

## **SOUTHPORT GUN CLUB, Inc.**

Monthly Meeting  
October 13, 2015

### Attendance:

Tom Becker, Ken Normandy, Bill Means, Scott Lauder, Steve Close, Nick Kasemeotes, Beau Bosovich, Jim Conte, seven regular members, and one candidate.

### Opening – Tom Becker:

Tom called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

### Secretary's report – Scott Lauder:

Scott read the minutes for the September meeting. The minutes were approved as read.

### Treasurer's report – Bill Means:

Bill reported that we have a balance of approximately \$14,715 of which \$10,000 is liquid assets. We have outstanding obligations totaling \$6,380 including \$5,000 for the resurfacing of the parking lot. Bill indicated that he will be setting up a new account to place \$50 of the initiation fee from new members into a savings account.

### Membership report – Steve Close:

Steve reported that we have eighty-nine regular members and nine senior members for a total of ninety-eight members. We have collected \$1,360 in dues. Dues credits were applied for members who engaged in cleaning and repair activities at the clubhouse and range.

Steve is seeking contact information for Eric Hill who has moved. Steve is unable to contact him and is seeking assistance so we can keep his membership current.

Denise Lundquest was at the meeting for her first reading. She is sponsored by Tom Brodsko. Denise lives in Waukegan and is a retired nurse and pharmaceutical research consultant. She has been a pistol shooter since 2012 and is a lifelong hunter and rifle shooter. She is willing to help around the range with cleaning and repairs when necessary. She is not currently an NRA member but will join before the next meeting. Denise was invited to the November meeting for her second reading.

Roy Benson is interested in joining the club and is sponsored by Beau Bosovich; however, due to work conflicts, he was unable to attend the meeting. Tom requested that an exception be made for Roy to attend only the second reading. The request was approved by the membership. As reported by Beau, Roy is an avid pistol shooter, works for Four Quad Printing and lives in Bristol WI. Roy is invited to the November meeting for his second reading.

### Communications – Tom Becker:

Tom reported that Friends of the NRA Banquet was well attended. Southport Masters had most of three tables and won several prizes.

Aaron Stempeck reported for Jon Speck on the proposed Juniors Program. We have seven youth signed up for Saturdays for the Juniors program. We have also invited the Union Grove rifle team to join us for Saturday practice.

Aaron reported on the Southport Masters rifle team activities. The Fall Gallery league has begun. Practice will continue in preparation for the Mid-States Postal League to be concluded in January 2016.

Bill Means indicated that the Fall Pistol league was underway. He is currently posting weekly results on the bulletin board.

Nick Kasemeotes reported on the upcoming Oktoberfest competitions (Pistol on Friday and Saturday, Sporter Rifle on Sunday). He expects the regular Pistol Match range officers to assist but may need additional volunteers.

Nick also reported that the NRA Sectional will be held in January and information will be available after the completion of Oktoberfest.

Bill Means reported that he is working with the Pleasant Prairie Post Office to get all of our mail forwarded to our new PO Box and to set up electronic notification of the address change.

Bill also reported that our telephone bill has dramatically increased. It is due to us being on a "month-to-month" billing agreement which can be reduced to \$45 per month with a yearly contract. After minimal discussion it was agreed to move to a yearly contract. Bill will also explore internet access for the range.

Beau Bosovich reported that we had two Hunter Education classes with a total of 19 participants. Beau reported that the participants returned \$85 in donations to the club.

#### Maintenance – Tom Becker:

Tom reported that Todd Ogren has agreed to assume the duties of Maintenance Chairperson. Tom asked the club's officers to approve the appointment. Todd was approved by unanimous vote of the Executive Committee. Todd was unable to attend the meeting, Tom continued the maintenance report.

Aaron Stempek presented a bid for \$3900 to resurface the parking lot. He was instructed to proceed with the bid but to work around the leagues if possible. Should it become necessary to close the range, Aaron will notify Tom of the dates and times.

