

MINUTES OCSJ BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

January 11, 2024 Meeting Number 1

Present: Barbara Berman, Paul Beatty, Kathy Billman, Christine Denneler, Kevin Drevik, Joe Fabian, Vicky Gordon, Fran Horn, Mark Laible, Rosemary Mason, Maura Mawn, Frank Pearce, Becky Strickland, Eloise Williams

Absent: Barbara Brandt, Doug Hillebrecht

Previous Minutes

December's minutes were circulated via email, but a mistake was caught last minute that the November Finance Report was mis-labeled for December. A correction will be made and re-circulated and reviewed in February's meeting.

President's Comments – Joe Fabian

Happy New Year, got out and attended a New Year's Day Hike. Have a few club goals for 2024, abide by safety goals, goal to increase membership, perhaps adding more younger members

Treasurer's Report December 2023 – Mark Laible

TD Bank Checking Account	\$ 2,002.12	
Outstanding Checks	<u>\$ (134.81)</u>	\$ 1,867.31
TD Bank Internet Account	\$ 3,260.01	
Outstanding Check	<u>\$ 0.00</u>	\$ 3,260.01
TD Bank Money Market Account	\$ 15,711.97	
Greve Memorial Funds	<u>\$ 7,468.01</u>	\$23,179.98
Certificate of Deposit (4.25%) Expires 1/28/24		\$30,541.98
TOTAL ASSETS:		<u>\$ 58,849.12</u>
Retained Earnings from Prior Years		\$63,825.95
Net Income (loss)		<u>(\$ 4,976.83)</u>
Retained Earnings		<u>\$58,849.12</u>

December saw the payment of some expenses, annual Meetup fees, OCSJ Domain Name and PO Box among others. Expenses for the year were in-line for what had been budgeted. Our CD expires 1/28/24, and we will

renew and increase it from \$30K to \$40K so our money is working for us. There aren't any large expenses coming up for the year but if something were to come up, the CD can be cancelled with a small penalty.

Motion to approve as circulated online for December by Becky, 2nd by Barbara Berman – approved.

December Membership Report – Ro Mason

DECEMBER 932 Single 446 Family 31 Lifetime 61 Qualified leaders 2022 16 Board members 1486 Total	New 33 Lapsed 47 Checks 4	PAST MONTHS Nov 1490 Oct 1501 Sept 1502
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A dip of members to as low as 1475 but also picked up a few new, current numbers as of 1.11.24 are 1496.

Gathered all the 2023 Qualified Leaders names and upped their OCSJ memberships for 2024 and submitted names to Barbara in preparation for the Leadership Banquet. There were 53 Leaders and with additional Board Members and Lifetime Members, 73 "Save the Date" notices for the March 2024 Leaders Banquet were sent out. There are some 'double-dippers'- Leaders who are also board members or lifetime members, etc.

A question was brought up about members who are taking part in various Mileage Clubs– they are not included in invitations for the banquet unless they are also qualified leaders. The Mileage Clubs do sometimes have their own annual get-togethers.

Canoe/Kayaking - Frank Pearce

Frank has been on vacation and Thanked Ro for taking over for him in the month of December. There were 2 kayak trips in December. A former member asked about advertising equipment for sale on the OCSJ website and was told no – it's for members only. Suggestion given for them to utilize "South Jersey Kayakers".

Hiking – Becky Strickland

57 hikes in December with 23 Leaders. 711 hikes through Year-end 2023. 12 leaders are responsible for about 1/3 of the hikes each month. There will be 5/6 new hike leaders, they have been training with Becky and Di.

Cycling – Paul Beatty

For December: 20 rides across 7 leaders, mostly trail rides. Year-end numbers are 339 rides with 28 leaders. 16 led 5 or more rides for the year making them Qualified Leaders

Backpacking/Camping – Kevin Drevik

Nothing planned for winter, but Leaders are getting ready for the season starting in April with 8 planned trips.

Cross Country Skiing – Fran for Barbara Brandt

Two trips are planned for January and 2 scheduled later – all pretty much booked.

Trail Maintenance – Ro Mason

Been dealing with Beaver sink holes on the Batona Trail, planning to fill with bricks and sandbags in the next few weeks. Walked Whispering Pines looking for blowdowns and flooding reports, will be working there next Tuesday. One trail member has been hired as a Trail Steward for Rancocas State Park-Alan Crawford

Fund Requests – None

Old Business

Leaders Banquet – Barb Beman

Save the Date notice was sent out, for the event at Riverton Country Club Sunday, March 24 2pm-4pm. This year's catering package is more expensive than previous years so may have to study the menu for best choices. Kristin, who made centerpieces last year will not be available this year, but she will help with the online database tracking.

Discussion of Leaders gifts and Kevin suggested in lieu of Leader gifts to donate to up to three/four charities in the members names. Motion was made by Barbara and seconded by Becky – approved.

Ro will send out a list of the charities we donated to in 2022 (minus those that did not acknowledge) for the team to vote on – requested back by Jan 25 (Date of Exec Board Meeting)

Spearhead Project Earth - Becky

Becky noted that they requested again for volunteers from the club to help clean up waterways in Southern New Jersey. The request will be put in the newsletter for anyone interested.

Leader Complaints – Becky

There have been complaints about some leaders who hike too fast, most leaders are clear about their paces. Suggestions to read the description to make sure members can keep up with the designated pace and/or distance. Do not join if it looks like it will be too fast.

New Business

Deer Season/Shotgun Week – Becky

The first week in December is Shotgun week – and it's suggested that in certain areas of the Pine Barrens the club should not have hikes or events scheduled due to hunting activity – there are no restrictions of hunters shooting over trails so everyone should just not be out that week for safety and consideration of the hunters.

Executive Board Meeting – Joe

Executive Board will be meeting Jan 25 to go over some issues such as verification of the rules of the insurance policy, waiving rights regarding cars/shuttles, waivers, alcohol (which is prohibited in the State Parks)

Question about the use of the term “mountain bike” vs “trail bike” and insurance which will be researched since mountain bikes are the normal term whether riding on mountain or flat lands (which is all south jersey has anyway). Reminder that insurance covers the club and leaders, is not for individual member issues.

Eloise had a question about Meetups for Rides and if they always need to be a part of RideGPS.

Paul – Meetup is the tool used to schedule group rides, and shorter rides do not need to use RideGPS – it's beneficial for long rides and gives information about potential elevation and trail routes, especially helpful for breakaways so everyone knows the route if they are separated. Short distance rides where everyone stays together do not need to use it. Waivers can be electronic or on paper sign-in sheets.

Question about the pace of Bike Rides – C vs C+ or C/C+

Paul – C= 12-14 MPH and C+ is 13-15 MPH. As long as the leader is descriptive about what pace they are planning, members need to read the event description.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn made by Becky seconded by Barbara. Meeting adjourned.

Submitted by Vicky Gordon, Recording Secretary

President - Joe Fabian