

MINUTES OF MEETING

On Tuesday, May 3, 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 11:04 AM by President Clinton Griggs. The following were in attendance:

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

These Directors were absent: Janis Stia and Joe Bodnar. Jim Dixon attended as a volunteer.

The minutes of the 4/05/22 meeting were received and approved as distributed. The motion to approve the minutes was made by Mike Eckel and seconded by Janice DeJohn.

TREASURER'S REPORT: The Treasurer's report was presented by Dave Bizuga. Balance as of 4/30/2022 was \$14,973.39, including \$4,144.91 in the checking account. A motion to accept the report was made by Bob Miller and seconded by John Raniero. The report was filed for audit. Dave presented information on I-Bonds offered by the U.S. Treasury that pay 9.62% interest from May through October; **then, a new composite interest rate every 6 months thereafter will be applied.** DOTRA currently has 3 CD's held at the NJ Credit Union that will mature in 2023 and are paying .20% and .25%. The penalty for early withdrawal is insignificant. There would be no tax due until the bonds are cashed out. The penalty for early withdrawal is 3 months interest. There was a discussion about the pros & cons of this move and Dave said he would research all the questions and contact Board members by e-mail with the answers. May 31 is the purchase deadline to lock in the 9.62% interest and Dave would need a consensus by the Board before that date.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT: Frank Stia reported for Janis that there was one new retiree applying for membership during April. Frank moved that we accept the application of Mike DeAngelo and Ann Fratticcioli seconded and the motion passed.

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. It is the time of year when Board members state if they are willing to serve another three-year term. Joe plans to attend the June luncheon.

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. Included are various 'Save the Dates' for DOTRA events, DOTRA flyers and retirement luncheon flyers, etc. All links are working properly. She will add a link to the application for the job on the **Claims Dispute Review Board**, which is to be filled with a NJDOT retiree. Ann also reported that the **Transporter** is in a state of flux.

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 Vincent Maida, Bernadine Pederson and Deb Driber have passed away. Bernadine was a DOTRA member.

Audit – No report needed until Spring 2023.

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

Happy Hour -- Happy Hour for April was held at Uno's on Sloan Rd., Hamilton at 4PM on Thursday April 28. The next Happy Hour will be at Uno's on May 26. 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 2 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.

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.

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 : DOTLine will be prepared for distribution at the close of the meeting today. Sandy Furness said that articles for DOTLine are welcome, especially ones about travel and trips taken.

Since there was no additional business to report or act on, a motion to close the meeting was made by Dave and seconded by Bob and the motion passed. Clint adjourned the meeting at 12:13 PM.

The Board members remained to prepare the DOTLine for distribution.

The next Board meeting will be held on Tuesday June 7, 2022, at Padrino's. Reminder that the luncheon will be the next day, June 8.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea Mansfield

Recording Secretary