

Solar Outdoors

Steering Committee Minutes

Date: July 19, 2022

Meeting called to order at: 7 pm

Note: Agenda is in regular font

Italic writing is additional information at the meeting



Quorum members present: Mike Hobig, Laura Miller, Bob Tacy, Carol McCririe, Dana Buxton, David Warnecke, Jon Swingle, Karen Haroutunian, Krisanne Schmidt, Phil Crookshanks, Stacie Kitchen

Others present:

Absent:

Minutes approved *by all present.*

President Mike Hobig

Gear:

I was given Helmets and Knee Pads to sell or donate. Garrett Peabody Ice Climbing took 1/3rd of them (about 13) for an (125 \$ agreed value) to go toward Solar running an event later, Jeff McWilliams will coordinate

Assuming those who took gear from the sale have discretion to sell, donate and or dispose of what they have and are they expected to report back to SC

Remember:

To get help scheduling and launching virtual meeting platform for SC meeting.

I also want to make sure we can do the same for the General Membership meeting.

Webmaster:

I gave a list to Stacie that outlined priorities she is making good progress on them.

I have also provided preliminary short statements to Bob for working up initial button picks for paying dues, making equipment deposits, making donations and attending events.

I have had Stacie put my email as a connect for info@solaroutdoor.org so inquiries can be directed to me, if I fall behind, I can direct to other members. Do any other SC members want to receive and field inquiries?

Krisanne and Dave have been added to have access to the website so they can update bios, etc. Have everyone sent in their bios. Should we be sending them the Bio and Image for updating?

Posting to Meetup: Had a note from Krisanne about posting to meetup. We are using meetup as our primary calendar on the internet, I think. I think only members should be ok'd to post.

Test Blast: Jennifer Tislerics said she would give a tutorial on how to use Text Magic. we have not used it since November 2021, Stacie looked up that we have about 134 dollars toward the service still

Bylaws: Carol has some changes identified to portion of the bylaws. It seems that Education is not a term some care to change but I think we should continue to remove: "school" language from our bylaws.

To that end would like discussion to start on minimally the name and process of notification to members of change and what else SC has to do to make this happen.

(from Jenn T) The rules for how to change the Bylaws are in the Bylaws. You do not have to have a Bylaws Chairperson in order to change them. Anyone on the Steering Committee can propose a change to the Bylaws, but that exact change needs to be provided to the rest of the Steering Committee at least 5 days in advance of voting on it, and in writing (email suffices).

The trickiest part is making sure there is a current version of the Bylaws saved someplace where people can access it; ideally in a few places to make sure it isn't accidentally deleted entirely. I don't know where the most recent version is kept.

Saint Paul's Access: Carol was sent a reminder that if Livonia Public Schools are closed for snow days – St. Paul's is closed for the entire day and evening – no exceptions. It is unlikely to affect your group – but not impossible

Still would like to modify Voting Box: Had talk with Stacie, she said she has capability for making vinyl version of logo, I want to find out if we can make a new 9 x 9 inch max version for the side of the voting box. (Voting box currently has old logo which I plan to keep and S.O.L.A.R. on top, I hope to color out the dots, do we know who painted it last from yellow to get matching paint)

Continuing Goal: Want to better cross connection of club's social media. During discussion with Stacie, we talked about better connecting and nesting our social profile, cross connect, buttons and links to each of our prime sites, FB / .org / Meetup / PayPal / Café Press. I would like to see a link to contact other members, how to post, tutorial page. I made a graphic to try to understand our physical and virtual connections and to facilitate discussion.



Vice President David Warnecke

- I have updated the business style cards based on the last discussion. To save meeting time, if anyone is interested in reviewing them I will email the design.

- *Dave will send out the draft of the business card and Dave is planning to donate the cost. He is going to print about 25 cards to make sure they look good.*

Secretary Laura Miller

Called for report emailed sent with June SC minutes provided by Carol McCrie, created July Agenda and emailed to SC from the Google Groups drive. Emailed Carol Rogers about having editing privileges for the SC for president, secretary and communications chair and to add Jon and Dana to the list.

Treasurer Jon Swingle

Cash in the bank is \$14,000.58. Statement of Activity through July 17, 2022 is attached. Requesting a budget adjustment for QuickBooks Online as Intuit raised the monthly fee from \$25 to \$30.

Discussion for the budget adjustment, motion made by Laura and seconded by Carol, vote was passed by all present.

Statement of activity separate document.

Mike asked who are the members have access to the Solar Outdoors bank account. Right now, only the treasure is on the account and the debit card. Carol to transfer treasured to Jon next week.

