Tim Lutes – Secretary

Reports approved as presented Dennis Fay/Harold Levy MOTION CARRIED

Financial Reports April Treasurer – Bill Fay

Report approved as presented Chuck Austin/Ken Diamond MOTION CARRIED

**Set-up for July:** Larry Fields, Tim Lutes

**Committee Reports:**

**Health and Family Committee**: Nothing to report.

**Project Evaluation Committee**: Dennis Fay reported that there was a $500 donation for the fireworks, $500 for the Wooden Boat Show, and a thank you was received from the PI Township Museum Society.

**Scholarship Committee:** Tim Lutes reported there were 5 applicants: 2 from Alpena High, 2 from Posen High, and 1 from Rogers City High. The applications are being evaluated by Tim Lutes and Rusty Kauffman.

**Program Committee**: Chuck Austin suggested the next speaker may be from PI Gas & Electric.

**Old Business:** Les Fissette was going to report on the status of the phone directory but had to leave the meeting. Toni Velat reported that the highway clean-up will be held Tuesday July 19 at 9:00 a.m. and Tuesday September 27 at 9:00 a.m.

**New Business:** Mike Bugenske announced the Fireside 500 is this weekend.

**Adjourned Meeting** at 11:00 a.m. by President Mike Bugenske

**Minutes submitted by Secretary, Tim Lutes**