

# DMS BOARD MINUTES

**Subject:** Minutes of DMS Board Meeting

**Date:** September 8, 2010

**Location:** Greenbank Mill, Wilmington, DE

**Attendees:** Ken Casey, Scott Peters, Wendy Sbriglia, Eric Hottenstein, Bob Asreen, Fran Poniecki, Robert Ehrlich, Alex Kane, Rob and Beth Simpkins, Carl Muendel, Gene Hartstein

President Ken Casey called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM.

The items addressed were as follows:

1. Elections: Elections for the next term will be conducted at the December meeting. Alex will coordinate the Nominating Committee with help from Carl. Carl also suggested splitting the responsibility for field trips into several posts. The VP of Field Trips would oversee the position but others would carry the responsibility for individual trips.

2. Financials: Wendy reported a net income of \$5400 for 2009. The June party had a net cost of \$1995 and so far 2010 is in the black. Wendy will also formulate some ideas for raffling the remaining gold specimens.

50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary: The club's anniversary year continues with emphasis now on the December party to be held at Delaware National Country Club. Wendy will formulate some ideas for raffling the remaining gold specimens and has suggested a cake decorating contest for the junior members. A separate category for adult decorators is also possible. Newspaper coverage of the anniversary events has been difficult to obtain without the club purchasing ad space in the publications. Obtaining Delaware State Recognition was also discussed but no incidence of this occurring in the past could be recalled. Ken will draft a letter requesting this.

Alex suggested that the club purchase a replica megalodon jaw for use as a photo opportunity attraction. When not in use by DMS he thought we could rent it to other organizations. Gene stated that in his experience the purchase of a megalodon jaw would be cost prohibitive, replica or not.

Finally, the deposit to Delaware National for the December party is now due.

4. Library: Carl asked if there was any interest in retaining the copies of other club's newsletters that are sent to him. Scott suggested bringing them to the next meeting for members to take if desired. Carl also suggested that the club purchase seat cushions for use at the meetings. It was offered that this could be a logoed item that could be sold to membership. Calendar sales made a brief appearance as a topic of discussion but were

quickly shelved. Calendar sales by other clubs have proven to be lackluster.

5. Meeting Location: Discussion turned to the perennial question of moving the club's meeting location to a site that would offer room for mineral and library storage, lapidary functions, etc. Ashland Nature Center has been suggested in the past but no follow-up has taken place. Ken suggested that DMS buy the Bellefonte (sp?) Lighthouse from the Coast Guard to use as the "clubhouse". Discussion will continue and future meetings.

6. Donations to Other organizations: We have donated money to Greenbank Mill in the past for their generous permission for DMS to use their facility free-of -charge for club activities. \$500 was allocated for this year's donation. Scott made a motion to also allocate up to \$300 to donate to the Iron Hill Museum.

Seconded and passed unanimously.

7. Ideas to Increase Membership: Ideas included a blog, newspaper announcements, personal outreach to past members, and including Scouting.

8. Miscellaneous: Wendy offered to look into a bus trip for this winter; there are some reservations due to the low response from last winter's cancelled trip. Scott asked if Board Members should be exempt from paying club dues; all in attendance said that that was not necessary. It was asked that the monthly conversations regarding the show that will soon be present at the general meetings be minimized.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:05