

LIFT Meeting Minutes

November 20, 2018

In Attendance: Larry and Carolyn Storie, Bob and Barb Robinson, Frank and Marie Pfeiffer, Gordon Grimm, Peter Baumler, Ted Lanham, Fred Page.

Guest present was Rob Beekman.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 12:20 p.m. at the Hayloft.

Minutes: Moved by Larry to approve the minutes of October 16; seconded by Bob. Motion carried.

Finance Report: Current checking account is \$2007.00 with all bill paid except for the \$725 field rental for 2019.

Moved by Larry to pay the \$725 field rental; seconded by Fred; motion carried.

Frank pointed out some interesting facts regarding costs to the LIFT club over the years. In 1982 the club paid \$500 for field rental, so the current cost of \$725 is not a great increase over 36 years. Dues were \$20 with 18 paid memberships. Family dues was \$30. The current dues is \$60 individual and \$70 family with 15 paid members for 2018. Contests at that time had 20-30 pilots in attendance and in 2018 we had 9-13 pilots at each contest.

Moved by Larry to accept the Treasurer's Report; seconded by Fred; motion carried.

Old Business: Contest discussion. Larry reported that he made a motion at the Board Meeting to recommend that the club follow the same schedule as last year with four contests (May – 1-day; June – 2-day; July – 2-day; and August – 2-day). The Board did not approve the motion to recommend this and the Board feels that this decision should be made by the entire membership. Larry feels if we do not hold contests as held previously we will not get any pilots from downstate (Kalamazoo, Mt. Pleasant, Big Rapids, and the Toledo Club). Larry further stated that the club will be unable to maintain the field if we don't get more members or raise dues to at least double what they currently are set up. Raising dues in the past has resulted a decrease in membership.

Moved by Peter to stay with contests as held in 2018 for the 2019 year and appoint workers in January to run specific contests. Seconded by Larry. Following discussion on this motion, Fred made a motion to table the motion on contests dates to see if we can come up with alternative methods to increase membership. Seconded by Ted. Fred commented there are not enough active members to reach a solution to appointing workers to run the contests. Motion carried to table further discussion on contests for 2019. Larry emphasized that a decision needs to be made no later than the January 2019 meeting.

Recess: The meeting recessed for lunch at 1:15 and reconvened at 1:30.

New Business: Peter raised question about whether drones are permitted at the LIFT field. Clarification was made as to this having been decided at a previous meeting that we would remain a glider and quiet planes club. Following discussion, Barb made a motion to have Peter prepare a recommendation regarding the permitting of drones and/or electric planes which will include these aircraft, but with restrictions. Seconded by Fred. Motion carried.

AMA Leader Member Report – AMA has instituted a Leader-Member contact committee that will provide all AMA leader members with updates on what is happening within AMA. This month's report was reviewed and will be attached to these minutes in the master book of minutes. Specifically the report covered the latest happenings on Section 349 to include an exemption for limited recreational

operations of unmanned aircraft with ongoing work between AMA and the FAA to permit our members to fly as they have always done under AMA rules. One significant change is that the five-mile airport notification rings will be removed and that Congress codified elements of the AMA safety program into law include First Person View.

Larry reported that Jim Schultz, a new member, has expressed an interest in building a large glider (14') and was inquiring whether there is interest among other members to participate in this as a joint effort. Once Jim has moved to northern Michigan there may be further discussion regarding this.

Peter discussed the European concept of FAI-RES planes in the 2-meter class. Barb added that this concept was tried at the AMA Nats this summer and was not well received with indication that it will not be continued at future Nats. More will be discussed about this in the future.

Ted asked what would happen if we eliminated winches and only used hi-starts and whether this would help with our worker problem at contests. The general consensus was that not every plane being flown lends itself to launching via hi-start.

Adjournment: Moved by Frank to adjourn at 2:05 p.m. Seconded by Larry. Carried.

Respectively Submitted: Barbara Robinson, Secretary