Activities Krisanne Schmidt

Past activities:

- Backpack Grand Island July 4th weekend
- Paddle to the Symphony Moonlight paddle

Upcoming activities:

- Huron River and Lake Kayaking July 30
- Moonlight Paddle August 13

We are very short on Activities again. We need to find a way to encourage members to lead Activities. *Mike would like to set up an Art Walk, also a day trip for backpacking meals at stores like Trader Joes. Laura is going to plan a car camping for Art Prize in Grand Rapids in Sept/Oct.*

*Other-I am still selling the remaining gear. Sold 2 tents and 1 sleeping bag for \$130 total. I believe I have a buyer for the remaining 2 rock climbing packs.

New Business -not activities related:

It was brought to my attention that our ABOUT info on Meetup needs to be revised.

It still says:

Solar Outdoors uses Meetup as a tool of convenience for our members to quickly get information about upcoming classes and activities and to sign up and pay for these events online. That's why our Meetup group is restricted to paid members of the club and non-members have very limited access. Once you have checked us out online and, we hope, in person by attending one of our monthly meetings, you can decide if becoming a member is right for you. **If so, you can join the club by downloading the membership form (<http://solaroutdoors.com/downloads/S.O.L.A....>), filling it out, and either submitting it with a check for the dues payment at one of the meetings or mailing both to the address listed on the bottom of the membership form. Once you are a club member you will have access to this Meetup group.** Thank you for your interest in Solar Outdoors. We hope to meet you soon.

We need this to reflect that people can join on Meetup now.

Still having difficulty with Meetup new members and the 14 days waiting period and if they don't pay their dues being kicked off events they signed up for.

Bylaws Vacant

- *No report. Carol to make some changes to the bylaws for review at the Aug. SC meeting.*

Education Carol McCririe

- The only workshop pending is the beginning backpacking which starts next month.
- I am working on a draft of the procedures to run a workshop. Krisanne sent me a document that was developed for activities so that the two can be in sync for meetup, etc.
- It has been suggested that we need to change the name from education to ??? I feel that this isn't necessary; education can be defined as the sharing of knowledge, and that is basically what the workshop leaders do - they share knowledge from experience.
- *Discussion and about Education. We continue to remove the word class to workshop and that education is still appropriate for our workshops and sharing of knowledge.*

Equipment Chair Phil Crookshank

I spent 6 hours last week in the gear room, sorting through a lot of equipment that didn't sell at the picnic - a big pile (15) of lightweight climbing or mountaineering harnesses that were so old they were stiff went, along with old storage bags for different things that got no interest at the sale. I eliminated another backpack that was 6#, and so full of zippers, straps, pouches, hidden pockets, that it was maddening to try to get it all working. And the most important strap - to adjust and hold the torso length was missing. Also hidden inside that pack was the missing 311 new B.A. sleeping pad, so now we have another one to lend.

I spent a lot of time measuring all of our components in the room, and know that the large high, table that I made to fit into one corner, with room for 6 big tubs underneath, and all the winter shovels, snowshoes, poles, etc, on top - - that table will have to go.

Lets see if anyone would like it for a garage storage shelf - the hood of a car could slide underneath it, with storage on top. Also, all the winter stuff on top of the table must go.

And there are **7 large tubs** of party decorations, tablecloths, table decorations, 24 glass jars for candles, and literally hundreds of all sizes paper plates, cold drink cups, hot drink cups, 5,000 napkins, and on and on. Also a big tub with real silverware that was collected for the 45th reunion party. Do we really need 500 each of forks, spoons, knives? And a tub of pretty big picnic B.B. Q. tools, gloves, etc. Most all of that should be parcelled out somewhere, or we won't be able to downsize to a 10 x 10 room.

i've made a chart of how all the shelving we have will fit into 10 x 10, and the backpack hanging pole will be cut down to be slightly less than 10'. I will make some adaptors to hang the pole off of the shelving units, since there are only sheet metal walls in the units.

So - I would like to plan to start moving out in the first week of August. And **start** to move in to the Clover unit by the 2nd week of August. Clover has a small U-hall truck we get to use for the big shelving units, and much of the shelving contents.

I will need a few days in advance **Stage 1** to get the 12" square shelving unit over to Clover first, cut the pole down to length, make up some wooden supports for the pole - to the floor, and also sideways to be attached to a shelving unit. Once that is in place, then one big move will get the rest moved. Lets talk about helpers to move - - 2 of us can move the **Stage 1** stuff as mentioned above. Then several days for me to get the backpack pole, and shelf attachments made, then one big move **Stage 2** needing 5 or 6 people, by the 3rd week of August, done by the last of August.

So - Jon (treasurer) do you have the credit card to pay for one more month at Storage Sense? Unit 1414. Pay anytime before the 28th of July, and that will carry us through.

They email the receipt to me, and I can forward to you.

AND - Steering Committee - are we in agreement to move to Clover in August? If so, I'd like to have Jon start our contract by the 2nd week August 2. I would meet with them again, in a week, and finish the details, and start the contract.

