

**MINUTES OF THE 2022
MIDWINTER PETITE PROMENADE
MANITOWOC, WISCONSIN
FEBRUARY 11TH - 12TH, 2022**

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 11TH

COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEE

Grand Chef de Gare Larry Winger called the Committee on Committee to order at 1:00 P.M. After the Salute to the Colors and Pledge of Allegiance, Chef Larry turned the chair over to the Grand Correspondant who took Roll Call. All were present.

Chairman of the Committee on Committee Joe Story read off the resolving clause of the nomination papers that were turned in. They are as follows.

Cheminot National – John Aasen
Alternate Cheminot National – Larry Winger
Grand Chef de Gare – John Edelblute IV
Grand Chef de Train – Dave Behling
Sous Grand Chef de Train – Ken Laatsch
Grand Conducteur – Melissa Guthmiller *
Grand Garde De La Porte – George Heck
Grand Commis Voyageur – None Submitted at this time
Grand Commissaire Intendant – Jim Vissers

Grand Garde de La Porte Melissa Guthmiller is in route with her nomination papers. All of the candidates discussed were all approved. **HOWEVER:** no vote can be taken until the Grande Promenade in Tomah later on this August.

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

Grand Chef de Gare Larry Winger opened the Finance Committee meeting up at 1:24 P.M. with a salute to the Colors and the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll Call was taken by the Grand Correspondant and then Grand Chef Jim turned the meeting over to Grand Commissaire Intendant Jim Vissers.

Voyageur Jim reported that our portfolio was valued at \$929,330.24. Miscellaneous expenses ran over approximately \$300.00. This was mainly due to the \$5,492.86 for the new pier at the Flowage, startup money for the National Promenade, Grande Promenade and the new Grande Voiture flag.

The Grand Correspondant informed the members present that he will be needing to purchase a new PC more than likely after the National Promenade this coming September. V. Vissers stated that there is \$1,500.00 in the budget for this expenditure.

TIME AND PLACE MEETING

Grand Chef de Gare Larry Winger called the Time and Place Committee meeting to order at exactly 2:00 P.M. Following a Salute to the Colors and the Pledge of Allegiance; the meeting was turned over to Grand Correspondant Tom Orval after a Roll Call, it was opened for such business as to come before it.

Chef de Chemin de Fer Bill Simpson was introduced. V. Orval called on a representative from Sheboygan # 1080. Grande Cabane Presidente Barb Dotzauer gave an update on the going on for the weekend.

V. Orval gave an update on the Grande Promenade & Rendezvous this summer in Tomah. It is scheduled for the 12th, 13th and 14th. Later on this afternoon there will be copies of the registration and hotel reservations to hand out.

A bid from La Crosse County Voiture # 830 for the purpose of hosting the 2023 Grande Midwinter Petite Promenade & Rendezvous. The membership was informed that there are 24 rooms downstairs at the Americalnn Hotel and 24 upstairs but they do not have an elevator. The Promenade and Rendezvous will be held at the West Salem American Legion Post # 51.

The 2024 Great Lakes Promenade was discussed. Are we going to host it? V. Dale Mitchell wants to have the Great Lakes right here at the Manitowoc Holiday Inn. V. Mitchell offered a notion to have the Great Lakes here in Manitowoc. Lots of grumbling on that notion! No one came forward to spearhead this event. No one came forward. It has to be the 1st week of June accordingly to the Great Lakes Constitution. A lot of discussion and concerns on different areas to host the event! After all of the discussions, ideas, and BS, V. John Edelblute volunteered to spearhead the 2024 Great Lakes Promenade. Barbara Dotzauer had concerns about whether we can haul in food or not. We can bring in food for the hospitality room. V. Jim Vissers let the membership know that all we have to do at this year's Great Lakes Promenade is let the Time & Place Committee know that we are committed to hosting the event.

The 2022 National Promenade & Rendezvous was next on the agenda. The Early Bird and Banquet tickets are already printed. The Program badges were shown to the membership. V. Don Emley already has ordered the Promenade pin. Questions were asked. More than likely there will not be a Children's party. This is due to covid. We will push tours to Lambeau Field, the National Railroad Museum, the many wineries and craft breweries in the area and museums. Question on having a fishing excursion. V. Emley stated that last time the water got a little rough and a few of the land lovers got pretty sea sick. Question on if those who got sick were Marines or not! The Early Bird party will be the same as last time. A free breakfast for anyone stays at the hotel. The Radisson has plenty of elevators.

