

## MINUTES OF MEETING

On Tuesday, Tuesday August 3, 2021, the DOTRA Directors held a socially distanced Board meeting at Tessara Restaurant. This was the seventh meeting since the COVID-19 lockdown began in March 2020.

After establishing that there was a quorum and following the Pledge of Allegiance, the meeting was called to order at 11:13 am by President Clinton Griggs. The following were in attendance:

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

These Directors were absent: Frank Palise, Sandy Furness, Janis Stia, John Raniero, Jay Johnston, Joe Bodnar, and Gerry Sellner. Donna Troiano reported that Gerry has suffered a spinal injury and is currently in Genesis Healthcare in Langhorne, PA for rehab.

The minutes of the 6/01/21 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 7/31/2021 was \$15,061.13, including \$4,297.26 in the checking account. A motion to accept the report was made and seconded. The report was filed for audit.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT: It was reported that there were no new annual members joining during June and July. There was one new life member request. Frank Stia moved that we accept former Assistant Commissioner James Crawford for life membership. This motion was accepted by all the Board. There was \$60.00 income from 6 renewals for a total of \$135.00 received for dues. Members who have not paid dues since 2018 or prior are being dropped from the membership roster. A letter was sent to these delinquent members asking them to clarify their membership status and reminding them that they can pay \$75.00 for a lifetime membership and hence, never have to write another check for dues. There was a discussion about the recurring practice of members skipping dues for a year or two, then paying for the current year. Ann made the following motion. "If a member is in arrears in dues and then sends dues, this payment will be applied to the current year. It will become a new renewal." Donna seconded the motion and it passed.

Ann also learned from the DOT's latest Transporter that 78 people have retired from the DOT in the last 6 months. Janice DeJohn will check with DOT HR to be certain that information about joining DOTRA is still being included in the retirement packet. Before the September meeting, Board members were asked to consider whether DOTRA should encourage and/or seek associate members who retire from FHWA or consulting firms.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Nominating Committee –There are now 16 Board members for 2020/2021. Frank Palise will be stepping back from DOTLine editor duties, audit duties and chaplain and member Sandy Furness has volunteered to join the Board and assume the responsibility of DOTLine editor. An e-mail vote by the Board moved Sandy onto the Board. The e-vote was necessary to expedite Sandy's position so the August DOTLine could meet its deadline for today's meeting.

By-Laws –Janice DeJohn will prepare a change to the By-Laws to present for adoption at the next meeting. 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 updated in March of 2020.

Website – Ann Fratticcioli reported that the website continues to receive a lot of visitors and she is updating information as needed, including any links to other websites of interest to our membership.

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 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.

Historian – Mike Eckel wrote an article about the NJ Turnpike for DOTLine which was used in the August DOTLine edition. For the November issue, Mike is working on an article on the history of DOT maritime resources.

Chaplain – Jay Johnston, acting Chaplain until a permanent chaplain is found, was absent. In the August DOTLine, there is an obituary catch up and the November issue will be carefully edited to be certain that the 2021 passing of any member has been noted during 2021.

Audit – The Audit Committee ( Frank Palise, Dave Bizuga and John Raniero) has not yet met to prepare the 2020 audit. Because Frank has asked to step back from some responsibilities, Dave volunteered to chair the audit committee and Janice was added to the committee.

## SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

Fall Picnic— Mike has secured a permit from MCPC for a picnic to be held at Rosedale Park on Wednesday, September 8. DOTRA will supply drinks, snack items and desserts. There will be no charge to the guests, but we will ask for a response to get a head count. Andrea Mansfield will shop for the beverages (beer, soda & water), Clint will get the ice, Mike will purchase individual bags of chips, etc. The flyer is in the August DOTLine and on FaceBook and the website. Anyone who can is welcome to donate a dessert.

Holiday Party-- Janis Stia has reserved 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. Photos of July's Happy Hour are posted on FaceBook. Next Happy Hour is Thursday July 26.

TRIPS—No trips are being planned currently.

OLD BUSINESS: All old business was covered in the committee reports.

NEW BUSINESS : Linda Cardell Murphy, the well-known trainer of Kobe, the rescue dog, is recovering from a bad fall that injured her head.

Ann will prepare an up-dated “task chart” to distribute next month.

It was suggested that someone reach out to Brian Strizki to write a DOTLine article on the recent rescue effort in the Florida condominium collapse.

Since there was no additional business to report or act on, a motion to close the meeting was made by Mike and seconded by Bob and the motion passed. Clint adjourned the meeting at 12:28 pm.

The next Board meeting will be held on Tuesday September 7 at Tessara. The next day will be our annual picnic. Clint will prepare the DOTLine for mailing at home.

Respectfully submitted,

*Andrea Mansfield*

Recording Secretary