

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

MINUTES OF MEETING

The August meeting of the New Jersey Department of Transportation Retirees Association, Inc. (DOTRA) was held on Tuesday, August 1, 2017, at Tessara Restaurant. After establishing a quorum was present, the meeting was called to order at 11:08 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
Gerry Sellner			

These members were absent: Frank Palise and Bruce Strickland. Jim Dixon attended as a volunteer.

The minutes of the 6/06/2017 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 May 2017 and June 2017 was given by Lou Papp. Balance as of 5/31/17 is \$13,722.83 including \$4,006.67 in the checking account. Balance as of 6/30/17 is \$11,799.23 including \$2,076.96 in the checking account. A move to accept the reports, pending audit, was made by Dot Andres and seconded by Joe Bodnar. The motion passed.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT: Janis Stia reported that there were no new membership applications received during June and July and there were 2 renewals received with 1 person converting to Life Membership. The total received was \$85.00. We have received a retirement list for the second quarter of 2017 from the DOT HR department. The updated contact from the luncheon was good. Clint will sort it out and organize it. Janis will also look at it. We will continue to use social events and the newsletter to update our roster. There are 7 members whose dues are in arrears more than 3 years and they will be dropped from the roster after this mailing.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Nominating Committee –Joe Bodnar reported that the full list of fifteen Board members for 2017-2018 was 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 147 hits in June for a total of 23,827 hits. There were 149 hits in July for a total of 23,976 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 was a picnic at DOT headquarters for all active employees. The Annual Remembrance ceremony will be held on September 8 at 9:00 AM. There is a proposal to honor Commissioners John Sheridan and Jamie Fox with a memorial plaque. EMC has asked DOTRA to make a donation toward the purchase of the plaque. This was discussed and then, tabled until next month. The usual activities and fundraisers are in the pipeline as planned, including the Silent Auction on December 7 and 8. The Northern Region may establish their own memorial.

Historian – In the August DOTLine, Mike Eckel wrote an article that is appropriate for the 100th edition of DOTLine. He is working on some ideas for the November DOTLine.

Chaplain – Jay Johnston reported the recent passing of *Wilma Cimino (87), *Adrian Lincoln, DOTRA's first president, Russ Maggio, *Lew Branin, Joan Hartmann (80) and Carmen Fiore (84).

* a DOTRA member.

Audit Committee: No report until next spring.

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. A flyer is inserted in the August DOTLine. Reservations are expected to fill rapidly.
There will be no October trip.

June Luncheon: Janice & Frank Stia coordinated this event. A luncheon at Erini's on River Rd. in Ewing was held on Tuesday June 13 from noon to 3:00PM. There are 63 attendees. Lunch consisted of salad of mixed field greens, entrée choice of pan seared tilapia, chicken Marsala or eggplant parmesan, cheese cake dessert and coffee service. There was a cash bar with drinks served by the wait staff and a 50/50. There was a profit of \$125 plus \$125. from the 50/50. The feedback was good; attendees missed the private bar service.

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 September meeting. A flyer is inserted in the August DOTLine. Reservation deadline is September 6. Cost is \$14.00 per person. Fred and Pete will cater, Bill Burd will supply the ice, Andrea will shop for the beverages, Mike will take care of the set up and coffee service.

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

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. Clint heard from Roy Burrows for an update.

NEW BUSINESS:

The 100th edition of DOTLine has been completed and will be mailed today. Frank Palise did a great job putting this issue together. Jay spoke a little bit about the longevity of our group and how it is a team effort spanning 26 years.

Lou Papp and Frank Stia are swapping offices, as Frank becomes the Treasurer and Lou the Assistant Treasurer. Lou has served as treasurer for many years and has done an outstanding job.

Board members were reminded that they should make an annual check of their beneficiaries, insurance policies, etc. especially if there is any major change in lifestyle.

The next board meeting will be held on Tuesday 9/05/2017 at Tessara Restaurant at 11:00 AM. Since there was no further business to discuss, a motion to close the meeting was made by Mike and seconded by Gerry Sellner and the motion carried. Clint adjourned the meeting at 12:05PM. The Board adjourned to prepare the DOTLine for mailing.

Respectfully Submitted,

Andrea Mansfield

Recording Secretary