The price for Ad's in the National booklet are as follows \$150, \$85, \$50, \$25 business card and boosters for \$2.

BADGER FORTY & EIGHTER COMMITTEE MEETING

Immediately following the Time & Place meeting; the Badger Forty & Eighter meeting began. L'editeur Orval needs more articles from not just the Officers and Committee Chairpersons, but from the Voiture Locales. He informed everyone about those who still own for their Ad's. They are Washington # 898, Dane # 683, Milwaukee # 1519 and the Rustic Manor.

Need articles and pictures in by the 1st of March. This is for the spring issue. With no further business to come before the Badger Forty et Eighter Committee meeting it was turned over to the Grand Chef de Gare who closed the meeting in proper 40 et 8 fashion.

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 12th, 2022

2022 MIDWINTER PETITE PROMENADE

Grand Chef de Gare Larry Winger opened the 2022 Midwinter Petite Promenade in proper order with a Salute to the Colors, Pledge of Allegiance, placing of the Alter Cloth on the Alter, placing of the POW-MIA Seat Cover, and the opening prayer by the Grand Aumonier.

Greetings and introduction by National Cheminot Jim Bassett who introduced Chef de Chemin de Fer Bill Simpson of South Carolina, Sous Chef de Chemin de Fer Joe Story of Tomahawk and Chef de Chemin de Fer Pass's Don Emley of Antigo.

Greetings were given by Sheboygan County # 1080 Chef de Gare Mark Degner. Approval of the **OFFICIAL CALL** as emailed in a recent Wisconsin Correspondants Corner. A notion was offered and seconded for approval. Carried!
Roll Call by the Grand Correspondant of the Locales was then taken.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT: Grand Commissaire Intendant Jim Vissers reported that all accounts are in line with the budget except the Grande Promenade which ran \$300 over. The dock at the Rainbow Flowage will be installed before the 40 et 8 Days at Camp. Our investment portfolio is valued at \$929,330.24. We took a hit of \$20,520.26 since the beginning of the fiscal year. Also this last month of January! There is \$13,927.99 in the checking and the Grande Voiture net worth is \$943,258.23. Notion was offered to accept the Finance Report as given. Seconded and carried.

TIME & PLACE REPORT: There was greetings and a report from Sheboygan # 1080. A report on the Grande Promenade in Monroe County # 804 hosting the Grande Promenade later this August in Tomah. It'll be August 11th – 14th. Specifics were mentioned. La Crosse County # 830 submitted a bid for the purpose of hosting the 2023 Midwinter Petite Promenade & Rendezvous in West Salem.

Many comments and concerns about where to host the 2024 Great Lakes Promenade. After much discussion, it was decided to host the event at the Radisson Hotel and Conference Center/Casino in Green Bay. V. Edelblute will spearhead the event.

A report was also given on the 2022 National Promenade & Rendezvous which will be held at the Green Bay Radisson. A notion was offered and seconded to accept the Time & Place report as presented. Carried!

CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS: Grand Correspondant Orval stated that we have received absolutely nothing from National of any other Grande Voiture's. Grand Avocat has not received anything either. Notion for acceptance! Carried!

PROGRAM DIRECTEURS REPORTS

VOITURE ACTIVITIES: V. Ken Kozubek stated that later today the Grand Correspondant will be passing out the 2022 Communique reports. As Grand Voiture Activities Directeur the last four years he is running out of things to say so just as a reminder anything two or more Voyageurs do is recordable activity. Notion for acceptance. Seconded and carried.

AMERICANISM: V. Ken Laatsch is excused due to knee replacement surgery and then his wife Beth breaks her wrist and is having surgery this coming Tuesday.

BADGER FORTY & EIGHTER: V. Orval let the membership know that the deadline for the spring edition of the Badger Forty et Eighter is March 1st. There are still three Locales that owe for their Ad and the Rustic Manor.

