

MINUTES OF MEETING

On Tuesday, January 2, 2024, 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 11:09 AM by President Clinton Griggs. The following were in attendance:

Bob Miller Ann Fratticcioli Janice DeJohn	Clinton Griggs Mike Eckel	Sandy Furness Andrea Mansfield

Absent were Dave Bizuga and Donna Troiano. Jim Dixon attended as an active member.

MINUTES: The December minutes were approved as distributed. Janice DeJohn moved to accept the minutes and Mike Eckel seconded.

TREASURER'S REPORT: The Treasurer's report was distributed by Dave Bizuga by e-mail prior to the meeting and read by Clint. Balance as of 12/31/23 was \$16,682.69 including \$5,252.37 in the checking account. A motion to accept this report was made by Bob Miller and seconded by Mike. The report was filed for audit.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT: Ann Fratticcioli reported that there was \$85.00 received for renewals in December; one member converted from annual membership to life membership. There were no new members. Several DOTLines were returned as undeliverable and also, we have no email or address for 13 members. Mike will take the list to the next informal breakfast (not a DOTRA function) and ask if anyone attending knows about the status of these members that we have no contact info for. Ann will attempt to update this information in our records.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Nominating Committee – There are now 9 Board members for 2023-24 term. Donna Troiano reported via e-mail, that she is stepping back from her duties as a Board member. She will remain on the Board of Directors until June when her term expires.

There was a discussion about ways to interest general members to get more involved and perhaps, join the Board of Directors. Ann and Sandy Furness proposed that we offer a one-time discount of \$10.00 to encourage annual members to convert to life membership for the cost of \$65.00 retroactive to 2023 in order to spark more interest. Andrea Mansfield moved that DOTRA make this offer and announce it in the February DOTLine; new members seeking life membership will still pay \$75.00. Sandy Furness seconded the motion and the motion carried.

All current members are asked to contact any DOT retiree who may like to volunteer to serve on the Board. At this point, our greatest need is the Assistant Treasurer, Corresponding Secretary and Chaplain.

By-Laws – No discussion this month.

Website – Ann reported everything is up to date on the website. She will continue to post notices on FaceBook also.

Employee Memorial Committee – Janice reported that nothing has changed since the last update.

Audit: Dave will be organizing the annual audit before April.

Historian – Mike's article on preparing for weather events will be used in the February DOTLine.

Chaplain – It was reported that Charles Zweigle [87] (DOTRA member), Ryan DelGrande [36], Alfred (Jim) Buchanan [71] and Jack Gahwyler [88] have recently passed away.

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

Holiday Luncheon- 59 people attended the Holiday Luncheon at Mercer Oaks on December 13. Receipts were \$2360.00 and the total cost was \$2711.00. DOTRA is absorbing the expense of \$351.00 in order to keep the price per person at \$40. The 50/50 netted \$245. The event was very pleasant and included entertainment by Frank Pinto on the keyboard and a surprise visit from Santa (Fran Davis). There were many door prizes donated and we should re-think how we draw the winners for the next luncheon because several people won more than one door prize and others went home without any. It was suggested that we confirm with Mercer Oaks that there will be a choice for dessert next year; this year they offered only chocolate cake. The date of next year's party will be December 11th.

March Breakfast- Dave has been in contact with Town & Country Diner to reserve our date and plan the menu and cost for the breakfast on March 20th. The meal will be served family-style, rather than plated. In this way, the food will be hotter when it is served quickly. The attendee's cost will be \$24.00 per person and DOTRA will fund any cost over-run.

Trenton Thunder Game- Available dates for 2024 season are July 18th and 25th. Fireworks and a picnic supper are scheduled for both of those nights. Jim Dixon is handling the details. He will request July 18th and utilize July 25th as a back-up date. We will be in the covered picnic area and the cost of each ticket will be \$28.00, the same price as last year.

Picnic—The date of the picnic will be September 18. Mike will reserve the MCP location as soon as the reservations are opened for the season.

OLD BUSINESS:

The Happy Hour will resume in March. Location to be determined.

NEW BUSINESS: The June luncheon will be on June 12. Several venues were discussed including Villa Mannino, Jimmy's, and O'Connor's in Mt. Holly. We will need to firm this up soon.

DOTLine articles are due to Sandy by January 15.

Since there was no additional business to report or act on, a motion to close the meeting was made by Bob and seconded by Andrea and the motion passed. Clint adjourned the meeting at 12:35 PM. The next Board meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 6, 2024 at Padrino's at 11 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea Mansfield

Recording Secretary