

## MINUTES OF MEETING

On Tuesday, June 7, 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 11:05 AM by President Clinton Griggs. The following were in attendance:

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

These Directors were absent: Andrea Mansfield, Donna Troiano, Frank Stia, Frank Palise, John Raniero, and Joe Bodnar. Jim Dixon attended as a volunteer.

The minutes of the 5/03/22 meeting were received and approved as distributed. The motion to approve the minutes was made by Dave Bizuga. and seconded by Janis DeJohn.

TREASURER'S REPORT: The Treasurer's report was presented by Dave Bizuga. Balance as of 5/31/2022 was \$14,919.12, including \$4,091.01 in the checking account. A motion to accept the report was made by Bob Miller and seconded by Ann Fratticcioli. The report was filed for audit. After receiving a go-ahead vote from the Directors, Dave purchased an I-Bond offered by the U.S. Treasury that pay 9.62% interest for 5 years in the amount of \$6,333.71. The funds were obtained by cashing out 3 NJCU CD's that earned minimal interest. The interest rate of the I-Bond will adjust every six months based on the rate of inflation.

A discussion was held concerning the remaining CD with the Credit Union currently earning 0.30%. Dave will be researching a better rate of interest with other institutions, one being Treasury Direct with a rate of 2.65%. Dave will email the results of his investigation for further discussion.

Further discussion took place on using electronic payment methods such as Zelle and Venmo for membership and event payments. More research will be done on this topic.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT: Janis Stia reported that there was five new retirees applying for membership during May. Janis moved that we accept the application of Michael DeAngelo, Steven Manera, Edward Rogacki, Mike Martynenko, and Greg Varone. Ann seconded and the motion passed.

A discussion took place on whether DOTRA should/could allow DOT employees to join DOTRA prior to retirement. It was decided that we would entertain any application from a current DOT employee aged 50 and up prior to retirement. This change will be reflected in the DOTRA Bylaws.

### 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. Frank Stia (Assistant Treasurer) no longer wishes to be Assistant Treasurer. All Board members state they are willing to serve another three-year term. We now need to find an Assistant Treasurer.

By-Laws –Janice DeJohn will update the bylaws with our latest revision.

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. Included are various ‘Save the Dates’ for DOTRA events, DOTRA flyers and retirement luncheon flyers, etc. 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 plans for an article for the August DOTLine issue; topic- railroads.

Chaplain – It was reported that former DOT employees Kathy Stewart and Bob Pege have passed away. Bob Pege was a DOTRA members.

Audit – No report needed until Spring 2023.

## SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

Happy Hour -- Happy Hour for May was held at Uno’s on Sloan Rd., Hamilton at 4PM on Thursday May 26. The next Happy Hour will be at Uno’s on June 30. All are urged to attend this pleasant, informal event.

June Luncheon--- *Villa Mannino* at 73 Rt 130 in Bordentown will be the venue on June 8 and it is BYOB, but DOTRA will provide two wines for every table. We will place the wines on a separate table to minimize waste. Villa Mannino is also allowing DOTRA to bring its own cake at no extra serving charge. Guest cost will be \$35.00 and reservation deadline is May 30. A flyer appears in the May DOTLine. We must guarantee 50 attendees. We will have a 50/50 and door prizes. Janice and Ann are organizing the event. As of June 7, we have 46 reservations for the event.

September Picnic--Mike has secured the Mercer County Park at Rosedale on September 14 for our annual picnic. DOTRA prepare the food for the picnic, like we used to. Sandy will put a blurb in the May DOTLine and Ann will add a “Save the Date” to the website. We will be asking for volunteers cooking, salads, set-up & clean-up, dessert donations, etc. It was decided that we would *not* serve corn on the cob. Details will be finalized over the summer but so far include Andrea Mansfield—beverages, Clint – ice & coolers, Mike—coffee set up, paper goods and condiments.

We discussed several options for the picnic. It was decided that the guest cost will be \$20.00 per person, due to the rising cost of everything associated with the picnic. A flyer will be prepared for distribution at the June luncheon.

TRIPS—No trips are in the pipeline currently; Jay Johnston will no longer be the main organizer but will work as part of a team, as trips are planned.

OLD BUSINESS: There was no old business to discuss.

NEW BUSINESS :

All DOTLINE articles are due to Sandy NO LATER than July 15, 2022. Articles can be forwarded to her now as she is already working on the next edition.

Since there was no additional business to report or act on, a motion to close the meeting was made by Ann and seconded by Bob and the motion passed. Clint adjourned the meeting at 12:20 PM.

The next Board meeting will be held on Tuesday August 2, 2022 at Padrino's.

Respectfully submitted,

*Andrea Mansfield*

(Notes taken by Clint Grigg, President)

Recording Secretary