

A4TH Board Meeting April 7, 2018

Call to Order: 12:02PM

Attendance: Tim Mayer, President; Rick Chrabaszewski, Treasurer; George Kamps, VP; Jim Hubbard, Secretary; Darryl Johnson, Director

President's report:

January:

- A4TH received \$25,000 from Wisconsin Dept. of Veterans Affairs
- Tim spoke at DAV Chapter Oshkosh and received \$250 donation.
- Oneida Nation veterans are being served with a new program at the Oneida facilities in Green Bay on a monthly basis. RRPMV focused but specifically for Oneida Nation veterans.

February:

- A funding proposal was completed and submitted to Bemis Corp's Fdtn.
- **Art as a Tool for Healing**, A4TH's newest program was started at St. Norbert Abbey with nine attendees.
- Tim spoke at Omro Legion Post 234 and received a \$500 donation.

March:

- Tim met with executive director of The Weidner Center in Green Bay, to discuss a possible art exhibit. Decision is pending following discussion during our board meeting.
- Tim met with the director of the Wisconsin Veterans Home at Union Grove homeless program which is operated by The Veterans Assistance Foundation a non-profit org. The site director's name is Melissa Taggart. That meeting focused on starting A4TH's program at the Home. Tentative date is April 19th for start-up. Tim is awaiting a return email from Ms. Taggart.
- Tim met with Tom Boldt of Boldt Construction on March 21st regarding some support for A4TH. 45-minute meeting means there is potential here.
- Tim appeared on Noon News with Kevin Rompa of WBAY Channel 2 and Tony Pichler, Exec. Dir. of St. Norbert Abbey's Center for Spirituality promoting Art as a Tool for Healing and the Center for Spirituality.
- Tim has purchased a new portable easel and had nine (9) representative pictures from participants in the RRPMV program laminated as part of the presentation that Tim takes with him to show potential funders and others when he describes what A4TH does with its RRPMV program.

April:

- It seems appropriate to postpone our fundraiser at Irish Waters scheduled for May 19th. There have been problems with confirming a band and with Packer player/alumni. Consideration of hiring a marketing firm, Rooted, which is in De Pere, is underway. Nicole Gosz is Rooted's representative. Notification of all other individuals involved with the fundraiser to let them know of the decision to postpone is underway. It is too close to the event's date and because there has been no confirmation from the Packers on any player/alumni who would be willing to attend, no confirmation from the band, to risk a negative impact to A4TH. Since we have not done any promotion or advertising for the event it seems appropriate to regroup and select a new date at least six months from the present time. Oshkosh Defense has shown a willingness to maybe help fund/sponsor the event and we will keep that relationship open for whatever our future event may be.
- Tim spoke at Appleton American Legion Post 38 on April 2, following which they gave A4TH a \$250 donation.
- Tim spoke with U.S. Congressman Gallagher and two of his aides on April 2 explaining the work of A4TH and its long-term plan to train others to use our RRPMV program at other VA facilities. This 45-minute conversation gave us increased exposure with the Congressman and future meetings are being planned to see what support may be available to A4TH.

May:

- Tim will be speaking at the Oshkosh Legion Post on May 21st.

Vice-President's report:

- Transition from the RRPMV program to Art as a Tool for Healing at St. Norbert Abbey is going well.

Treasurer's report:

- Bank balances as of 3.31.18: Savings: \$14,911.63 Checking: \$3,343.24
- IRS Form 990 for 2017 is almost ready for submission as required for all non-profits

Secretary's report:

- Assistance provided to the President with respect to fundraising documents being submitted to potential funders.
- Maintain up-to-date statistics of all group sessions for both the Return & Recovery Program and the new Art as a Tool for Healing.

Old Business:

- Fundraising events for the remainder of the year continue to be developed including a golf outing in the Fall and a ‘separate’ non-golf event of the type planned for May 19th that was just postponed.
- Art as a Tool for Healing is getting good exposure and Tim has purchased and distributed posters and flyers prepared by Instaprint of Appleton around the Green Bay area promoting the program held the third Thursday of each month at St. Norbert Abbey’s Center for Spirituality.

New business:

- The Board accepted the resignation of board member Jennifer Thomas with expressions of great appreciation for her individual contributions to A4TH’s success over her almost ten years of service. A letter recognizing that service will be prepared and sent to her.
- Tim advised the Board of his belief that the organization needs to hire or utilize as contractors at least two (2) part-time contributors to the work of A4TH. One for sure will need to be trained to conduct/facilitate group sessions of both the RRPMV and AAATFH programs if we are ever to position the organization to expand the number of group sessions held beyond those that Tim can do personally. The second employee may also be able to do some group session facilitation but would be asked to do admin work maybe one day per week in order to allow Tim to spend time meeting with and presenting A4TH and its programs to key potential funders. (Tim acknowledged that more funds must be raised to make adding staff a feasible action by A4TH.)

Motion to adjourn was received and approved at 1:00PM

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Hubbard, Treasurer