NATIONAL BOX CAR ASSOCIATION: Report given by V. John Aasen. He thanked Sous Directeur Jack Vissers for all of his help. V. John then gave a very detailed report on the beginning of the National Box Car Association. Notion was offered and seconded for acceptance of the Box Car Report. Carried! **NOTE:** Some of his report will be going into the next issue of the Badger Forty et Eighter magazine.

CARVILLE STAR: Report given by V. Jim Witte. He also passed around the Star Piggy Bank. V. Witte still has 2022 pins for sale. He will also take donations. He did distribute reading material on Carville Star. A notion was offered and seconded to accept the report as given. Seconded and Carried!

CHILD WELFARE: V. Eric Diekmann reported on two fires in the Grande Voiture within the last month involving children. One was in Trempealeau County and the other Monroe County is handling. Total cost is approximately \$1861.00. Please remember that you Can spend up to \$300 per child and \$1,000 per family. All 2022 Child Welfare pins have been sold. Notion was offered for acceptance of report. Seconded and carried.

CHARLES W. ARDERY FUND: Report given by V. Tom Orval. The Grande Voiture has used \$811.55 of their allotted \$5,000.00 for the fiscal year. One family has been helped this year so far. It was mentioned that another fire in La Crosse County involving 3 children but no

paperwork has been sent in. Unrestricted funds are at \$587,712.45 with restricted funds totaling \$2,040,315.85. Total Funds are at \$2,628,028.60. A notion was offered, seconded and carried for the acceptance of the report.

WISCONSIN DISASTER RELIEF: As reported by V. Vissers. The fund was established in 2009 intended to supplement the Ardery Fund once funding was used up during the fiscal year. \$100.00 per child, \$500.00 per family and \$2,000.00 per year can come out of the fund. Currently there is \$5,530.82 in the fund. V. Jim also explained the working of the oversight committee consisting of the last three surviving Grand Chef de Gares along with the Grand Correspondant and Grand Commissaire Intendant shall approve any and all expenditures.

GRAND ORGANIZER: Voyageur John Aasen stated that the Grande Voiture de Wisconsin is very organized. Notion for acceptance was offered! Seconded and carried!

NURSES TRAINING: Report given by V. Pat Sukowski. He has ordered more pins from National Directeur Ernie Lane but did not receive them as of yet. Currently there is just one Nursing student. Emma Frank. Everyone else has or are graduating this spring. Notion for acceptance of the report! Seconded and carried.

JACK D. WILSON FUND: As reported by Grand Commissaire Intendant Jim Vissers, the fund started out at \$21,795.95 as of July 1st, 2021. \$1,500.00 was spent on scholarships. Current balance is at \$20,400.95. A notion was offered, seconded to accept the report as read. Carried!

GEORGE B. BOLAND FUND: V. Orval stated that 6 actual applications were submitted and 4 scholarships were given out totaling \$3,500.00. Between restricted and unrestricted funds the total is at \$1,281,472.35. Notion was offered and seconded for acceptance of the report. Carried!

POW-MIA: Grand Directeur Jim Bassett informed the membership that the program of the 40 & 8 is the POW-MIA Survivors Scholarship Fund. This program provides scholarships to the descendants of POWs and MIAs. V. Bassett has danglers, bolo ties, and some of the ties on hand. The program also accepts donations. He will also take merchandise orders by email or snail mail. Notion offered for acceptance. Seconded and carried.

PUBLIC RELATIONS: V. Orval spoke on the Blue Chevaliers Project. Questions were asked about where does the money actually go. It was explained. A signup sheet was sent around. Only V. Orval signed up. Notion for acceptance of the report! Seconded and carried.

RITUAL: Report was given by V. Orval. V. Bradley was in attendance on Friday but had to leave due to a family matter. A reminder of the Birthday Celebration of the 40 et 8. Also the Calvin Kane Memorial Service on or around Memorial Day. Both are included in the Blue Ritual and Manual of Ceremonies. Can your Locale form a Color Guard for competition in Green Bay during the National Promenade. Notion was offered for acceptance. Seconded and carried.

SPCECIAL AWARDS: Report was given by V. Ron Pfalzgraf. Last year only two applications for Voyageur of the Year and one for Law Officer of the Year! V. Ron then spoke on the criteria for going about selecting winners from your respective area on applicants. Notion was offered and seconded for acceptance of this report. Carried!

