PRESQUE ISLE COMMUNITY MEN’S CLUB

Meeting Minutes April 6, 2023 9:00 A.M.

**Opening:** Called to order 9:00 a.m. by Mike Bugenske with 16 members in person, 0 members on Zoom, 1 guest

 Opening Song Dennis Fay

 Pledge of Allegiance Mike Bugenske

 Prayer Mike Bugenske

**Introduction of Speakers:** Mike Bugenske introduced guest speaker Judy Burns of Friends Together

**Program:** Judy Burns, founder of Friends Together, explained the history and services provided by this non-profit organization. Judy’s involvement began 27 years ago when her daughter was diagnosed with cancer, and there was no help, no support as she and her husband dealt with this heartbreaking situation. Asking “how do you deal with fear, anger, sorrow when there is no one to talk with about it or to advise you?” led to the founding of Friends Together as doctors could do little but treat the disease. Starting out with $75, a rented room, and some non-profit work experience, Judy began Friends Together. Fundraising led to the expansion into their own office on Prentiss Street in Alpena and the offering of many services such as drivers for cancer patients, exercise programs, counseling, support groups in Alpena and Rogers City, social events, and financial support in certain cases. They are in partnership with MyMichigan Hospital as well. Judy’s leadership and participation in support groups has taken her to Rogers City every week for the past 8 years, and she has decided it is time to pass leadership on to her daughter who will soon assume responsibility as Director of Friends Together. For more information, see [www.FriendsTogetherMI.org](http://www.FriendsTogetherMI.org) or call 989-356-3231

**Break and 50/50 Drawing by Bob Beres:**  Larry Fields won $18 which he returned to the PICMC.

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

No March Minutes presented Secretary – Tim Lutes

(Secretary absent)

Financial Reports March Treasurer – Bill Fay

 Report approved as presented Larry Fields/Harold Levy MOTION CARRIED

**Set-up for June:** Tim Lutes/Larry Fields

(May will be a breakfast meeting at Route 65 Restaurant)

**Committee Reports:**

**Health and Family Committee**: No report

**Project Evaluation Committee**: Dennis Fay reported that we received a request to donate the same amount of money to the Fireside 500 that we did last year, which was $500. The Committee had approved it, Larry Fields seconded the Motion, and the membership approved the $500 donation.

**Scholarship Committee:** A discussion took place regarding the lack of scholarship applications. It was suggested that Tim Lutes or members of the Scholarship Committee write to the Superintendent of each of the school districts. The Committee is waiting for more scholarships to be received. Ken Diamond volunteered to serve on the Committee.

**Program Committee**: The June meeting will be held at the Besser Museum. A proposed program at the Temple Beth-El synagogue was discussed, but no decision was made.

**Old Business:** Les Fissette reported that the phone directory is 1/3 of the way to completion.

**New Business:** The Presque Isle Road Commission announced that road clean-up programs could begin. Tony Valade is once again in charge of this Committee.

Mike Bugenske introduced Brooke Littrup, RSVP Services Coordinator of the non-profit Northeast Michigan Community Service Agency (NEMCSA). Brooke informed the group that NEMCSA, which partners with many non-profits, needs volunteer drivers 55 and older. Free liability insurance and mileage would be paid for use of personal vehicles. For more information, please contact Brooke at 989-358-4728 or at LittrupB@NEMCSA.org

On the third Wednesday of each month, the PICMC will meet for breakfast at the Route 65 restaurant.

**Adjourned Meeting** at 10:18 a.m. by Mike Bugenske.

**Minutes submitted by Secretary, Tim Lutes**