

Solar Outdoors

Steering Committee Minutes

Date: 10/17/2023

Meeting called to order at: 7:02 pm

Note: Agenda is in regular font

Italic writing is additional information at the meeting



Quorum members present: Mike Hobig, Laura Miller, Mary Winkler, Dana Buxton, Jeff McWilliams, Beverly Woznaik, Carol McCririe, Jon Swingle, Krisanne Schmidt,

Minutes approved Sept 2023 SC meeting minutes approved by all present.

President Mike Hobig

- I would like to thank you all for running the meeting last month in my absence and getting the word out for the next, it is greatly appreciated.
- I also have seen notes on Education, Equipment, as well as other activities, it is good that we are supporting our members and keeping them informed and (hopefully) engaged.

Vice President Mary Winkler

- Posted on our Oct General Membership meeting on Solar Google Group and Facebook.

Secretary Laura Miller

- Sent out call for report, developed agenda and send out on Monday, 10/16/23 at 7:45 pm with attachments of Sept minutes, Statement of Activity, Solar Photo Contest Flyer, and current membership roster.

Treasurer Jon Swingle

- Cash in the bank as of October 15, 2023 is \$11,069.59.
- The Statement of Activity through October 15, 2023 is attached.

Activities Krisanne Schmidt

Past Activities:

- ArtPrize camping weekend Sept

Upcoming Activities:

- Lake Ann trip Martin Luther King Weekend

Bylaws Open

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Education Carol McCririe

- Basic Land Navigation will finish up the weekend of 10/21-22. Jeff and/or Ati will be recognizing the students that completed the workshop at the general meeting on the 24 th.

- Nothing else is on the calendar currently.
- I exchanged email with Jeff McWilliams on ice climbing but am not sure if this should be in education or activities. At this point, nothing is scheduled until it is determined if
- Michigan will have sufficient snow/cold weather this year.
- I have reached out to membership for interest in workshops or in hosting a workshop.
- I have not received any feedback from members for interest in specific workshops.
- I have received one response from a member who is willing to host a ski or snowboard workshop at Pine Knob or Mt. Holly for beginners that are interested in trying a new sport.
- One thing that more of us are doing these days is snowshoeing. I am exploring options for leading a workshop at a place, that rents snowshoes.

Equipment Chair Jeff McWilliams

- An inactive lifetime member recently donated some gear. The most notable:
- A Gregory Palisade pack in size XS. Pack is in good shape. Weighs 6.6lb Rated volume is 72L for that torso size. This pack was on the market in the 2008-2009 timeframe and is no longer sold by Gregory. It had a nominal volume of 80L in size Medium, and was capable of carrying loads in the 40-60 pound range. It was generally considered a winter or mountaineering backpack.
- An older Thermarest self-inflating pad. Rolled up, it measures 26x8.5 and weighs 3.3lb. I have not checked it for leaks.
- A lot of small miscellaneous items: chemical hand warmers, some larger cookware pots, stuff sacks, a large water hauling bag, etc.
- The Gregory pack may be put in inventory because we don't currently have a lot of options in the XS torso size.
- However, it would be our heaviest pack BY FAR at 6.6lb, and we've been trying to move away from older, heavier pack designs. Currently the average weight of packs in our inventory is 4.2lb.
- I'll check with Krisanne (currently backpacking) to get her opinion on whether it's worth making space in the storage unit for this pack, since we recently made an effort to purge our inventory of older/heavier gear that no-one wanted to use.
- I have a bigger issue with the older thermarest pad for similar reasons (size, weight). All the new pads we've been purchasing are inflatable pads that roll up to the size of a Propane bottle or smaller, and weigh less than 2lb.
- My suggestion is that we set out the Thermarest pad and the small items on a table and make them free for whomever wants them. Or perhaps we set out a "donation jar" and people can drop in whatever they feel a particular item or items are worth.

Historian Open

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Membership Dana Buxton

- No new members since last meeting. She shared the most recent roster out to the SC.

Programs Bev Wozniak

- October: Van Rally, Mike has it organized! *The plan is to start the meeting inside for the business section and announcements, then go to the camper rally. Bev wants to see what is in the storage unit for the Holiday party. Mike offered to pick up the bins. Carol shared that we may*

be able to leave bins at the church. She will email Bev the contact information to get permission from the church.

- November: Jim DuFrense
- December: Holiday party - At the meeting, I would like to make a plea for Holiday Committee helpers and have a hard copy sign up for the pot luck. I will send the sign up out after the meeting and probably more than once, before the party. **NOTE THAT WE NEED TO BE SURE THIS IS ON CALENDAR FOR OCTOBER MEETING HANDOUT!**
- January: Also at the October meeting, I would like to announce the photo contest and will have flyers available. **PLEASE REVIEW ATTACHED FLYER** and provide feedback during SC meeting. *Feedback was given about the size of the photo 5x7 up to 8x10, check in by 6:45 with photos and you can join that night before the meeting. We liked the categories. Bev suggested REI \$10 or 15 and a free membership to the club.*
- Should January meeting be marketed as a 'member' focus meeting? Enter photo contest or just see what members are up to and make your vote count! Come and learn SOLAR social media and find what is right for you!
- *Laura will make the spreadsheet and the ballot for the photo contest. Bev will get volunteers to tally the votes that night.*

Public Relations Jim Kadlubowski

- I don't have anything new for the PR chair.
- I have neglected to tell everyone that I will not be at the general meeting and might miss the SC meeting. I am on the road for the next two weeks in Milwaukee and then Cincinnati. That means I won't be setting up the Solar display board at the meeting. I didn't make arrangements to give it to anyone so shame on me. If anyone wants to get it from me I am only home today, Sunday, and will be on the road tomorrow morning. The only real downside to my absence, though, is that there won't be any candy put out at the meeting.

Communications Chair Open

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Webmaster Stacie Kitchen

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Unfinished Business

- No unfinished business

New Business

- Jeff asked to have a discussion about posting on FB to the agenda. We keep rehashing the same discussion because of confusion of how Facebook Pages work vs Facebook Groups.
- *Discussion about Facebook page not a group. Different ways to handle it, if we can get a communications chair then they could be a gatekeeper. Carol shared that we restricted it with the issue and fines for copyright infringement. Who is able to post on the Solar Facebook page? There is a list on the Solar page of who can post on the site. How do you get information posted? Bob Tacy is savvy about Facebook and we should ask him about the control of the Solar Facebook page and settings. Mike suggested having some kind of guidelines for Bob to share at the January meeting.*

- *Next meeting talk about if we should merge public relations and communications into one position.*
- **Next meeting** Tuesday, Nov. 21, 2023, 7 pm

Meeting Adjourned at: 7:45 pm.

Meeting minutes notes taken by Laura Miller.