Treasurer - for reference -

Clover Self Storage (New facility) (\$180. per month for 10x10, as promised last spring)

28900 Schoolcraft (service Drive)

Livonia, MI. 48150

734-525-1000

(Schoolcraft service drive, N. side of Jeffries frwy, 1/4 mile east of Middlebelt)

Storage Sense-Unit #1414 (Current facility) (\$195 for 10x15, with fake insurance)

15440 Telegraph Road (just N. of 5 mile road, east side of Tele.

Redford, MI. 48239

313-242-5142

redford@storagesense.com

The End, Phil Crookshank

Discussion about current unit and moving in August to new unit. Do we have to pay the entire month or only for part of the month. When Phil talked to Clover Self Storage in Jan., they would give the first month free but he has not talked to them again. Phil is asking for funds to pay for both unit for the month of August. Clover is a one-year contract. Further discussion about the cost of storing equipment as well as the safety concerns. Carol suggested Phil contact Clover in the next month to check on the current price and then report back at the next meeting or by email.

Historian Karen Haroutunian

- No report.

Membership Dana Buxton

- No report.
- *Dana does not know how to look up the Meetup new members. Dave was able to look up the new members on Meetup. Dave can see several new members and will share how to access Meetup. He will send email to schedule a time to meet with her to show her Meetup.*

Programs Open Position

- *See information provided by Bob Tacy in the Public Relations below.*
- *Carol talk with Ann Riley-Gawura about present in borders to bridge NCT hiking. Carol reported Ann agreed to present in October.*
- *Mike contacted Dave Oakley about presenting woodcarving and historic Fort Wayne. Mike to contact about presenting in Aug.*
- *Karen was at Lumberman's Monument recently. She got the name of the US Forest Service supervision contact to see if they might do a presentation in early next year.*
- *Open mic night: Glen Schultz, Leslie Cordova video, Bob Tacy, Laura Miller. Bob asked presenters to send him their slides to reduce technology changes and time limits.*
- *Mike asked if we are we going to streaming the meeting next week. Bob said he was not planning on to do it. Mike said some elderly members who could not attend in person would like it and for*

the west coast members. Bob reported that we do not currently have a platform to present virtually for 1 ½ -2 hours. We will continue to explore options for virtually presenting.

Public Relations Bob Tacy

Webmaster

- Requested that my programmer create the four pieces of code needed for Stacie to add a link to PayPal for paying dues, making equipment deposits, donating and attending events.
- Sent a test of \$1.00 to the PayPal email. Since former treasurer Carol only received \$.48 after \$.52 was taken in fees, I recommend we change membership dues to \$6.00 when paid online.
- *Discussion about: How can we recoup fee for only services? Do we need to increase membership fees? Meetup and Stripe are the same company. Carol can manually move money from Meetup to Solar but has not seen a way to do this with Stripe.*

Communications/Public Relations

- Asked Jeff Enterkin to post the BPW to the Michigan Adventurers Club Meetup Page: <https://www.meetup.com/mi-adventurers/events/286677591/>
- Created and boosted the Beginning Backpacking Workshop Facebook post.
 - The first ad targeted at followers and their friends ran from June 22 to July 7. It spent \$15 and generated 305 people and received 103 post engagements.
 - The second ad targeted to 25-64 year olds interested in adventure travel, ecotourism, mountains, mountain biking, camping or nature started July 12 and will run to the 29th. It will spend \$20. Through the 16th it has reached 1,114 people and received 38 post engagements.
- Text Magic account has \$134.56. Schedule a meeting with Jennifer Tislerics to learn more? Do members provide their cell phone numbers? Do we need their permission to send them text messages? *Bob talked about having other people have access text to get our money's worth. Do we have permission to send texts people? Can Jennifer tell how big the list is, are their former members on the list? Stacie has access to see the text magic list which she will send to Bob to compare to current membership list.*

Programs

- Created a Facebook post requesting that people volunteer to make a 5-minute presentation after the July meeting. Glenn Schultz was the only one who replied and is presenting.
- Carol is providing video of Leslie to create a 5-minute update on her AT trip. I am putting together some slides about Tahquamenon Falls after not getting a volunteer from the IBW and Laura will present the Grand Island trip.
- Created a Facebook post about the 4 presentations on July 14th. It has reached 474 people and has had 69 engagements. Do we want to spend \$35 over the next 7 days to promote the post to followers of the page to generate some meeting attendance?
- The steering committee is doing a great job of working together to fulfill the duties of this open position. Attached is the latest update of our progress toward getting speakers for the open positions.

Events

- I am seeing events emails for Moonlight Paddle, Mary Winkler and Woz Fam Kayaking. Who has the ability to use the Solar Google Groups to promote their event? Should these just be events where Solar is getting the funds generated by them?
- Have 26 people signed up for the Kayaking Event on the 30th.