VAVS: Directeur Mitchell spoke on a number of topics to include making sure when you volunteer at a VA to mark your time. Only himself and Gerry Scalissi mark their time at the Middleton VA. The 40 et 8 needs to have a 75% presence in VA's to keep our seat on the National VAVS Board. Notion for acceptance. Seconded and carried.

VAVS MILWAUKEE: V. Edelblute stated that at the Milwaukee Zablocki thing are going as well as can be expected. He has not yet been allowed back in to volunteer. He does sit in on the monthly hospital Directors meetings to get current updates. Working of the Keep Those Wheelchairs Rolling contest to receive money for mounted phone and tablet stations in the Emergency Department.

The change in the title from VAVS to Civic Engagement and Resources has started. Notion and seconded for acceptance! Carried.

TOMAH VA: V. George Bloom reported that the Tomah VA was awarded \$600 for aquariums in the halls. Supposed to be soothing to the mind and soul. As far as totals between himself and V. Don Trill who unfortunately passed away recently; they had a total of 791 hours registered at the Tomah VA. 21,147 miles driven and assisting VETS at 487 hours. Notion was offered for acceptance of his report. Seconded and carried!

YOUTH SPORTS: Directeur Matt McCallson was excused due to working.

A 15 minute break was declared.

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS REPORT

KING DAY: Chairman Jim Vissers reported that the Committee that plans King Day normally meets the end of February. The way things are going with the pandemic Jim suspects that it will again be cancelled due to concerns with the patients. Notion for acceptance. Seconded and carried!

CAMP AMERICAN LEGION CONSULTANT: John Helgeson said that the 2022 Camp schedule has not yet been posted. A new program of sponsoring a Vet for \$500 was explained. Camp Wish List – new bed sheets for twin, Queen and Full-size mattresses, a 20 volt cordless drill set, solar lights for walkways, plus many other cleaning items. John also spoke on the ongoing projects at the Camp.

FORTY AND EIGHT DAYS AT CAMP: Chairman Tom Orval gave an update on the 53rd Forty et Eight Days at Camp. It will take place on June 23rd – 26th. The Friday picnic along with the Bean Bag tournament, wineries in Three Lakes, the Camp pontoon rides, and Saturday morning fishing tournament! Saturday afternoon at the Rainbow Flowage, etc. Notion was offered for acceptance. Seconded and carried.

REPORT OF THE FOUR AREA CHEMINOT

Dave Behling gave a report on different areas in Wisconsin which were a bit confusing. Pat Young was excused due to his brothers passing. Ray Pasbrig was excused due to vehicle problems. V. Jim Vissers gave an update on his region which is the 6th 8th and 9th Districts. V. John Helgeson also gave an update on the 10th 11th and 12th Districts.

RECESS

REPORT OF THE GRAND OFFICERS

Grand Correspondant	Tom Orval
Grand Avocat	John Helgeson
Grand Commissaire Intendant	Jim Vissers
Grand Historian	Dale Mitchell
Grand Aumonier	Ray Kline
Cheminot National	Jim Bassett
Alternate Cheminot National	John Aasen
Grand Commis Voyageur	George Heck
Grand Garde de La Porte	Melissa Guthmiller
Grand Conducteur	Ken Laatsch Read by the Grand Chef Larry
Grand Sous Chef de Train	Dave Behling
Grand Chef de Train	John Edelblute IV
Grand Chef de Gare	Larry Winger

OLD BUSINESS: There were approximately \$65.00 collected for numerous fines.

NEW BUSINESS: Chef de Chemin de Fer was called upon for any words he would like to make. He'll wait until the banquet this evening.

GOOD OOF THE GRANDE: On March 6 is the Richland County #1268 Pancake & Sausage Breakfast in Richland Canter. Banquet this evening is at 6:00 P. M.

With no further business to come before this Grande Midwinter Petite Promenade, it was closed in proper Forty et Eight manner with the removal of the POW-MIA seat cover, alter cloth, closing prayer Voyageurs catechism and a salute to the colors.

Thomas J. Orval
Grand Correspondant
Grande Voiture de Wisconsin