

THE ROOSEVELT MILITARY ACADEMY ROUGH RIDER ASSOCIATION, INC.
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

BY CONFERENCE CALL- 03 APRIL 2012

Attending: J Gwynne, President - Yes
G. Feitler, Secretary / Treasurer - Yes
R. Fritz, Immediate Past President - Yes
R. Kramer, Reunion and Paver Chair -Yes

Mr. Gwynne called the meeting to order at 18:00 CST

Minutes of the Previous Meeting:

The minutes of the meeting of 06 March 2012 have been circulated by email to all the attendees. They are approved as written.

Committees:

Memorial Committee: Mr. Gwynne has prepared a report on his, Mr. Jutkins and Mr. Kramer's visit to Aledo, his report (Recap of March 19 2012 Visit to Aledo.docx) is included herein by reference.

Paver Sales Committee: Two in so far, now up to 94.

2012 Reunion Committee: Mr. Feitler reported that he had received another reservation yesterday.

Mr. Kramer reported receiving a quote on the video taping from Tom Hardan, quoting \$500 for the dedication service and the banquet - and \$25 per copy. Mr. Harden is a reporter from the Aledo Times-Record – the Board thinks Mr. Harden's bid is the best and we'll accept it. We will order three or four copies from him.

The Reunion needs additional publicity the following ideas were discussed:

Should we create another newsletter featuring the reunion? Use monthly emails for push on the newsletter?

We will do one or two page letter twice to everybody and multiple emails featuring the Reunion, the election, and the pavers. Start with a list of items we can put in the emails, and spread the items across the emails. Mr. Gwynne and Mr. Kramer will prepare the letters and Mr. Fritz will distribute. We can add some pictures from prior reunions in the emails or link into the web site.

Membership Committee: As it is now the 1st of April, the 2011 members will be dropped from the roster notations and should be dropped from the web site listings.

Roster Committee: Mr. Vagi has provided the Board members with updated rosters prior

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the meeting.

Elections Committee: Mr. Feitler will coordinate notices to members with Mr. Bogus as soon as the by-law amendments are ready for posting the on web site.

Treasurer's Report:

Mr. Feitler has emailed the March fiscal report to the Board.

The Treasurer reported that as of 3/31/2012 we had \$ 9, 210 in our bank accounts.

Unfinished Business:

1. DVD's of speeches and recruiting film: Mr. Gwynne reports he his working on having all of the available media consolidated and perhaps made available through the quartermaster for distribution.
2. Special projects with the Aledo administration on the following ideas:
 - a. The Roosevelt tree
 - b. The remaining buildings of the Academy.
 - c. Sign – historical marker – on highway into Aledo to mark home of RMA.
Mr. Gwynne has contacted Mr. Jutkins and invited him to Aledo this spring (see new business) and try to cover these items also. There may be governmental help on the buildings if the city can write a proposal with our help. See note on grant in last newsletter. Mr. Gwynne will handle.
 - d. T R Memorial.

FEB Mr. Gwynne, Mr. Kramer and Mr. Jutkins are scheduled to meet with the people in Aledo in March and have set up an agenda covering the items in question.

Mr. Gwynne will send an agenda before the March meeting, including a list of possible invitees to the reunion dinner and Aledo presentations.

MAR Mr. Gwynne has circulated his agenda and the list of possible invitees to the banquet. The Board went into executive sessions to discuss the invitees as these minutes become publicly available and a non-invitee may object.

The list was reviewed and the committee will meet prior to the visit to Aledo and discuss the agenda.

Mr. Gwynne will prepare notices of various projects for posting on the web site along with verbiage changes and submit to Mr. Fritz to update the web site.

APR Mr. Gwynne has prepared a report on his, Mr. Jutkins and Mr. Kramer's visit to Aledo, his report is included herein by reference (Recap of March 19 2012 Visit to Aledo.docx).

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NEW BUSINESS:

We have pop ups on the web forum page which are from the people that service that portion of our site. They provide the service for free and this is how they obtain payment for their services. Mr. Fritz advises that they will discontinue the pop-ups for a fee of \$29 per year. Michael Vagi has generously offered to make a contribution to the Association to offset the expense. The Board is delighted to accept Mr. Vagi's offer.

Mr. Feitler has prepared amendments to the by-laws to be presented to the membership in August. He will distribute them in the coming week and would appreciate a response from the Board members so we can have a resolution on them in May and post them as recommended by the Board in anticipation of circulating election notices in May and /or June.

Rick and Glen Millikan want to donate flags to the museum in Aledo, but they need preservation first. Jack is going to suggest Rick work with a preservationist in Aledo about this.

Next meeting is called for 18:00 CDT, 1 May, 2012.

The meeting was adjourned at 18:50 CDT.



Recap of Visit to Aledo, Illinois

Monday March 19, 2012

Summary:

On Monday March 19, 2012, members of the Rough Rider Association met with various individuals in Aledo, Illinois. The purpose of this business trip was to orientate key business leaders, project managers and potential suppliers. The activities included a working business lunch, introductions with the new President of the Chamber, visits to the Aledo Armed Forces Memorial and RMA Campus.