- *Bob reported increased interest in kayaking and new members maybe for the kayaking day.*
- *How do people running events know who are current Solar members and who has signed a waiver? Krisanne said people have to sign a waiver for each event/activity separate from the annual club waiver.*

Solar Programs Status 7 17 22

Month	Speaker	Topic	Introducer - MC
July August	Open Mic Night	Misc.	Bob Tacy
September October	Ken Lemieux	Moose Bone Gathering Expedition on Isle Royal	Krisanne Schmidt
November	Jim DuFresne	New Zealand	Bob Tacy

Potential Speakers

Name	Topic	Steering Committee Following Up	Status
Mark and Debbie	Van Life	Bob	Earliest may be back in MI is November
Rob and Judy	el Camino Coastal Route	Laura	Rob needs us to bug him
Ann and John Riley- Gawara	NCT - Border to Bridges	Carol	Carol will see if she can present in Aug or Oct.
Sue	Butterflies	Mike	
Dave Oakley	Scouting or Work at Fort Wayne	Mike	Mike texted him. He is interested and checking his calendar.
Luke Jordan	AT	Dave	Will Reach Out

Potential Program Chair

Name	Steering Committee Following Up
Garrett Dempsey	Bob Tacy
Jeff Grossklaus	Dave Warnecke

Open Mic Presenters

Name	Topic	Length
Glenn Schultz	Mt. Rainier - 2011	10 Minutes
Bob Tacy	Tahquamenon Falls	5-10 Minutes
Larua Miller/Mike Hobig	Grand Island	5-10 Minutes
Carol McCrie	AT with Leslie	5-10 Minutes
Phil Crookshank	Paddle through the Algonquin Provincial Park	Can't do it with 5-10 slides/photos

Communications Chair vacant

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Webmaster Stacie Kitchen

- *Stacie has been updating the Website to the specks/suggestions recommended by Mike Hobig.*
- *Stacie sent an email about new SC members for their photos and bios.*
- *She wants to update CafePress information with Bob.*
- *Discussion about our annual membership fee being \$5. Dave answered the question about being competitive with other groups in our area.*
- *Stacie asked about what going in the Google Drive and on website: Minutes and budget but not agenda.*
- *Stacie suggested adding captions to photos so people on the website can know what they are looking at.*

Unfinished Business

- CafePress - Purchases from Mike and Elaine - Club earnings \$19.50. Carol to contact Bob about how the club will get this money.
- Provide Stacie with final feedback on the design for the business cards and banner (\$80) □ Carol to print and bring to the meeting next week so we can talk in person to provide feedback to Stacie. *Some discussion earlier in the meeting, tabled for now.*
 - Stacie suggested a digital brochure on our website.
- Discussed the need for the shirt fabric content and size chart. Laura to check and let Stacie know.
- Carol requested Stacie to send Solar new logo to update our Solar Outdoors Meetup page. *Stacie will take care of this. July meeting update: Stacie sent the new logo to update Meetup and Carol needs to make the change.*
- Stacie added Meetup link to our website for membership but wondering if we can add other payment options.
- Elaine to update the membership duties page with new information about Meetup sign up which Meetup tracks the annual renewal date and the membership roster she keeps.
- Elaine has the Solar Outdoors laminator, what do we want to do with it? Debbie or Elaine is interested in buying it. Elaine to bring it out to the picnic. *Elaine did not bring to picnic as Debbie was not attending. July meeting update: Elaine sold the Solar laminator to Jon*
- Stacie is still working on the committee page, minutes, blog pages for the updated new information. *Please forward your updated and/or new bios to Stacie, along with your email address so that she can finish these updates.*
- Stacie would like to have one or two people have access to the website so they can update bios, etc.
Krisanne and Dave to be added to be able to edit and upload information to the website.
- Solaroutdoors.com is expiring and she recommends we let it lapse. Concern about someone else taking it. So we are going to keep it paying \$14 a year.
- Stacie to make a power point slide for the beginning meeting with our logo and website as well as Cafe Press slide.
- Further discussion for having Paypal payment options on our website with Bob sharing his thoughts about this at the June meeting.

New Business

- *Is anyone planning on sending out PR for the meeting next week? Bob to talk with Jenn about a possible text blast.*
- *Karen sent out an edit of Mike's draft by email for asking lifetime members donating to the club with Mike's original draft and Karen's edits below in the email. Suggestion when finalized to be*

sent by Google Groups SC email group sent on July 12. Carol edited typos and sent it out to the SC email during the meeting as a word document

- *Stacie would like to send out a test event the Solar SC for the donation. Mike has some ideas that he will mock up for Stacie.*

Next meeting Tuesday, August 23 at 7 pm.

Meeting Adjourned at:8:45 pm.

Meeting minutes notes taken by Laura Miller.