

STARS REGULAR MEETING of April 10th, 2013

The meeting began at 7:01PM with the pledge of allegiance by all in attendance.

In Attendance:

Randy Bittinger, Jamie Bowen, Dale Butts, Brad Davis, Dick Fisher, Gary Fitch, Ed Flicker, Ramona Follett, Clark Follett, Fred Fowler, Jim Goodemote, Mike Karnuth, Pat Kennedy, Jim Keough, Tad Manske, Bill Messer, Tom Orcutt, Dick Say, Jay Wade and Don Wehlage; for a total of twenty.

Minutes of the Last Meeting:

The minutes of the March 13th meeting were read by Tad, and accepted by vote after motion and second of Gary and Randy respectively.

Treasurer's Report:

Don reported that he'd written two checks since the last meeting, to National Grid and for bank checks. He also gave us updated totals for the checking, savings, and tractor accounts. A motion to accept his report was made by Tom, seconded by Ramona, and accepted by those voting.

Membership: Ed said there were no changes.

Web Site: Bob Bush was not in attendance, so there was no report.

Instructions: As Walt Hibbard was not here, there was no report.

2013 Rally:

Randy would like to have a general meeting with all committee heads to assure that all bases have been covered, and we have no surprises occur on Rally day. He would like each attendee to bring with him a checklist for his specific operation. Besides being able to assure that each committee is in readiness, these checklists should also acquaint all other chairmen with duties and requirements that may need to interact with theirs. Each chairman should also attempt to solve any problems and discover any glitches prior to the meeting so they can be worked on by the appropriate members. With Randy's prompting, several overlapping concerns were brought up, almost by accident- and illustrated his point that "we need to know ahead of time!" The meeting was set for Sunday, May 19th at 2:00PM, at the flying field.

Not having been at the March meeting, President Follett asked several questions, mainly about generator concerns. These were answered by those in attendance, and Clark was brought up to date.

The President's Corner:

Clark had three main items of interest this evening. Firstly, we have received a check from Mary Jo Pula, in memory of her father Henry Talowski, who was a modeler himself. She thought the STARS would be the kind of organization her Dad would have liked to see memorial money go to. She has been profusely thanked by Dick, who knows Mary Jo personally.

Secondly, Clark brought up the 25th of May. We have consented to do a display and presentation at Sunny Hill Campground in Richburg on that date. Tom and Dick will handle the event, and give the campers information on both our history, and basic aeronautics.

Lastly, Clark brought up the idea of doing more with other local clubs, be that in the form of more fun flys, or simply visiting others clubs more often, with more of our members. Some discussion ensued, but no decisions were made, nor new ideas presented.

Old Business:

Speaking on behalf of the Geotex Exploratory Committee, Gary described their fact-finding trip to Mentor, Ohio. All the members of that committee agreed with him that the club should invest in this product, and its installation would provide a significant upgrade for our field. The Mentor field is in its fourth year of operation, and its club members seem very satisfied with it. Several long discussions were held, on such topics as field preparation, the necessity of killing the grass, weed prevention, the attaching staples, and the effects of various possible "trespassers" on the geotex's surface. Gary was very patient answering all of the asked questions, and he was well supported by comments from other members of the committee. He also reminded us that he and Dan Lai had both said they'd be willing to make significant contributions towards the project, if need be. As the discussions came to a close, it was obvious that those in attendance tonight felt this would be an excellent investment for the club. Randy volunteered the use of his plant as a shipping location for the material, even if it had to be stored there for a few months.

Jim K. spoke next, on several different matters concerning flying site improvement. He and Dewey did some preliminary digging on the 9th, and were unable to find the septic tank. Gary suggested that they ask Kip Karn for help. The old toilet has been taken out of the bathroom and Walt Hibbard is soon to install the new one. After looking over the contents of the building, and what exactly we store there, Jim K. has figured out that a 12' x 7' trailer would go a long way towards alleviating, if not solving, our problems in that matter. Others spoke up, saying they felt that would not be large enough. Jim said he was not quite ready yet to make a final recommendation on the trailer. Gene Hickey has told Jim that he'd be happy to lead the effort on laying a concrete floor for the building. Like he did with the pavilion floor, he'd use fiberglass rather than re-bar for reinforcement. Several questions were asked about leveling the current floor surface, and possibly digging down into the soil there. More discussion ensued, and the matter was tabled until the May meeting.

As several members brought up the fact that we'd be spending a considerable amount of money to handle both of the above projects, considerable discussion took place on the topic. Much of it was cut short when Vice President Say said he planned to put forth a motion at the May meeting to answer the question "just what percentage of Jim Messer's bequest should we spend in any given year?" Although this action pretty much ended that conversation, new ones began on three other projects that are in need of doing.

Ed brought up the fact that our current windsock is in tatters. He has found a replacement available for a reasonable cost. After some discussion, a motion was made by Don to instruct Ed to proceed with the purchase. It was seconded by Randy, and passed by vote.

Also brought up by Ed was the need for new flight stations. The ones we currently have are badly in need of repair (if they can actually be repaired). He wants to replace them with new ones. After quite a bit of back-and-forth over design, the general consensus was that they be V-shaped, with each side being five feet in length and the same height as the current ones. Ed will look into prices for the required materials, and report to the club at the May meeting.

Lastly, Fred talked about our "disgraceful" setup tables. Everyone agreed with his assessment! He was given the go ahead to put together a prototype table following

a motion to that effect by Tom, second by Jay, and the positive vote of those present.

Show and Tell:

Randy showed and talked about the two quad-copters he had bought in Toledo. The small one he is flying already, the larger one he is still putting together.

STARS' Stuff:

As no ticket had been drawn at the banquet last month, it was drawn tonight. The winner was none other than vice President Dick Say! Congratulations Dick!

Upcoming Meetings:

The next Planning Meeting will be April 29th @ 7:00PM at our flying field (in case of inclement weather, it will be held at Ramona and Clark's home).

The next Regular Meeting will be May 8th @ 7:30PM at our flying field.

Adjournment:

A motion to adjourn was made by Gary, seconded by Jay, and passed by those present at 9:19PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Tad P. Manske, Secretary