

On Tuesday, February 6, 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 11:04 AM by President Clinton Griggs. The following were in attendance:

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

Donna Troiano was absent. Jim Dixon attended as an active member. Sue Catlett and Lauralee Rappleye attended as interested members.

MINUTES: The January minutes were approved as distributed by e-mail prior to the meeting by Andrea Mansfield. Mike Eckel moved to accept the minutes and Bob Miller seconded.

TREASURER’S REPORT: The Treasurer’s report was distributed by Dave Bizuga by e-mail prior to the meeting and read by Dave. Balance as of 1/31/24 was \$16,756.21 including \$5,305.59 in the checking account. A motion to accept this report was made by Ann Fratticcioli and seconded by Sandy Furness. The report was filed for audit.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT: Ann Fratticcioli reported that there was \$405.00 received for membership in January- 3 members converted from annual membership to life membership at the bonus rate of \$65.00, one paid the regular rate of \$75.00 and 5 members paid the annual renewal rate of \$10.00 (one paid for 2 years). There is one new member application. Ann moved that we accept the life membership request from Bob Parker. Andrea seconded and the motion carried.

Ann recommended that we refund \$10.00 each to JoAnn Petti and Connie Kimmel who in December or early January, each paid \$75.00 to convert from annual membership to life membership.

We have no email or address for 13 members. Mike took the list to the informal breakfast on February 1 (not a DOTRA function) and asked if anyone attending knows the status of these members for whom we have no contact info. Ann will update any information we receive to our roster.

Previously published DOTLines will no longer be “shareable” from the DOTRA website. In this way, DOTLine will be exclusively available to DOTRA members. A new flyer “***DOTRA—Who We Are***” was created by Ann and will be posted on FaceBook and in several locations in the DOT headquarters.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Nominating Committee – There are now 9 Board members for 2023-24 term. There was a discussion about ways to interest general members to get more involved and, perhaps, join the Board of Directors.

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, Nominating Chair 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 as appropriate.

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

Audit: Dave will be organizing the annual DOTRA audit; Janice, Sandy and Andrea will form the Audit Committee. The Committee will set a date for some time in March.

Historian – Mike's article on preparing for weather events appears in the February DOTLine. He is preparing an article for the May DOTLine about interstate highways in New Jersey.

Chaplain – It was reported that Louis Marchuk [80] (DOTRA member), Mark Kianka [66], Stephen Palmer [75], Rita Cunningham [98], John Mike Bowen [75] and James Lezzano [75] have recently passed away.

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

March Breakfast- Dave has contacted Town & Country Diner to reserve our date and plan the menu and cost (+/- \$26.00) 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. Dave will be the contact for reservations, which are due no later than March 11. A flyer is in the February DOTLine.

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. We must pay for 20 tickets upfront to reserve our space and Dave will write that check. Complete details will be on a flyer in the May DOTLine.

OLD BUSINESS:

The Happy Hour will resume on March 28. Location to be determined.

The June luncheon will be on June 12. Several venues were discussed including Villa Mannino, Jimmy's, and O'Connor's in Mt. Holly. Ann and Janice have checked a few

places and the Board will make a choice at the March meeting. We will try to keep the price close to \$35.00, as it was last year.

NEW BUSINESS:

Dave suggested that a short description of each Board member's responsibilities be included in the May DOTLine, in an effort to demonstrate that none of the jobs are too time-consuming.

Since there was no additional business to report or act on, a motion to close the meeting was made by Andrea and seconded by Bob and the motion passed. Clint adjourned the meeting at 12:00 PM. The next Board meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 5, 2024 at Padrino's at 11 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea Mansfield

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