

Rolling Thunder[®], Inc. Illinois Chapter 1 General Membership Meeting Minutes April 6, 2016

Rolling Thunder[®] Inc. Illinois Chapter 1 General Membership Meeting was called to order by Chairman of the Board Rick Montgomery at 1935 hours on April 6, 2016 at the VFW in Warrenville, IL. The membership pledged allegiance to the American flag.

Board Attendance:

Attended	Name	Position
No	Bill Sharpness (Hawk)	President
No	Dominic Ruggiero (Hard Core)	Vice-President
No	Jim Murray (Snipe)	Treasurer
No	Gary Stengler	Assistant Treasurer
Yes	Tom Woosley	Secretary
Yes	Richard Montgomery (Popeye)	Chairman of the Board
Yes	Bill Atkinson (Fall Out)	Board Member
Yes	Bill Houghtaling (B.B.)	Board Member
No	John Mikuski (Raffles)	Board Member
Yes	Dan Thomas (Cage)	Board Member
Yes	Gary Vandebos (Names)	Board Member
No	Knute Weick	Board Member
Yes	Howard "Weebles" Bushnell	Assist. Secretary/Communications
Yes	Kandice Jacobs	Assistant Secretary/Membership

2016 Events

- Apr 20 DuPage Homeless Veterans Taskforce Seminar.
- Apr 21 Veterans Job Fair at Soldier Field
- Apr 30 Giving Back Poker Run **
- May 7 Gun Bash**
- May 28 Rolling Thunder Ride for Freedom
- Jun 18 Illinois Motorcycle Freedom Run
- Jul 02 Military Appreciation Night at Kane County Cougars
- Jul 09 Remembering Our Heroes Ride **
- Jul 13 Homeless Veteran Stand Down
- Jul 23 Forest Park Vet Fest
- Jul 30 Welcome Home Vets (contact Cage for additional information)
- Aug 27 Warrior Brotherhood Vet Fest **
- Sep 11 Patriot Run - Rolling Thunder IL1**

See calendar at www.rollingthunderil1.com for additional information.

Patriot Run:

Save the date postcards for Patriot Run mailing was suggested and will be discussed at the April mid-month meeting.

Vendor applications have been updated and will be emailed to the group. Members should supply the form to vendors who have expressed interest in setting-up at Montgomery VFW and have them return it as soon as possible according to the instructions on the form.

Committee chairpersons have the responsibility of recruiting members for their areas. When members complete their obligation with one committee they should report to another committee chairperson until the event ends and all areas are cleaned and vacated. All members are expected to participate.

Gun Bash:

Ticket sales at Gander Mountain were significant. Tickets are expected to be sold out prior to the event. Gun Bash is May 7 at Fox River Harley Davidson. Notify Snipe or Names if you have unsold tickets so they may be redistributed to other members.

Veterans in Crisis:

New Veterans in Crisis billboard is up at Rt. 57, approximately 3 miles south of Rt. 80, facing east.

Veteran Assistance:

The chapter's Veteran Assistance Program has helped two veterans. An Air Force Veteran was 2 months behind in rent. The chapter provided the landlord with past due rent and convinced him to renew the veterans lease. And a Woodridge Army veteran approximately 50 years old could not work at his truck driver job after a hip replacement. His \$628 car payment was paid by the chapter.

Grants:

The chapter has applied for two grants, \$5,000 from Inland Bank and \$275,000 from a private foundation who prefers to remain anonymous. Funds from the grants would be used for 3 bathing systems with chair transports, 2 commercial washers and a 5 wheelchair van for Hines. Manteno would receive a 12 passenger van, window treatments and folding tables. We should have a determination in August.

Chapter Communication:

Errors were discovered on the tri-fold brochures and Patriot Run flyers passed out at the April 6 meeting. New brochures and flyers will be printed and distributed at a later meeting. Also discussed was the possibility of additional brochures with other content related to Rolling Thunder IL1 mission. Some suggestions included the chapter's work with Concord, Veterans in Crisis and Veterans Assistance. An invitation on each of the brochures inviting the public to attend a membership meeting was also suggested.

Presentation of a POW/MIA plaque to the town of Paris, Illinois, is tentatively scheduled for August. Additional information will be provided at a later meeting.

Shadow donated POW/MIA chair covers to the chapter.

Meeting was adjourned at 2010 hours.

Respectfully submitted,
Tom Woosley, Secretary
Rolling Thunder Illinois Chapter 1