

Solar Outdoors

Steering Committee Agenda

Date: 4/19/2022

Meeting called to order at: 7:08 pm

Note: Agenda is in regular font

Italic writing is additional information at the meeting



Quorum members present: Debbie Hendrickson, Laura Miller, Bob Tacy, Elaine Granch, David Warneke, Karen Haroutunian, Carol McCririe, Krisanne Schmidt

Others present:

Absent: Leslie Cordova, Anandhi Chandran, Doreen Byrne

Minutes approved from last meeting on March 22, 2022 as amended by all present.

President Debbie Hendrickson

- Topics of discussion: Elections, May 'turn over' meeting.
- *Bob Tacy did send out a post about elections. He will add that interested parties to contact Debbie Hendrickson directly and send another post.*
- *Current Open Positions: President, Vice President, Education, Bylaws, Historian, Programs, Membership, Communications,*
- *Current SC members running for these position: Activities, Secretary, Equipment, Webmaster, Public Relations, Treasurer*
- *Turn over meeting in May, Debbie made a suggestion of meeting by zoom and SC agreed to have the May SC meeting as a zoom meeting.*

Vice president Doreen Byrne

- No report

Secretary Laura Miller

- Call for reports email sent and agenda developed for SC meeting. Minutes from March, SC meeting and agenda emailed to SC on 4/19/2022 at 12:20 pm.

Treasurer Carol McCririe

- *Carol sent statement of activity for the month and our current bank balance.*
- *Six month of Meetup was paid.*

Activities Krisanne Schmidt

- Nothing new to report
- *Make 'n Take changed to be combined with the summer picnic on June 11 at Bluebird Shelter at Island Lake*

Bylaws Leslie Cordova

- No report

Education Chair Anandhi Chandran

- No report from Anandhi
- *Wilderness First Aid Workshop online on May 19, 2022, 7-9:30 pm*
- *Beginning Backpacking for fall 2022*

Equipment Chair Phil Crookshank

April 10, Krisanne, David W, Phil met at Storage Sense at 11am, went in and started analyzing every category of equipment, lots of discussions about what we NEED, what workshops NEED, David and I gave preference to Krisanne's decisions, since she is the one who has done all the workshops, and has the best idea on what is really needed.

We made tremendous progress by delegating duties, as we made decisions, Dave kept track of what, Phil loaded the cart, and began loading his van full of 9 backpacks, 14 sleeping pads, 3 obsolete tarps, collections of tarp poles, several huge cooking pots, small cook sets, all of this went in Phil's van to be delivered to friend Garrett Dempsey, organizer of Detroit Outdoors, Scouts of Detroit, Rouge Park Scouts, Boys and girls clubs, with equipment barn at Palmer Park Golf Club.

This old, heavy equipment was decided that this equipment was not used by membership and would be better to be donated to groups that could use it.

Phil had received 3 backpacks and camp gear recently from old members, 2 of those went to Garrett, 1 stayed with us.

We went through most of the other categories of Gear, made notes of what we could dispose of at a future day, many tents can go, more backpacks can go, many sleeping bags can go, 10 obsolete stoves can go, etc. These items will be brought to the SOLAR picnic, to be offered to members FIRST - leftovers will be offered to scouts, or other outdoor outfits later. Many sleeping bags can go, since there are not any winter activities of yesteryear done for over 10 years. So - we made a great start, and we 3 plan to meet again in June to decide for more disposals.

Phil had taken a Celestial Telescope home, that had been accepted from a donor, and never looked at - None of it was in the original box, so I set it up in my living room to see what it needed - it needed a heck of a lot of repairs, refurbishing broken parts, drilling out stripped screw holes, tapping for larger screws, dismantling the brackets for holding the tripod together, made new adapters for the legs, and on and on. Finally finished after a month of work, have found a recipient in Detroit that runs a neighborhood youth group, giving bicycles to Detroit kids, has space for the scope, and will use it for educating the kids of star gazing, and has a large place to store the equipment. Delivery this Tuesday. WHEW.

So - the 3 of us met and made a big dent in the equipment room, have lists made of what to work on next, what to offer to sell to our members at the picnic, and a list of places to donate our extra equipment - to go to appropriate clubs, scouts, etc. The big objective is to get everything not used or needed to new owners, our stuff can then fit into a smaller room, at a smaller cost. I predict that we will get this accomplished by fall, and can explore moving our stuff to a more safe area, one of the 2 new storage places that I interviewed recently.

Kudos to Krisanne and David (and me) for accomplishing a lot, and ready to accomplish a lot more.

Historian Karen Haroutunian

- No report

Membership Elaine Granch

Membership Report

- No new members joined in the last month.

- Meet-up membership is 246, it was 239 last month. Difficult to tell how many are new and how many are in the trial period. Will reach out to Dave for the password to print the report.