#### Status of Maintenance projects:

- The new Southport Masters sign is starting to warp, Ken Normandy indicated that he would get it fixed.
- Bill Bock installed a new TV antenna; however, the converter box will not work with the existing TV. It was suggested that we purchase and install a flat screen TV.
- Bill Means indicated that he has a DVD player that he will donate to the club for training purposes
- OPEN PROJECTS
  - Power wash walls in range area
  - Paint range walls and floor
  - Reseal range and clubhouse floors

- Back room clean-up, will require rental of dumpster
- Replace missing or damaged ceiling tiles
- Cover back vertical area of suspended bullet baffel

Rental – Tom for Tony DelFrate:

Tony is still screening potential tenants. He has listed the house on Craig's List.

The carpeting has been replaced and the walls are painted. There is still a lingering pet odor. Tony will try to get it eliminated prior to rental.

Todd has replaced four windows and will replace the remaining windows on a rotating basis until all damaged windows are replaced.

Jim Conte has agreed to mow the rental property lawn until a new tenant is found.

Old Business:

Scott Lauder reported that we have one new NRA Sign-up.

Nick reported that we have not had any new purchases for Club Jackets. He suggested that we might want to offer vests or other apparel. Nick will check into the cost of these items and report back in November.

Bill Means reported on the Executive Committee meeting to discuss IRS Tax Exempt status. The board met on October 6, 21015 (minutes attached) and after Bill's summary of a discussion with Peter Walsh, a tax attorney, concluded that it was not in our best interest to pursue 503c status at this time. We will be talking with an accountant to determine if we must file a federal tax form. Bill stated that we file with the Wisconsin Department of Revenue as a Wisconsin Tax Exempt corporation. Bill will report back at a future meeting about our federal tax obligations.

New Business:

Scott reported about an email he received from NRA Clubs announcing application for annual awards. There are four award categories and we might qualify for one of them. The award includes \$1000.00 to the club, a free range evaluation from the NRA and a free year of membership. Tom asked Scott to fill out the application.

Announcements:

No Announcements.

Closing:

Tom adjourned the meeting at 8:10 pm

Respectfully submitted:

Scott Lauder  
Secretary  
Southport Gun Club

## **SOUTHPORT GUN CLUB, Inc.**

Executive Committee Meeting

October 6, 2015

### Attendance:

Tom Becker, Ken Normandy, Bill Means, and Scott Lauder

### Opening – Tom Becker:

Tom called the meeting to order at 6:10 pm. Tom stated that the purpose of the meeting was to discuss USA Tax Exempt status for the club.

### Tax Exempt Status

Bill Means summarized his discussion with attorney Peter Walsh who was instrumental in obtaining 501c status for several gun clubs in southeastern Wisconsin. After sharing our financial and charter documents with Mr. Walsh, Mr. Walsh asked Bill why we wanted the status because as far as Mr. Walsh could determine it would be more effort than we would gain from the process. Mr. Walsh suggested that we continue in the same manner that we have been for the past several years.

The discussion then turned to IRS form 990 which requires all 501 designated organizations to list all donors and officers. In our case, that would include all members as well as the officers. There was some discussion about which of the several versions of 990 that we would be required to file yearly and the information was available to the public. The consensus of the executive committee was that this is not information we want publicly available.

Tom Becker reviewed the purpose of obtaining 501c status for the club (i.e. for Southport Masters to become eligible for Wisconsin Friends of the NRA grants). Tom reported that the grants were administered by the NRA and for very specific purposes or to put on specific events that we would be required to follow. None of these purposes or events were something that the club is currently doing nor is it something we want to institute on an annual basis. Tom concluded that since we are not interested in these events there was not a need to obtain 501c status at this time.

After a brief discussion by the committee members, it was determined that there was not an advantage to the club or its members to obtain tax exempt status with the IRS.

### Tax Liability

Since it was decided not to pursue federal IRS tax exempt status for the club, the discussion turned to determining what our tax liability was. After brief discussion it was decided to contact the two club members who are CPAs to determine if they could help us understand what our tax liability was. Tom indicated that he would contact them and report back to the Executive Committee and eventually to the club membership of their determination. If for some reason, neither of the two club members could provide guidance in this area, we would contact an accountant who is versed in this area.

### Closing:

Tom adjourned the meeting at 6:45 pm

Respectfully submitted:

Scott Lauder  
Secretary  
Southport Gun Club