

NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
RETIREES ASSOCIATION, INC.
WEST TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08629

MINUTES OF MEETING

The June meeting of the New Jersey Department of Transportation Retirees Association, Inc. (DOTRA) was held on Tuesday, June 6, 2017, at Tessara Restaurant. After establishing a quorum was present, the meeting was called to order at 11:07 AM by President Clint Griggs with the Pledge of Allegiance following. The following were in attendance:

Joe Bodnar	Lou Papp	Dot Andres	John Rainiero
Andrea Mansfield	Donna Troiano	Bob Miller	Mike Eckel
Janis Stia	Frank Stia	Jay Johnston	Clinton Griggs
Frank Palise			

These members were absent: Gerry Sellner, Peter Yull, Frank Herrera and Bruce Strickland. Jim Dixon attended as a volunteer.

The minutes of the 5/02/2017 meeting were received and approved as distributed. The motion to approve the minutes was made by Mike Eckel and seconded by Bob Miller. The motion passed.

TREASURER'S REPORT: The Treasurer's report for April 2017 was given by Lou Papp. Balance as of 4/30/17 is \$14,024.26 including \$4,313.61 in the checking account. A move to accept the report, pending audit, was made by Frank Stia and seconded by Joe Bodnar. The motion passed.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT: Janis Stia reported that there were no new membership applications received during May and there were 5 renewals received with 2 people paying for 2 years. The total received was \$70.00. Janis suggested that we subscribe to a search site in order to locate the DOT retirees from the list provided by the human resource office of the DOT. Frank will research a few sites. Andrea Mansfield distributed a sample letter that can be used to encourage recent retirees to join DOTRA. Dot Andres suggested that we use the upcoming luncheon as an opportunity to ask attendees to re-confirm their own contact information and to look over the retirees list for any one they are acquainted with. We were also reminded that it is time to purge those who have not paid dues for over 3 years. We will put a final reminder in the DOTLine mailing.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Nominating Committee –Joe Bodnar reported that he contact all Board members whose term expires in 2017 to confirm that they will stay on the Board. Peter Yull has resigned from the Board. Frank Herrera will not be returning for another term. Joe asked several Board members to adjust their term expiration date so that we have an equal number of Board members in each year. Franny Davis will be asked if she would like to join the DOTRA Board, since she expressed interest earlier this year. The full list of fifteen Board members for 2017-2018 will be announced at the luncheon on June 13 and Joe will e-mail it to all Board members.

By-Laws —There was no report. With the passing of Art Egan, this committee must have a new chair.

Website – Clint reported for Bruce Strickland that there were 94 hits in May for a total of 23,680 hits. The new counter continues to work well.

Employee Memorial –Jim Dixon reported that he didn't attend the EMC meeting, but, was able to provide a report. On June 15, there will be a picnic at DOT headquarters for all active employees. The Annual Memorial ceremony will be held on September 8. The usual activities and fundraisers are in the pipeline as planned, including the Silent Auction in December.

Historian – In the August DOTLine, Mike Eckel will write an article that is appropriate for the 100th edition of DOTLine.

Chaplain – Jay Johnston reported the recent passing of Al Driver (76), *Carl Rebbek (78), *Jean Melana(99) and Leonard Proccacino. * a DOTRA member.

Audit Committee: Frank Palise reported that the audit was completed and tax return filed. There was a net loss in 2016 of only \$118.57. Frank praised Lou Papp for his meticulous record keeping that makes the audit very straightforward for the Audit committee.

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES:

Wine Tasting: With the resignation of Peter Yull, the wine tastings are on hold until further notice.

Trips –Jay Johnston has planned a bus trip to Radio City Music Hall on November 30. This is after the lighting of the Rock Center Christmas Tree. The cost will be \$109. Pp. The day is planned just as our past trips have been. There will be time in NYC for lunch and/or shopping. After the Radio City show is over, the bus will leave immediately from a parking area in front of the theater. Jay has preliminary plans for a bus trip to Doolans in Spring Lake for an Old Tyme Rock & Roll show and lunch. Full details will be published in DOTLine when the date gets closer.

June Luncheon: Janice & Frank Stia are coordinating this event. A luncheon at Erini's on River Rd. in Ewing will be held on Tuesday June 13 from noon to 3:00PM. There are 66 reservations. Lunch will consist of salad of mixed field greens, entrée choice of pan seared tilapia, chicken Marsala or eggplant parmesan, cheese cake, dessert and coffee service. There will be a cash bar with drinks served by the wait staff and a 50/50. Reservation deadline was June 1. The cost is \$30.00 per person. Kate Immordino, former DOTer and DOTRA member, under the name Kate Francis, has self-published a light mystery book titled *Double Image* set in Mercer County, involving NJ government. She has offered to appear at the June Luncheon to discuss her experience as a writer and fulfillment of a life- long desire to write.

September Picnic: Mike reported that Mercer County Park picnic area at Belle Mountain is reserved for Wednesday, September 13. More specific details will be discussed at the August meeting. A flyer will be inserted in the August DOTLine.

Holiday Luncheon: Janis has reserved Mercer Oaks for the Holiday Luncheon on December 13. Additional details will be available in the coming months.

OLD BUSINESS:

Bob Miller is working toward archiving DOTRA records (including- DOTLines, Minutes, Treasurer's Reports, By-Law Changes, Directors/Officers) to a permanent location.

Dot Andres updated the Board on the outreach effort. When people are contacted, they seem interested and forthcoming about their activities and life, in general. The Board members will continue in their efforts, but, it is difficult to reach everyone on the list.

NEW BUSINESS:

DOTLINE: The August printing of the DOTLine will be the 100th edition. Discussion of this fact included the idea to bring some articles back for reprint, listing all previous editors, etc. Members were asked to give this more thought and bring ideas to Frank by July 15. Since there is no July meeting, this will be the final opportunity for the Board as a whole to discuss this milestone event. Flyers are needed for the picnic and the bus trip to Radio City.

Jim gave an update on the Senior Softball league.

The next board meeting will be held on Tuesday 8/01/2017 at Tessara Restaurant at 11:00 AM. At the close of that meeting, the August DOTLine will be prepared for mailing by Board members. Since there was no further business to discuss, a motion to close the meeting was made by Dot and seconded by Mike and the motion carried. Clint adjourned the meeting at 12:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Andrea Mansfield

Recording Secretary