Solar Outdoors Steering Committee Minutes

January 19, 2021

Meeting called to order at: 7:02 PM

**Quorum members present:** Debbie Hendrickson, Bill Morse, Carol McCririe, Debbie Zuchlewski, Mike Hobig, Laura Miller, Elaine Granch, George Nehasil, Dave Warnecke, Deb Ritter, Stacie Kitchen

**Quorum members absent:** Doreen Byrne

**Other attendees:** Jennifer Tislerics

Previous month’s meeting minutes reviewed: Elaine moved, and Bill seconded, to approve the November 2020 minutes. Approved.

**President Debbie Hendrickson**

- Annual budget - how much do you think you will need for 2021?  Please bring numbers that we can vote on

It was decided for this meeting, to confine financial matters to those requiring immediate action. Carol will come up with budget numbers to be reviewed at the February meeting.

- Elections - who will be staying on and who will be leaving the SC?  Start recruiting....

Each member should let Debbie know what they plan to do. Members who will not be returning, or prefer not to, include George, Deb Z, Deb R, Elaine, and Mike. Laura is willing to ‘trade’ her Equipment role for something else.

- Members posting events on Meetup/Social media

Those who have demonstrated competence with leading activities will become part of the Activities Committee, and will be able to post their events as they see fit. Committee members will include Bill, Dave, Leslie Cordova, and Ann Riley-Gawura. Deb Z will let Leslie and Ann know this. Other Solar members should continue to work thru the Activities chair to post on Meetup/Social media, but may be added to the committee if they successfully lead activities.

- Online skill shares

- We WILL decide what we will call the former Education chair name this month!

Mike will review and get back with the SC about changes to Bylaws wording that he recommends.

**Vice president Doreen Byrne**

No report

**Secretary Bill Morse**

I will not be at the Feb SC meeting. Can someone else record the minutes?

I noticed that we had no Meetup announcement for this meeting, so I created one using language I liked. We’ll need announcements for future meetings.

There are some things we’ve considered doing, that I believe are still open actions. They are listed below. The first three are mentioned in the minutes, and I’ve listed the months where they’re mentioned. I don’t think the last two are in any minutes, but have been discussed. We should probably try to accomplish whatever is most pressing, before our term ends.

-Many changes need to be made on Meetup and on the website concerning verbiage, such as ‘classes’, and the description of the group. For example, Meetup gives the impression that certain activities are happening now, whereas they haven’t been offered by members for several years. We discussed having a series of Zoom sessions to make the changes. People within the general membership might want to help with the editing, and a note will be sent to the membership about this. (Aug)

-Create a document showing who on the SC does what in terms of posting on Facebook, Meetup, and so forth. (Sep and Nov) Debbie H will start this.

-Discuss logo (Nov)

-Google group for members: Provide written guidelines, such as used with the Yahoo group. Bill will do this, and get feedback from the SC before posting.

-Update our position descriptions. Debbie H will send these out. It was suggested that we consider if Covid-19 is impacting anything we do, as we review our descriptions.

**Treasurer Carol McCririe**

Attached please find the year end comparative statement of financial position and statement of activity for 2020.

I've also attached the final budget to actual report for the end of 2020.  Because of our inactive status, Activities, Equipment, Program, and Communications have significant amounts that can be carried into 2021. We will not carry any amounts into 2021.

At the November meeting, we tabled discussion regarding the record retention policy.  Since we have to get 2021 budgets approved, I would like to recommend that we wait until the February SC meeting.

QuickBooks online has been approved for the $25 fee through February.  I have not had a chance to finish my review of the AutoBooks option for conversion from QB but will try to have this for the Feb meeting also.

Since our web hosting fees were due, I paid the Dreamhost bill of $203.40 this month and although it was given a nod via email (majority), I think we need to make it official at the SC meeting.  This hosting covers us until 12/10/2021. Jennifer moved, and Bill seconded, that we retroactively approve paying the Dreamhost bill of $203.40 for 2021. Approved.

Our current bank balance is $13,696.45 - attached please find the activity for the first 2 weeks of January.

Last year I paid the annual storage fee on 2/13 after talking them down from a significant increase over 2019.  Laura, do you want to speak with them and find out what the renewal will be if we pay the year up front?  Our fee for 2020 was $1,944.