- To do: clean-up the roster; send Membership info to Stacie for web after Steering Committee vote along with updated membership form

Programs Open Position

- *May speaker: Isle Royale presentation Erin ?. Bob discussed about posting on Facebook and more advertising with other groups like MAC, etc.*
- **Bob Tacy:** Jim DuFresne said that he is available to speak about the trails along M-22 on the NW side of Michigan at our Tuesday, November 29, 2022 meeting. *There is a \$50 transportation fee, which would come out of the Programs budget.*

Public Relations Bob Tacy

- Created Facebook and Instagram posts about ticks and for the April Meeting.
- Contacted website programmer about allowing dues payment on the website and discussed with Carol McCririe. *To be discussed under new business.*
- Obtained description and photos from Erin Parker for May presentation.

Communications Chair Dave Warnecke

- Phil, Krisanne and I reviewed the items in storage. We made a dent in the quantity of stored items by removing items that were very old and would no longer be considered to be good equipment.
- We also identified a number of items that are in good condition, but that do not get checked out.
- We were thinking that we could bring this equipment to the picnic to offer it to membership, for a suggested donation. The club owns a large pavilion tent and several tarps. The equipment could be set up on tarps under the tent to keep it from getting dirty.
- Just as a reminder, at \$2,200 we would need 55 non-lifetime members to pay the \$40 yearly rental fee (\$5 membership + \$35 rental allowance) just to break even on the storage of this equipment.

Webmaster Stacie Kitchen

WEBSITE ANALYTICS:

- Showed up in Search: 203
- Total Clicks to Website from Google Search: 9
- Redirection Hits to our Website: 210

WEBSITE:

- Text Message Sign-ups on Website Footer:
 - 1 Member (Susan Woelke)
 - 2 non-member (reached out to them and 1 responded)
 - Gave them the date, time and place for our in-person meeting to inquire about club
- Membership Page:
 - Need to update this page with new information (haven't received yet)
- Steering Committee Page:
 - Do Not have:
 - By laws
 - Education
 - Equipment
 - Programs

APPAREL WEBSITE (CAFÉ PRESS):

- Designing “Adventures are more fun with friends” Tag line to some apparel this month

PRINT PRODUCTS:

- Will have PROOFS of Business Card Layout and Banner for Tuesday’s Meeting
- Please Add this 6 x 2 ft Banner PROOF to my WEBMASTER REPORT for REVIEW.
- Will have to send Business Card proof later tomorrow. Once approved you will have it for Tuesday’s meeting as long as I put the order in by Weds before 9am.
- Please Add this 6 x 2 ft Banner PROOF to my WEBMASTER REPORT for REVIEW.



*Adventures are more
fun with Friends!*

www.SolarOutdoors.org



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Discussion about is the wording too big compared with logo. Suggested to put the website with larger font and the adventures are more fun with friend a little bit smaller font. Discussion about the orange not being as readable from a distance, wondered about another color or outlining the orange with black. Debbie to email Stacie.

Unfinished Business

- *Phil suggested adding the website on the meeting presentation. Start the meeting off with the website view and show some of the pages as the meeting starts. Bob talked about at the membership meeting to walk people through the new website and Café Press site. Asked about where to find a shirt size chart. Can we use part of the meeting in April to present Café' Press and the in the May meeting for website? Everyone agreed this would be a good plan.*

New Business

- *Decide on the payment method we want to add to the website - PayPal, Venmo, etc. Carol asked about the fees with Meetup using PayPal so we are only getting \$4.12 of the \$5 for the membership dues. Do we want to pass the fees onto to membership? This is happening when you signup through Meetup for a workshop. Agreement from group to have payment access right on our SolarOutdoors website for membership dues, equipment rental fee, sponsorship, events. Discussion of is it is harder to work out on the website if the fees are changing for like the equipment. We could have the programmer make the code and only have Stacie install on our website the payment options we want at any given time.*
- *Decide on what options we want to give people to make payments - Membership Dues, Sponsorships of Events/Speakers, Deposits for Equipment rentals. Bob talked about the person whom his business website could writes the code for payment options on our website. He could write up the code for Stacie to add to the website.*

- Discuss Solar and Cafe Press website demonstrations at the April meeting. *Discussion in old business section.*
- *Summer picnic: Discussed having at Island Lake in the Bluebird Shelter. July is totally booked. Available June 11, July 2 (Fourth of July weekend), July 30, Aug. 13, Aug 20 or in fall. Summer was too hot some years. Discussed having an earlier date for equipment sale. \$140 for rental and \$8 for reservation fee to reserve for 40 people Carol McCririe rented the shelter for June 11.*
- *Bylaws additional revisions sent out March 24. Discussed and reviewed changes of the verbiage. Motion to change the bylaws additional revisions made by Elaine and seconded by Laura. Approved by all present. Motion accepted*

Next meeting

- Tuesday, May 24, 2022

Meeting Adjourned at: 8:35 pm.

Meeting minutes reports submitted by each committee members and *Italic notes taken by Laura Miller.*