

MINUTES OCSJ BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

February 8, 2024 Meeting Number 2

Present: Barbara Berman, Barbara Brandt, Christine Denneler, Kevin Drevik, Joe Fabian, Vicky Gordon, Doug Hillebrecht, Fran Horn, Mark Laible, Rosemary Mason, Maura Mawn, Frank Pearce, Becky Strickland, Eloise Williams

Absent: Paul Beatty, Kathy Billman

Guests: Maria Andrews, Vanessa Kline, Kitty Lathorp, David Robertson

Previous Minutes

December and January minutes were circulated via email, and both approved unanimously.

President's Comments – Joe Fabian

Paul Beatty, Bicycling Chair, resigned unexpectedly. In talks with Paul now to find a replacement and he will help with the transitions.

Jim Bodnar is stepping up to organize the Cape May trip at the Chalfont. A portal will be set up for members to sign up directly with the hotel, including payments. An announcement will be sent out when everything is live, the full details are not yet known.

Had a chat with a Conservation Officer regarding mountain biking – illegal bike trails are being addressed. In many cases, they are through areas with endangered species. Volunteers (including OCSJ members) have been covering up the trails and removing blazes – hoping to “re-wild” them.

Treasurer's Report January 2024 – Mark Laible

TD Bank Checking Account	\$ 1,790.75	
Outstanding Checks	<u>\$ 0.00</u>	\$ 1,790.75
TD Bank Internet Account	\$ 3,387.10	
Outstanding Check	<u>\$ 0.00</u>	\$ 3,387.10
TD Bank Money Market Account	\$ 9,381.14	
Greve Memorial Funds	<u>\$ 7,468.01</u>	\$16,849.15
Certificate of Deposit (4.25%) Expires 7/28/24		\$40,000.00
TOTAL ASSETS:		<u>\$ 62,027.00</u>

Retained Earnings from Prior Years	\$63,825.95
Net Income (loss)	<u>(\$ 1,798.95)</u>
Retained Earnings	<u>\$62,027.00</u>

January was a good month with collections, mainly club dues and small normal expenses. CD expired and a new one was set up with a larger amount to take advantage of higher interest rates.

Motion to approve as circulated online for January by Eloise, 2nd by Barbara Brandt – approved.

January Membership Report – Ro Mason

January				PAST MONTHS
Single	939	New	52	Dec 1486
Family	451	Lapsed	35	Nov 1490
Lifetime	31	Renewals Due	114	Oct 1501
2023 Qualified Leaders	53	Checks	6	
OCSJ Board	16			
1490 Total				

Month-end is 1490 but already up to 1514 as of board meeting date. A few members who previously re-lapsed have returned. Family accounts are counted as one so truly our numbers are a little higher. Meetup is checked to make sure that people listed in the family account are correct.

Activities – Frank Pearce

There was one incident in January where a report was filed.

Canoe/Kayaking - Frank Pearce

Despite the cold weather, there is a plan for at least one kayak trip a month.

Hiking – Becky Strickland

52 hikes in January with 21 leaders. A few hikes were cancelled this month due to the weather.

Cycling –

No information provided. Paul is hoping to have a replacement set up before he sends an official announcement. Duties of the Chair have been provided so anyone interested can review.

Backpacking/Camping – Kevin Drevik

Six trips are planned this year, three by Kevin - Central PA and VA and one to be a beginner. Three will be set up by Ro Mason. Kevin will send the trip plans to Frank for the Club website so they don't get lost in Meet-up.

Cross Country Skiing –Barbara Brandt

We had SNOW!! Two trips were held in January. North Conway, NH the snow was beautiful for the first three days, the next three saw some rain but we also snowshoed. There were 26 on this trip including 9 new to cross-country skiing and everyone enjoyed themselves. Second trip to Stowe, VT saw some icy conditions and the snow not quite as good but still a good time. The third planned trip to Boone, NY had to be cancelled due to predictions of rain – everyone who wanted was able to cancel their reservations. One more long-weekend trip is set for end of February in Weston, NY.

Trail Maintenance – Ro Mason

We have some beaver holes to fill on the Batona and have been given permission to use extra bricks in Bass River to fill them. Assisted Rancocas State Park covering up the illegal bike trail on Westampton side – there is talk of adding more bike trails on the Hainesport side. Surveyed the Rechnitz Preserve for future trail work plans, and Evert Preserve is planned in the future. Barb Berman gave a shout-out to the Trail Crew for their work on the 1808 Trail. Two-year anniversary of the start of the work- but it is still being maintained and making it safer by replacing the original log-bridges with planks.

Fund Requests –

1. Frank requested A. a role of 500 OCSJ stickers at a cost of \$284. 2nd by Barbara Brandt – approved
B. 12 Batona Trail Patches \$72 for Paul's Batona Series and club members who complete with him. 2nd by Doug – approved
2. Ro requested 1000 OCSJ Brochures for \$393 for upcoming info booths and State Park boxes. 2nd by Barb Berman – approved.
3. Chris requested \$300 for Annual Hot Dog Hike – 2nd by Fran - approved.

Entering the Business Meeting portion and guests were asked to leave.

Old Business

Leaders Banquet – Barb Berman

Set for Sunday, March 24 at Riverton Country Club. Save-the-Dates and the Invitation have been sent with rsvps due March 12. There have already been some replies.

Chris volunteered to create the Centerpieces. Maura volunteered for the Sign-in Table again, will have Nametags this year. Chose cream-colored tablecloths and blue napkins.

Menu Choice has been set at \$32 per person and there will be a cash bar. The contract states a new policy this year that requires payment 10 days in advance.

Requested a podium, microphone and check-in table. Will get banner and Doug will bring brochures. Will look into ways to possibly display photos/videos in the background.

There has been no feedback yet about donations vs gifts for the Leaders.

Restrictions of Events during Deer/Shotgun season

There will be no Club events in areas that allow Shotgun Hunting the first Monday through Saturday in December due to potential liability. Will put a list together and notifications to Activity Leaders will be made mid-Summer with suggestions to hold events in non-hunting areas.

New Business

Executive Board Meeting - Joe

Discussion around Shotgun Season, Insurance, increasing Membership and Activity Leaders. Membership Goal set of 60 new members. Suggested recruiting Leaders on hikes/bike trips.

Recruitment of members planned through Information booths at various upcoming events – REI Meet & Greet, Burlington County Earth Day on April 21, the Pinelands Short Course on March 9.

Wild Apricot - Becky

Asked about who among the Board Members has access to Wild Apricot. Joe, Barb Berman, Ro and Frank have full access. Rest of Board Members have Read-Only. Access limited due to confidentiality.

Zoom for Specific Sessions - Paul

Access for special events was discussed. The OCSJ Zoom account has one license held by Barb Berman – and while it can be changed to someone else to hold calls there is some coordination needed due to two-factor

identification. Zoom is free for everyone as long as calls last 45 minutes, many group calls were made this way in the past – and even set up to hang-up and new person set up a call for the second half.

Outdoor Club Webpage – Joe

Newsletter links are found on the right hand side of page.

Club Picnic - Doug

Preliminary planning has started with Saturday, May 11 as this year's date. To be held again at Pakim Pond.

Meetup Password Issues – Barb Berman

Meetup has been difficult for some users lately, password issues, some members are showing up twice on event reservations. It has been reported and Meetup Engineers are working on it. A message will be sent out regarding the problems.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn made by Doug seconded by Kevin. Meeting adjourned.

Submitted by

Vicky Gordon, Recording Secretary

President - Joe Fabian