



# Solar Outdoors

## Steering Committee Minutes

Date: 8/19/2025

Meeting called to order at. 7:01pm

Note: Agenda is in regular font

*Italic writing is additional information at the meeting*

**Quorum members present:** Jeff McWilliams, Lori Syc, Dana Buxton, Jeff Grossklans, Krisanne Schmidt, Tim Davis, Mary Winkler, Leslie Cordova, Hanne Skaarup, Dave Warnecke

**Others present:**

**Minutes approved**

**President Mary Winkler**

- I've been collecting money for the dinner at the Anniversary. All the money has been sent to Carol.
- Dana and I discussed an idea to boost monthly meeting attendance and membership. She can bring it up at Steering Committee meeting. *Dana will update under New Business.*

**Vice President Tim Davis**

- *Will meet with the new Royal Oak Parks & Rec director regarding place for our general meetings. Charge would be \$90 per night.*

**Secretary Hanne Skaarup**

- Who are quorum members? *Forgot to ask in meeting.*
- *July minutes passed unanimously.*

**Treasurer Carol McCririe (absent)**

- *Mary is sending her money.*

### **Activities Krisanne Schmidt**

- *Nothing on calendar beyond the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary event. It's a slow year.*
- *Send calendar to Stacy and Mary*

### **Past activities:**

**Upcoming activities:** *50th Anniversary Weekend event*

### **Bylaws/Historian Jeff Groosklaus**

- The historical records have been located. They are in the SOLAR rental unit.
- *Objective of this position is to keep our activities in our archives (our historical records). Jeff will research how to do this*
- *Kris has old calendars that she can pass on.*
- *Leslie has a whole cabinet of historical records.*

### **Education Laura Miller**

- 50th Anniversary Weekend update:
  - 20 Anniversary shirts were ordered
  - 40 people signed up for the Saturday night catered dinner so far, people can still join the dinner by signing up on Meetup.
  - We have leaders for some of the activities and working to fill the rest.
  - 1 campsite still unpaid for, member has not responded to emails, phone calls or texts.
  - A couple of emails were sent out to membership for memories and outdoor achievements for the Anniversary booklet, with minimal response to date
  - *T-shirt sales are set up under Square where the money gets sent directly to the bank.*
  - *Leslie, Carol and Laura are running the picnic but are not present to give update*
- Basic Land Nav currently only has two registered attendees. The first lecture starts on September 18 which is 1 month away. The latest registrations that can be run is a week before the class starts, i.e. September 11. That would barely be enough time to order books, or to cancel everything if we don't get at least 8 attendees

### **Equipment Chair Jeff McWilliams**

- Should I assume that since we are doing an open mic night at the next meeting that we don't need to live stream it? I haven't heard from the Programs Chair about media/equipment requirements for the upcoming meeting.
- *Lori will send email out asking what or if equipment is needed for the next general meeting.*

### **Membership Dana Buxton**

- 87 Total Annual Membership
- 2 new members since last meeting
- 2 renewals since last meeting
- Sent renewal email to 3 members for memberships that expire at the end of August

- *On the web site, when people sign up for a workshop, it states that a waiver sign-off is required. The form is on the web site.*

### **Programs Lorriane (Lori) Syc**

- At the July meeting, I had (3) people sign up to speak.
  - Mike Hobig – He’s going to talk about his Cleveland Adventure. I think it may entail Cuyahoga Valley National Park. If it doesn’t, I can chime in a few words about it because I cycled it from the trailhead in Cleveland to Akron then back to Cleveland. It’s a hidden gem.
  - Moe/Dave DeFrance – They are going to speak about their experience being lighthouse keepers.
  - Unfortunately, I didn’t realize this individual did not write down his name but he’s going to speak about his experiences cycling in Portugal and Columbia. I’m sorry I didn’t get his name. He’s shows up faithfully to the meeting too.
  - *Lori can talk about Cuyahoga Valley*
  - *Mary Winkler can talk 10 minutes on any subject*
  - *Lori recently did a bike ride through Shipshewana and is willing to talk about this*
  - *Does Lori have access to Google Groups for the whole membership?*
  - *Kris will send out email for next week’s meeting.*

### **Public Relations/Communications David Warnecke**

- Promoted the 50th anniversary T-shirt on Facebook
- Promoted the Open Mic Night on Facebook
- *Received 5 responses on the t-shirts and 2 response on Open Mic night*

### **Webmaster Stacie Kitchen (absent)**

- Requesting bio and photo of new secretary
- *Stacie is a great job on the website.*
- *Stacie wants to change the apparel store on our website. Vote was taken to approve the change recommended by Stacie and passed unanimously. Vote happened during period when Mary Winkler’s phone connection dropped. When Mary reconnected, she asked that we postpone moving forward with the change until Mary has asked Stacie for more information.*

### **Unfinished Business**

- *none*

### **New Business**

- *Boasting membership*
  - *Dana suggests holding a raffle → bring a non-member friend to a meeting and you are entered into the raffle*
  - *Dana states a real issue is the lack of workshops and activities on the calendar*
- *Kris’ suggestion is to hold a raffle every quarter with entries of people who ran a workshop or an activity*
- *Discussion*
  - *Send survey out on what activities people are interested in and if anyone is interested in leading*
  - *Members lamented over people’s reluctance to lead simple little events. Kris*

- volunteered to help anyone who is interested in putting something together*
- *Concern was expressed over the lack of activities and declining membership*
  - *Point was made that Meetup is hosting some of the same activities*
  - *Jeff McWilliams - Tandem kayak donation was offered. How to respond to this offer? Need a storage place until it is sold. Will have discussion via email on how to deal with this.*

**Next meeting**

- *Sept 23, 2025 at 7pm via Google*

**Meeting Adjourned:**

- *7:55pm*

*Meeting minutes notes taken by Hanne Skaarup*