

MINUTES OF MEETING

On Tuesday, November 2, 2021, the DOTRA Directors held a Board meeting at Padrino's Restaurant. After establishing that there was a quorum and following the Pledge of Allegiance, the meeting was called to order at 11:09 am by President Clinton Griggs. The following were in attendance:

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

These Directors were absent: Sandy Furness, John Raniero, and Joe Bodnar. Jim Dixon attended as a volunteer.

The minutes of the 10/05/21 meeting were received and approved as corrected. The correction is that new 2nd Vice President, Janice DeJohn, will fill in to run the meetings if the President, Clint Griggs, *and* the Vice President, Jay Johnston, are both absent. The motion to approve the corrected minutes was made by Bob Miller and seconded by Ann Fratticcioli.

TREASURER'S REPORT: The Treasurer's report was presented by Dave Bizuga. Balance as of 10/31/2021 was \$15,025.24, including \$4,235.09 in the checking account. A motion to accept the report was made by Janis Stia and seconded by Janice DeJohn. Dave has not yet been able to gain full access to the DOTRA account at the Credit Union but is able to get all the information he needs. The report was filed for audit.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT: Janis Stia reported that there were no new members joining during October. There were no renewal payments. Directors were reminded that renewal payments are due on January 1. Ann reported that 160-170 members open our mailings/some never read them. This means that about 40% of our membership do not maintain contact with DOTRA. We could make a phone call or send a personal letter or e-mail to encourage these inactive members to stay in touch. Ann will revisit this next month. Board members were reminded that Janis collects mail about two times a month. When she receives a check for a new membership, she e-mails the applicant to let them know the membership is in process. Checks are not deposited immediately. Janis may sign up the DOTRA P O box for "informed delivery", a free service offered by USPS. Through this she will know when mail is received or returned.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Nominating Committee – With the passing of Gerry, there are now 15 Board members for 2020/2021. The Board can function well with fifteen members, and so, we will not actively seek to fill the vacant seat, however, any suitable volunteer will be gratefully considered.

By-Laws –Janice will update the bylaws as necessary when the process begins for DOTRA to take over specific aspects of continuing the Employee Memorial Committee. This will be a gradual process and the Commissioner will have to approve each change. All funds will remain separate.

Website – Ann noted that the website continues to move along and she is updating information as needed, including any links to other websites of interest to our membership.

Employee Memorial Committee – In addition to what was discussed earlier, Janice reported that there has not been a recent meeting of the EMC; DOTer Meg Frampton is keeping the committee going mostly by herself. At this time, it is planned that NJDOT employees will return to the office full time in mid-October.

Historian – Mike Eckel has written an article for the November issue on the history of DOT maritime resources.

Chaplain – Frank Palise reported that former DOT employees Hank Adams, Charles Fell, Janet Morris*, James Pivovar, Milton Robinson and Rose Taylor have recently passed away. The November issue of DOTLine contains a full list of DOT employees, retired and current, who died during 2020-2021 up to October 15.
*Denotes DOTRA member.

Audit – The Audit Committee has completed its work for this year. Nothing to report until Spring 2022.

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

Holiday Luncheon-- Janis Stia re-confirmed our reservation for December 8th for our annual luncheon at Mercer Oaks and sent the deposit checks along with a signed contract. A flyer with full details is included in the November DOTLine. All plans are subject to change due to any new COVID restrictions. Cost will be \$38.00 to each attendee. Final date for reservation is December 1. All Directors are encouraged to attend and to bring along any former co-workers that they are friendly with. We must pay for fifty attendees. Door prizes will be happily accepted.

Happy Hour—Happy Hour for November will be held at a place to be determined and all members are encouraged to attend at 5 PM on the fourth Thursday of each month. However, for November and December, the Happy Hour will be on the third Thursday, to not conflict with the holidays. Next Happy Hour is Thursday October 28. Ann will post on FaceBook all the details including the new location.

TRIPS—No trips are being planned currently.

OLD BUSINESS: Janice has prepared an up-dated “task chart” and distributed it by email. Bob is working on archiving old DOTLines, minutes, financial reports, *et al.*
Donna Troiano alerted us that she no longer goes to shops, so purchasing sympathy and get-well cards has become difficult. Janice will buy the Hallmark cards going forward.

NEW BUSINESS : The DOTLine was printed and prepared for mailing by Ann this month. It was suggested that Sandy Furness be given a cumulative list of the Chaplain’s reports so that notices in DOTLine remain current and accurate. The *Here, There and Everywhere* column in DOTLine will be reprised; send items to Sandy or to Janice.

Since there was no additional business to report or act on, a motion to close the meeting was made by Andrea and seconded by Donna and the motion passed. Clint adjourned the meeting at 12:22 pm.

The next Board meeting will be held on Tuesday December 7, at a location TBD. The Holiday Luncheon will be the next day at Mercer Oaks.

Respectfully submitted,
Andrea Mansfield
Recording Secretary