

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

**MINUTES OF MEETING**

The April meeting of the New Jersey Department of Transportation Retirees Association, Inc. (DOTRA) was held on Tuesday, April 3, 2018, 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	Ann Fratticcioli	Andrea Mansfield	Jay Johnston
Janis Stia	Bob Miller	Lou Papp	Clinton Griggs
Gerry Sellner	Mike Eckel	Frank Stia	Donna Troiano
Frank Palise			

These members were absent: John Raniero, Dot Andres and Bruce Strickland. Jim Dixon attended as a volunteer.

The minutes of the 3/6/2018 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 March 2018 was given by Frank Stia. Balance as of 3/31/18 was \$14,597.58 including \$4,819.99 in the checking account. A move to accept the report, pending audit, was made by Joe Bodnar and seconded by Lou Papp. The motion passed.

**MEMBERSHIP REPORT:** Janis Stia reported that there were 6 membership renewals received during March including one switch from annual to life membership and two new life memberships. Janis moved that we accept the membership requests from Linda Cardell Murphy and Will Day for life membership. Mike seconded and the motion carried. A total of \$275.00 for dues was received.

New member Linda Murphy noted that she is willing to work on a committee. Ann Fratticcioli shared that the NJDOT has a FaceBook page and that she will make comments from time-to-time in order to boost awareness of DOTRA and she encouraged other Directors to do the same. She also suggested that we invite the new DOT Commissioner, Diane Gutierrez-Scaccetti, to our Anniversary Luncheon and ask her to make a short address. Clint reminded us that we need an updated list of recent retirees; Ann informed us that former commissioner, Rick Hammer is now Senior Vice President at Kaz Tabrizi's firm.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Nominating Committee** –Joe Bodnar reported that there are sixteen Board members for 2018-2019. There was nothing additional to report.

**By-Laws** —There was no report or new business. With the passing of Art Egan, this committee needs to have a new chair. For now, the position will remain unfilled.

**Website** – Clint reported for Bruce Strickland from Arizona that there were 202 hits in March for a total of 25,505.

**Employee Memorial Committee** –There was a report from Jim Dixon. The EMC is looking for new officers and members. The Committee has lost several of their most active members recently. The EMC will meet with the DOT Commissioner on April 26 for the purpose of seeking a memorandum of understanding. There will be a Mother's Day flower sale on May 10 and an employee picnic at DOT headquarters on Thursday June 21. The Easter basket sale of 15 baskets sold out in 1 hour. There will be a "Spring Clearance Sale" on May 21 for the purpose of clearing out previously donated goods that were not used at the Silent Auction. The Transporter will be published quarterly online and on FaceBook. There will no longer be a hardcopy edition.

**Historian** - Mike Eckel has an article for May about keeping track of permanent financial records in retirement.

**Chaplain** – Jay Johnston reported that George Kook\*, James DeClaudio, John Powers\*, John Papp, Frank Hamler\*, Mike Barrett, Robert Kerr\*, Darlene Posluszny and Ray Burroughs\* recently passed away. An \* indicates that they were DOTRA members.

**Audit Committee:** Frank Stia, Frank Palise and John Raniero met to conduct the audit. Frank reported that our cost saving measures are working; DOTRA took in \$18.00 more than was spent in 2017. The audit was very smooth, thanks due to Lou Papp and Frank Stia.

### **SOCIAL ACTIVITIES:**

**Trips** –Jay reported that he has spoken to Starr Tours about combining DOTRA trips with other groups because we are generally unable to fill a bus, except for our December trip. We can no longer rely on the Nottingham Squares because they are able to fill a bus almost as soon as it is announced. Combining with another group is not as simple as it sounds and without Starr’s assistance, it may not be possible. For example, how do the groups split the 50/50? What if two groups together fall short of attendees—who takes up the shortfall? Both groups would have to give their membership an equal opportunity to purchase tickets. Jay will continue to research this.

**Spring Breakfast:** Joe Bodnar reported on the Spring Breakfast held on Wednesday March 14 at Golden Dawn. 48 members attended. Although the room was a bit crowded, everyone seemed to enjoy themselves. We cleared \$141.61. Ann sent each of the Directors pictures taken at the event. It was suggested that next year, we call people to the buffet one table at a time and we start at 9 AM instead of 9:30.

**June Luncheon:** Mastoris has been booked for Wednesday, June 13; the cost will be \$25.35 per person and the charge to attendees will be \$28.00. Janis Stia will take the reservations once the details are set. Clint has made all of these arrangements. A flyer will be included in the May DOTLine. The menu will include 4 choices of entrée which can be chosen on the day of the lunch and the deadline for reservations is June 1. A bartender will be available.

A tentative date for future events are: Holiday Party at Mercer Oaks—December 12  
Fall Picnic at Mercer County Park Belle Mountain—September 12 has been confirmed.

### **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 will be back from Florida by the next meeting and the membership outreach will gain new speed. Ann has created a beautiful new website and is working with Bruce to set a date for the changeover to the new domain. Since we paid for a year of service in January, we don’t want to abandon the old domain just yet.

**NEW BUSINESS:** The deadline for DOTLine articles is April 15. Ann and Frank Palise are now working together on new DOTLine formatting. Ann will send the Anniversary Luncheon flyer to all the Directors to preview. She will also send a “Save the Date” for the future events to all members for whom we have an e-mail address; this will be a test to see how many addresses are accurate. Frank P is writing an article on the new tax bill for 2018 for the May DOTLine.

Frank P provided each Director an updated Task List and asked everyone to check its accuracy and to think about filling one of the vacant positions.

Clint will draft an invitation to the NJDOT Commissioner to the Anniversary luncheon.

Since there was no additional business to discuss, a motion to close the meeting was made by Donna Troiano and seconded by Gerry Sellner and the motion passed. Clint adjourned the meeting at 12: 21 PM.

The next board meeting will be held on Tuesday 5/1/2018 at Tessara Restaurant at 11:00 AM. The DOTLine mailing will be prepared after the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Andrea Mansfield**

Recording Secretary