

Westerly Airport Association Regular Monthly Meeting

18th March 2014

Dooney Aviation

Presiding: Bernie Stumpf, President

In Attendance: Dick Morrone, Jim Cowley, Ted Gordon, Carol Amedeo, Suzanne Scully, Sam Grills, Bill Bendokas, Cas Godek, Sam Watrous, Dotty Stumpf, Derek Ferris, Carroll DeGross, Amanda Emerick, Capt. Mike Martin.

The meeting called to order at 1930 hours.

GREETING, INTRODUCTIONS

Guests USAF Capt. Mike Martin with Amanda Emerick spoke about their program, working with the Hasbro Children's Hospital, with a view to providing free flights for the kids at the Quonset ANGB Air Show on 17 and 18 May. Bernie and Sam W. explained WOW to them, and further opportunities there for the Hasbro kids to get rides. Bill told them about NE Airlines and that he might get involved also.

RECORDING SECRETARY'S REPORT:

The minutes from the February 2014 meeting were not yet prepared, and will be done and distributed for April. A brief oral recap was shared.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY'S REPORT:

Carol had no correspondence to share, but reported that she is assembling the school mailings for the 2014 Scholarship applications.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Derek reported the state of the accounts. The treasurer's Report was accepted as presented. Last year, WAA awarded two \$1000 scholarships, and it was generally agreed to plan to offer up to four \$1000 scholarships this year.

OFFICER AND DIRECTOR NOMINATIONS

The Scholarship Committee (Carol Amedeo, Derek Ferris, Sandy Niles, Dotty Stumpf) welcomed new volunteer member Suzanne Scully.

The following Officers were nominated, and unanimously elected:

Bernie Stumpf, President.

Sam Watrous, Vice President.

Derek Ferris, Treasurer.

Sandy Niles, Recording Secretary until another member comes forward to accept the office.*

Carol Amedeo, Corresponding Secretary.

* SamWatrous offered that if the WAA meeting day were changed back to Mondays, Karen Watrous might be able and willing to accept this Office. Sam will check with Karen. Members expressed no objection to the idea of changing the meeting day.

The following were nominated, and unanimously elected to the Board of Directors:

Carroll deGroff
Sam Grills
Carol Amedeo

These were nominated and elected to the Board, but we await their formal acceptance:

Steve Christina
Jim Gueltzow

Also on the Board:

Sam Watrous (one more year remaining)
Dianne Morrone (one more year remaining)

Stepping down after the completion of their terms:

Mike Ferrigno
Joe Ceo
Sandy Niles

EVENTS:

The Pancake Breakfast is ON for June 29th, 8AM – 12 noon. It is listed in the Chamber booklet. Cas reported that his antique/show cars friends are willing drive in and attend with their cars for display, if WAA can assure them of a safe place to park. This can be worked out on the property at Dooney, perhaps on the road side parking area beside the building.

WOW MANUAL

Sam and Carol will unite their materials before the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Sam Watrous mentioned that the Ford Motor Co. has a new program of offering donations to EAA Chapters in respect of the number of Young Eagles flown. The money is intended to be awarded to help kids attend the EAA AirVenture summer camp. Chapter 334 is entitled to \$515 under this program, and discussed whether the WAA might help in seeking and selecting candidates for the money. This is very interesting, but it was also pointed out that WAA has no specific experience or contacts in finding this type of candidate. This should be examined further, because it is a great opportunity.

With our well-attended meeting, discussion ensued regarding ways to revitalize our Association. (Secretary's note: Derek Ferris had included a challenge to members in his meeting reminder email, and many members responded! Thank you, Derek.)

Some ideas for activities and events included:

Breakfast fly-ins. Sam W. has arranged these elsewhere. Basically, it just needs a chair to pick a day and destination, rosters of pilots and passengers, someone to match them up, and a mode of communication regarding go/no-go in cases of weather problems. Mike was mentioned as a great lead for this.

Hangar Flying sessions. All pilots have stories to tell, many involving scenarios entitled "I learned about flying from that." Ted Gordon and others mentioned how useful AND entertaining these stories are. Perhaps each meeting, a pilot member or guest could share a story.

Dinner Meetings. These are very popular, and several possible venues were named: Pleasant View Inn, Elm Ridge Country Club, Sea Goose, Pavillion... It was generally agreed to schedule a dinner meeting quarterly.

Volunteer Projects? Sam W. mentioned the idea of WAA accomplishing small improvement project, beginning with the lobby display case we had originally had installed. Other areas for work might be a display at the Armory, and cleaning up the area around the airport flagpole. Various resources are available for items to display, including Ack-Ack Morrone's family, Suzanne Scully, and others. Carol will ask Sharon Morrone about this.

The Chamber of Commerce Pawcatuck River Duck Race: Carol suggested the WAA sponsor a "corporate duck" at \$150 for this year's April 26th event. This benefits the Chamber and its events, might win us some cash, and gets us listed as a sponsor of this big event. This was approved.

WAA Founder Sandy Niles thanked the large attendance for being at the meeting, reminding everyone that an organization becomes what its active members make it to be.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2040 hours.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandy Niles, Recording Secretary