Key Attendees, Contacts and Purpose:

Dave Duncan -	VP Mercer Historical Society Museum	Update on Artifacts and Projects
Nick Seefeld	Detective and Project Manager	Update on Paver/Brick Sales
Cynthia Dove	Director Economic Development	Update on Statue and Buildings
Harvey Ponder	Certified Memorialist	Lacky Monuments – Jutkins Statue
Tarah Sipes	Project Manager-Historian Campus	Federal Funding - Assessment
Brian Zimmerman	Certified Installer	Lacky Monuments – Jutkins Statue
Ken Jutkins	Project Consultant	RMA Memorial
Ronn Jutkins	Project Manager	RMA Memorial
Bob Kramer	Project Manager	RMA Reunion/Brick Paver Sales
Jack Gwynne	President of Association	Facilitator
Other Key Contacts:		
Tony Holtschlag	New President of Aledo Chamber	Update on Reunion and Projects
Bob Blackford	Aledo Times Record	Update on Reunion and Projects
James Taylor	WRMJ News/Sports Director	Interview on Projects
Bill Breeden	Mayor of Aledo	Review Complete Agenda
12 Members of the City Council	Aledo City Government	Review Complete Agenda
Cliff Anderson	Joy Resident	RMA Memorabilia

Objectives:

During our working lunch with the key attendees and contacts we conducted multiple discussions on the plans for the 2012 reunion, expanded sales effort for brick pavers, construction and logistics of erecting a bronze and granite RMA memorial, transferring key artifacts from the Association to the museum and an overview of the process to obtain federal grant funding to assess the remaining campus buildings.

Mr. Kramer led the discussions with the City of Aledo Representatives and Project Manager on the brick paver sales and 2012 reunion plans, time table and logistics. Mr. Jutkins conducted an in depth project review with the City of Aledo Representatives and Lacky Monuments.

Mr. Gwynne discussed with a member of the museum the planned transfer of artifacts after the reunion and the Project Manager for the Campus Assessment on launching the initial steps and forms filing to determine if federal funds might be available.

Proceeding with RMA Statue Memorial will require approval by the city and pursuit of federal funds will be determined after the Project Manager, Tarah Sips, receives information from the City of Aledo. Once there has been an inventory of 'what has been' surveyed by the City, Tarah will then determine if further pursuit for federal funds is warranted.

Tarah will be exploring options with the Illinois Association of Historic Preservation Commission (IAHPC) and the Moline Association Foundation to evaluate feasibility of an endowment that may support preservation of the buildings. Tarah will also contact Mike Jackson, Deputy State preservation Officer to help navigating the 'red tape' and who has a direct relationship with Aledo Main Street.

There is a timeline that influences the process as it relates to when 'speculators' may have access to the property through a 'tax buying' process. August will be the time where individuals may pursue acquiring the property out of the hands of the owners through leveraging the tax liability and gaining the property before action may be taken by the City or the Association.

The Association has not expressed an interest in buying the property as the liability and maintenance is well beyond the resources nor has the membership ever expressed an interest. The role of the Association is primary to support the process to obtain federal funding to 'assess' the feasibility to restore or demolish and if a benefit, work with the city and our non-profit status. In every case, the board would examine the feasibility of any action.

The process has multiple steps and the outcome is yet to be determined. Our end game is conducting a due diligence and conduct appropriate inquires to obtain a grant for a campus assessment on whether the buildings are eligible for rehabilitation or demolition.

Subsequent to the working lunch:

We contacted Cliff Anderson in Joy to determine if he has memorabilia from RMA and he reported that he has yet to unpack a number of containers in his barn to ascertain if he has items for the Association.

We were approached by James Taylor of Radio Station MRMJ in Aledo for an interview on the Projects and he published that interview on his radio station alerting Aledo residents of the various projects. James also has an RMA Red Football Helmet in his possession and will deliver it to the Association at the reunion in August.

The Association paid a visit to the new President of the Aledo Chamber of Commerce, Tony Holtschlag and introduced the Association and the reunion plans. Mr. Holtschlag expressed his support for the Association and wanted to be included in further discussions that would help him prepare the City for the reunion. The precise next steps are unclear; however Mr. Holtschlag is a willing advocate and supporter of the Association.

Meeting with City Council:

The actual meeting with the City Council was from 1815 to 1845 and we followed the following agenda:

Agenda for Visit to Aledo – 6:15 to 6:45 PM

1. Roosevelt Military Academy Association Introductions
 - a. Ronn Jutkins – Class of 1953 – Project Manager, Bob Kramer -1965 – Project Manager, Jack Gwynne – 1966 - President
2. Project Review from Ronn Jutkins, class of 1953:
 - a. Status of the Roosevelt Military Academy Memorial
 - b. High Level Summary of Statue Project
 - Project Handout Review - Deliver Project Plan to City Council
 - ✓ Location/Dimensions/Reveals/Vendors/Suppliers/Costs/Funding/Time
3. Association Project Review by Jack Gwynne:
 - a. New Learning's from Tarah Sipes on Brownfield Grants
 - Historic Preservation Process - Campus
 - b. Promotion and Seeking of Project Managers for:
 - Disposition of Campus and Partner with Tarah Sipes
 - ✓ Legal Council from Association - TBD
 - Persevering the Roosevelt Tree
 - Signage for RMA and Aledo – Stephan Muller Aledo Streets
4. Roosevelt Military Academy Artifacts – Update by Jack Gwynne
 - a. Discussion with Bill Bertrand - Mercer County Historical Society
 - b. Museum Capacity and Access
 - c. Association Historian visit
5. Aledo Armed Forces Memorial – Update by Bob Kramer
 - a. Sales effort through Newsletter
 - b. Sales effort on Rough Rider Website
 - c. Targeted sales effort with RMA Widows and Family
 - d. Reunion Registration Sales Effort
6. Roosevelt Military Academy Reunion Planning – Update by Bob Kramer
 - a. Dates of Reunion
 - b. Location Reunion
 - c. Reunion Agenda and Guest Invitations

The Association is still searching for Project Managers to lead several projects and this continues to slow the progress in several areas.

A renewed effort will be communicated in the April Message from the President which will be posted on the website in the near future.