



June 16, 2018

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Brandon Vorthmann Speaks

Brandon Vorthmann spoke to the Treynor Optimists on June 16 about the life of a school board member. He worked five years at Treynor State Bank and now is farming full time and has a custom fertilizer business. He is married to Mindee and has four kids and three grandkids. Two kids have graduated and two are in the Treynor school system.



Brandon Vorthmann, Supt Lou Howell

Even though his dad was a long-time board member, Brandon never wanted to run, but was approached by several and decided he could offer a rural perspective as well as some new ideas. He was elected in September 2017.

The board member's role as stated in the board policy is to do what is best for all students in the school district. They are not involved in the day to day operation, but develop policy. The very thick policy book (maybe 10-12") is to be reviewed every five years, but going forward the board will review a fifth every year. Brandon stated that he spends 10-20 hrs./month in preparation, responding to emails, and in meetings.

Two big business items in the next school year will be the building project and seeking a new superintendent to begin work July 1, 2019.

Brandon serves on the Facilities and Transportation Committees. On questionable weather days, he gets up early to drive the roads with the Superintendent. It is tough to make the call. A memory was shared by Gary Gutttau when he was a teenager in the 50's of the bus holding 12 kids being stranded at Brandon's grandparents. Being the oldest, Gary helped out with chores, the kids were fed well, and they sang around the piano in the evening. They were there more than one night!

Vorthmann states he is still learning about the different pools of money for expenditures. A new analytical software allows the school to make financial projections and compare with other schools.

A board policy states that half of the board member's time is to be spent on education. At every board meeting there is a presentation "All about the Learning" by students, teachers, etc to help keep the board members informed about the education of the students. Board members are also reading a book, Right Drivers for Education, and spend 15 minutes discussing at meetings.

Other topics discussed were the new bus mechanic and the need for drivers, the new curriculum process, the new process of continuing to improve teachers' educational skills, the new bleachers, teacher positions to be filled, and salaries.

Meeting Minutes

Keith Denton called the meeting to order. After the pledge of allegiance, Dee Gutttau said the prayer.

For bragging rights, Kevin Underwood contributed because his sister Marsha had met a very nice officer on the road. Marsha also contributed. Lou Howell paid \$1 because of the traffic ticket jokes shared. Judy Gutttau donated to state that she and Mick had taken a special #6 trip to DC with #6 grandchild, Dane this week. She stated that the FBI Building (the FBI Experience) is now open

to visitors, not having been open since 9/11. Also the new Museum of the Bible, especially the Old and New Testament multi-media presentations were very impressive.

155 Flags were put up this week and will remain up until July 5. Helpers were Dale Willenborg, Gary Gutttau, Owen Wells, Ken Graham, Chad Gutttau, Bill and Ann Vorthmann and James Vandevanter.



Gary Gutttau & grandson, Owen Wells

Can Kennel helpers with the St. Paul Youth Group were Gary Gutttau, Gary Funkhouser, Dee Gutttau, Chad Gutttau, Ken Graham, and Kirk Vorthmann.

Marsha Underwood won the 50/50 drawing. Jeff Jorgensen won the attendance drawing but was not present. There were no anniversaries or birthdays.

Business discussed was that Donna Collins had called to ask the Optimists to help with Bingo at 2:00 next Saturday during Treynor Days. She also asked the Optimists to conduct the 50/50 raffle. Lou Howell and Gary Gutttau have volunteered to help. Further clarification is needed about Bingo. (Are the Optimists assisting the Legion? Prizes?)

Gary Gutttau told about Jerry Lustgraaf reading a paper at the Legion meeting, written by Chandler

Koester, which he received from Bob Beattie. This paper was one she had written in high school about the naming of the Lamar Hartje Legion Post. Based off letters written home, Lamar was the youngest petty officer to serve. He was killed in Corregidor.

Even though Treynor Days is next weekend, the Optimists will meet as usual at 8 AM Saturday.

Optimist Club meetings run from 8-9 AM each Saturday morning at the Treynor Community Building (Legion Room). The coffee is always on and donuts are served (and sometimes breakfast)! Come join us for fun, fellowship, and interesting programs!

A Thought

You can give without loving, but you cannot love without giving.

Calendar

- June 23 2:00 Bingo Treynor Days
- June 23 3:00 Hydrant Spraying Party

Birthdays

- June 16 Dale Willenborg
- June 20 Jeff Jorgensen

Anniversaries

- June 28 Mick & Judy Gutttau
- June 29 Dave & Linda Danker

Programs

- June Lou Howell
- July Ann Vorthmann (first 2 weeks)
- July Chuck Nielsen (last 2 weeks)

Speakers

- June 23 Cory Young & Marcia Lippert, Life of of a School Nurse
- June 30 Becky Thompson, Heather Kellar, and Erin Mrsny: STEM? What's That?
- July 7 Travis Castle, President Vision Treynor, Update on organization and plans to begin construction
- July 14 Julie Buckelew, Chest Pain Coordinator, Methodist Jennie Edmundson, Care of Cardiac Patient