

## MINUTES OF MEETING

On Tuesday, September 7, 2021, the DOTRA Directors held a Board meeting at Tessara Restaurant. After establishing that there was a quorum and following the Pledge of Allegiance, the meeting was called to order at 11:03 am by President Clinton Griggs. The following were in attendance:

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

These Directors were absent: Joe Bodnar, and Gerry Sellner.

The minutes of the 8/03/21 meeting were received and approved as corrected. The motion to approve the minutes was made by Mike Eckel and seconded by Bob Miller.

TREASURER'S REPORT: The Treasurer's report was presented by Frank Stia. Balance as of 8/31/2021 was \$15,022.85, including \$4,249.86 in the checking account. A motion to accept the report was made by Mike Eckel and seconded by Frank Palise. The report was filed for audit. Clint purchased envelopes for future DOTLine mailings prior to the late August USPS increase. Frank Stia announced that he will become the DOTRA Assistant Treasurer and Dave Bizuga will now be Treasurer. Janice DeJohn moved that we accept this change in officers, Donna Troiano seconded and the motion passed. It was also decided that since the cost of the Tessara lunches have increased, Board members will now pay \$12.00 for their meal and members who order only a drink or coffee will pay \$2.00.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT: Janis Stia reported that there were no new annual members joining during August. There were no new life member requests; however, Mearl Challender converted to Life Membership status. There was \$95.00 income from 2 renewals and Mearl's payment received for dues in August.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Nominating Committee –Nothing new to report. There are now 16 Board members for 2020/2021.

By-Laws –Janice DeJohn prepared a change to the By-Laws for adoption by the Board. This change will clarify the DOTRA policy regarding membership dues that become past due and then the member later pays current dues. The By-Laws were previously updated in March of 2020. Ann Fratticcioli moved that we accept this change, Dave seconded and the motion passed without further discussion.

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### Article X: Dues and Assessments

#### Section 1:

**The annual dues shall be ten (10) dollars or as designated by resolution adopted by the Board and shall be collected by the Treasurer upon enrollment and no later than the thirty first (31) day of January of each succeeding calendar year. Life membership in DOTRA shall be \$75.00. Anticipated dues and assessments shall be used to develop a recommended annual budget for the administrative and organizational expenses of this association. (Section 1 revised September 2008 to add Life Membership**

cost. AJE)

**Section 2:**

**Special fees or assessments may be charged or levied from time to time when the Board shall direct. Such special fees or assessments shall be discouraged except when deemed necessary for the proper and effective function of the association for its essential activities.**

**Section 3:**

**At the discretion of the Board of Directors, members whose dues are in arrears for a period of more than two (2) years may forfeit their membership. Additionally, if a member in arrears submits dues for the current calendar year, she/he will be considered a member for the current year.**

**Section 4:**

**Either upon the voluntary or involuntary termination of any membership, said person shall forfeit the balance of their annual dues for the year in which such membership is terminated.**

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Website – Ann Fratticcioli reported 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. Jay Johnston remarked that he recently visited the website and congratulated Ann on how easy it was to navigate and so very comprehensive.

Employee Memorial Committee – Janice DeJohn reported that there has not been a recent meeting of the EMC and the annual Memorial Ceremony will be held on Friday September 10 at 9:30 am in the DOT headquarters memorial area. This year is the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the attack on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon. 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 – Jay Johnston, acting Chaplain until a permanent chaplain is found, reported that former DOT employee Samuel Whitehead (98) has passed away. The November issue of DOTLine will contain a full list of DOT employees, retired and current, who died during 2021. Donna said that Gerry Sellner is now a hospice patient, at home, and she distributed his new address and cell phone number to Board members.

Audit – The Audit Committee (Dave Bizuga, Janice DeJohn and John Raniero along with the Treasurer) has met to complete the 2020 audit. Earlier, Frank Palise filed the 1099INT form and it was accepted by the IRS on 2/21/21.

**SOCIAL ACTIVITIES**

Fall Picnic— The picnic will be held at Rosedale Park tomorrow Wednesday, September 8. DOTRA will supply beer, soda & water, snack items, paper goods and desserts. About 25 people have responded that they will attend. Andrea Mansfield will shop for the beverages, Clint will get the ice, Mike will purchase individual bags of chips, etc. There will be plenty of desserts donated.

Holiday Party-- In October, Janis Stia will re-confirm our reservation for December 8<sup>th</sup> for our annual luncheon at Mercer Oaks. No further action is needed at this time. A flyer with full details will be included in the November DOTLine. All plans are subject to change due to any new COVID restrictions.

Happy Hours—Happy Hour at Mastoris Diner has resumed and all members are encouraged to attend at 5 PM on the fourth Thursday of each month. There are reduced priced drinks and a free food buffet. Next Happy Hour is Thursday September 23.

TRIPS—No trips are being planned currently.

OLD BUSINESS: Janice prepared and distributed an up-dated “task chart” . Already, there is a change because Frank Stia and Dave have swapped jobs. The chart has a new format and Janice asked for input on the new design.

Janice has confirmed that the letter explaining about DOTRA and including links to our website is still included in all retirees’ packages.

All other old business was covered in the committee reports.

NEW BUSINESS : Ann has come across an e-mail from Al Algazi that included an article for submission to a future DOTLine. A general discussion about DOTLine articles followed and it was agreed that submissions from members will always be welcome. However, the DOTLine format must remain limited to 6 pages and 1 flyer due to the necessity to stay below the USPS weight limit for 1<sup>st</sup> class mail.

Since there was no additional business to report or act on, a motion to close the meeting was made by Dave and seconded by Janis and the motion passed. Clint adjourned the meeting at 11:57 pm.

The next Board meeting will be held on Tuesday October 5 at Tessara. Tomorrow is our annual picnic.

Respectfully submitted,

*Andrea Mansfield*

Recording Secretary