

## **NJ Department of Transportation Retirees Association**

### **MINUTES OF MEETING**

On Tuesday, February 1, 2022, the DOTRA Directors held a Board Meeting at Padrino's Restaurant. After establishing that there was a quorum present and following the Pledge of Allegiance, the meeting was called to order at 11:00 AM by President Clinton Griggs. The following were in attendance:

Mike Eckel	Janis Stia	Clinton Griggs	Ann Fratticcioli
Dave Bizuga	Janice DeJohn	Bob Miller	Donna Troiano
	Jay Johnston	Frank Palise	Sandy Furness

These Directors were absent: Frank Stia, John Raniero, Andrea Mansfield, and Joe Bodnar. Jim Dixon did not attend as a volunteer.

The minutes of the 1/04/22 meeting were received and approved as distributed. The motion to approve the minutes was made by Mike Eckel and seconded by Dave Bizuga.

TREASURER'S REPORT: The Treasurer's report was presented by Dave Bizuga. Balance as of 1/31/2022 was \$15,445.68, including \$4,634.97 in the checking account. A motion to accept the report was made by Janice DeJohn and seconded by Bob Miller. The report was filed for audit. Dave Bizuga will prepare the proper 991 form for the government.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT: Janis Stia reported that there were 2 new retirees applying for membership during January. Shari Leichter applied for Life membership and Frank Bocchini applied for annual membership. Janis moved that we accept these membership requests, Jay Johnston seconded and the motion passed. A total of \$95.00 dues was collected. There was 1 renewal payment of \$10.00. Directors were reminded that renewal payments were due on January 1.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Nominating Committee – There are now 15 Board members for 2022. The Board can function well with fifteen members. Joe Bodnar is remaining on the Board for now but is inactive for the duration of the COVID pandemic.

By-Laws - Janice DeJohn will update the bylaws as necessary.

Website – Ann noted that the website continues to be updated as needed, including any links to other websites that may be of interest to our membership. All links are working properly.

Employee Memorial Committee – Janice DeJohn reported that there has not been a recent meeting of the EMC. DOT'er Meg Frampton is keeping the committee going mostly by herself. DOTRA will move slowly toward assuming the responsibilities of the EMC.

Historian – Mike Eckel has submitted an article for the February DOTLine issue; topic “NJDOT Begins a New Era”. The 1966 creation of the NJDOT.

Chaplain - Frank Palise reported that 1 former DOT employee -;James Hixson, 59 years old – has recently passed away. The Board was informed that DOTRA member John Bizuga will be undergoing several surgeries. Dan Yacovino (a non-member) will undergo delicate heart surgery in mid-February. Our own DOTRA Director, Joe Bodnar is expecting a pacemaker.

Audit – The Audit Committee will arrange a meeting soon to prepare the 2022 audit.

### SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

Happy Hour – Happy Hour for January was held at Uno Pizzeria & Grill, 225 Sloan Avenue, Hamilton at 4PM on Thursday, January 27. The next Happy Hour will be at Uno’s February 24 also at 4PM. All are urged to attend this pleasant, informal event.

Spring Breakfast – Plans for the March breakfast have finalized. On March 16, the Spring Breakfast will be held at the Town & Country Diner at 177 Rt. 130 in Bordentown at 9:00 AM. Menu will include: pastries, breads, scrambled eggs, home fries, bacon & sausage, French toast, pancakes, fresh fruit, juice, coffee, tea and milk. The cost to the attendees is \$20.00 per person, guests are welcome and reservations must be received by Ann Fratticioli no later than March 9. No cancellations accepted after March 9. The Event will be subsidized by DOTRA.

TRIPS - No trips are being planned currently. It was suggested that DOTRA consider sponsoring an activity nearby (e.g., Grounds for Sculpture) so that people can drive themselves instead of renting a bus. Jay Johnston will do some research.

OLD BUSINESS: The Florida section of DOTRA does not plan to have a winter meeting.

NEW BUSINESS: None were suggested.

Since there was no additional business to report or act on, a motion to close the meeting was made by Janis Stia and seconded by Bob Miller and the motion passed. Clint adjourned the meeting at 11:34 PM. Board members remained afterward to stuff the newly formatted February DOTLine into the mailing envelopes for those members who still receive their newsletter by snail mail.

The next Board meeting will be held on Tuesday March 1, 2022 at Padrino’s.

Respectfully submitted for the Recording Secretary,

Donna Troiano,  
Corresponding Secretary