**Activities Debbie Zuchlewski**

**Past Activities**

Friday, November 20

Hike at Bald Mountain North

Friday, November 27

Stony Creek Metropark Hike

Saturday, December 19

Third Annual Belle Isle Hike

**Future Activities**

Saturday, January 23, 2021

Challenging Hike at Algoe Lake

Wednesday - Sunday, May 12-16, 2021

Sturgeon Guarding Program

Friday - Sunday, October 8-10, 2021

Autumn Camping and Hiking Trip

**Bylaws (vacant)**

No report

**Education Chair Mike Hobig**

There has been no Skill Sharing events that have happened.

The Photo Share presentation for our next club event/meeting has been mostly done. Voting is currently happening. There have been some issues with dropped images in voting and in presentation preparation.

I have not heard from all the developers, posters, members etc. to know if concerns are addressed. They seem to keep surfacing. I tried.

I can see that running a photo contest on one day is a bit hectic but it removes a lot of the churn of sharing files etc. I think this works for remote meetings but if we ever did a hybrid meeting for members across the country, I would mandate in person voting to in person images. Members could present their photos by having them delivered to the meeting in that situation to greatly simplify the process.

**Equipment Chair Laura Miller**

Equipment continues to be available for checkout.

Repairs made to Big Agnes Copper Spur 2P tent on tent and rainfly.

Laura moved, and Carol seconded, to spend up to $2,000 for storage rental for 2021. Approved.

**Historian (vacant)**

No report

**Membership Elaine Granch**

* There were 3 new Single Annual Members added since November.
* All members who had a Yahoo account have been added to Google groups. Information was taken from the roster. I originally was comparing a download of the members from Yahoo to the roster, but that was taking too long, so I just used the roster. I will go back to the list to add anyone who was not listed.
  + I email a request (at least twice) to the gmail address when I cannot determine an identity from the request. Most people do not reply - should I accept them anyway? It was suggested that members be asked to assist, via the members’ Google group, if any identity can’t be determined.
* The revised Membership application is almost ready.
  + Do we want to have new members request to join the Google group and text messaging or add them and leave it to them to opt-out? New members will be added to the Google group and to text messaging, but they’ll be notified three days ahead of time, so they can opt out if they desire.
* I haven’t had time to go through the returned postcards. That is on my list. I will plan another trip to the P.O.
* box in the next 2 weeks (or Feb 1 when I have to go to Ann Arbor).

**Programs George Nehasil**

No report

George is tracking a couple leads for future programs.

George will post a Meetup announcement about the photo contest, and members will contact him for the link.

**Public Relations Dave Warnecke**

The only thing that I have worked on has been the Photo Contest.

Mike created an excellent presentation that can be shown for the next virtual meeting.

I have created the four posts that showcase the different categories and left instructions on how to vote in each post.

I have the pictures listed in a spreadsheet, that will help me tally up the votes.

As of this writing, we have 6 voters submitted. There were 30 entries, as of the SC meeting.

This was a struggle to do everything remotely and keep things organized.  I hope that members are patient and will not take it as an offense if something was missed.

**Communications Chair Deb Ritter**

Supported the photo contest and the winter party by generating posts on Facebook and google groups.

No new blogs posted this month; however, plan to ‘recycle’ old articles in the coming month.  Reached out to Mary Winkler re: possible blog post on the Black River Sturgeon guard trip in May 2021. Deb did a blog on this trip.

**Webmaster Stacie Kitchen**

No report

Stacie briefly showed the website she created. We’re asked to review it, and provide input to her (Solar-Outdoors.org). One suggestion that was made was to offer history materials to the website.

**Unfinished Business**

We need to approve some funding for the TextMagic texting service, and put some funds into our account ASAP, in order to avoid losing our account this coming weekend. We don't have enough money in there to pay the $4/month subscription fee.

Laura moved, and Elaine seconded, to spend $150 for TextMagic texting service for 2021. Approved.

**New Business**

Jennifer suggested that we continue hosting membership meetings on Zoom, but share the Zoom video into Facebook so more people can watch. We’ll give it a try.

**Next meeting Tue Feb 16 7 PM, on Zoom**

Meeting Adjourned at: 8:34 PM

Meeting minutes notes taken by Bill Morse