



Experimental Aircraft Association
Chapter 631 - The Blue Hills Flyers
Rice Lake, WI



Minutes of the Meeting of April 12th, 2022 (Shell Lake Airport, following a social hour):

The meeting was called to order by Chapter President Jeff Potocnik at 6:00 pm, at the Chuck Lewis Terminal building, with Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Thanks to the Lake Point Aero Club for providing food for tonight's social hour; especially those that prepped food and prepped the terminal with tables/chairs! On behalf of Lake Point Aero Club Airport Mgr. Gerry Winch welcomed all to Shell Lake Airport.

Welcome guests/Newer Members!

- Shad Torgeson
- Ben LaBarre
- Robbi Olson
- Byron and Lawson Ripplinger
- Bodi Mullen
- Paul Lamberty
- Matt and Carol Rybarczyk

Hardcopy Chapter Schedules available:

Take one to tape to refrigerator. Schedule also on chapter website now.

Meeting Minutes of 11/2/21 and 12/8/21:

Kirby Crawford moved to approve. Bob Rand 2nd. Approved.

Treasurer Gary Crisler's Report through March 2022:

Treasurer Crisler summarized his latest report. Thanks Gary for entering several months of data into QuickBooks to get our 631 treasury into that system. Gerry Winch moved to approve. Dave Nielsen 2nd. Approved.

Quick note – we need to get the final \$2K infusion of Ray scholarship funding in from HQ for the Ty Zellar scholarship. Volker will do some online reporting with HQ that will release that \$ from HQ to 631. Potocnik noted that Ty working towards finishing up soon, that may require “spending ahead” a bit out of 631 coffers until we get reimbursed by the \$2000 from HQ (which is a sure thing). Bob Gillette moved to “spend ahead” knowing that 631 will be reimbursed. Tom Elliott 2nd. Approved.

Bob Gillette noted in fun “We finally have a good Treasurer!” :)

Discussion on Ray Foundation scholarships:

- The Scholarship Committee recently selected a 631 Ray Foundation Scholarship applicant to nominate for a 2022 50/50 Ray Scholarship to EAA HQ – Byron Ripplinger (present at meeting with Dad Dan and brother Lawson) of Sarona. Congrats Byron!
 - Next steps are Byron getting both a medical and a student pilot cert. Then we'll apply to HQ.
 - It was noted that with fuel prices up, finishing within \$10K will be more of a challenge than it had been in the past.
 - Gerry Winch moved; Tracy Crisler 2nd that, contingent upon EAA HQ approval of Byron Ripplinger's application, that Byron begin lessons ahead of receiving Ray \$ installments from EAA HQ (assuming such OK w HQ). Motion passed. Volker will discuss with HQ.
- Bodi Mullen (present at meeting) was an applicant also for the Ray Scholarship – nice application; runner up. Keep active in the chapter, Bodi!

Brief Young Eagles Discussion as YE Coordinator Jack Langland is still in Arizona (spearheaded by Prez Jeff):

- Jack's draft YE event schedule for 2022 is very aggressive – 10 dates weather permitting
- Fuel prices could come into play; one member has noted it may hinder their YE participation
- Brad Volker noted that he and Janis will probably "sign up" for flying/helping at roughly half of the dates, but need to have more weekends free in the summer for family, etc. matters
- Janis Volker and Ty Zeller did do a trial run of having a spreadsheet linked to our chapter website for signing up for food for the February potluck. We didn't advertise this; rather just a few tried it out and it seemed to work well. So, we plan to do more of this on the website for:
 - Signing up to volunteer for various chapter functions
 - Signing up for food items when applicable
 - Note that for signing up for Young Eagle piloting and Young Eagle ground crew that is already being done via the YoungEaglesDay.org website that Jack L. administers (it works, is basically mandated by HQ, so let's use it and not duplicate this effort).
- So, please check out our chapter website (address at bottom of these minutes; thanks to Ty Zeller who has the website improved quite a bit!); note that our chapter events are already in the website calendar; look for links to be added to these events soon for signing up for this/that. **There are glitches to work through, so try it and thanks for patience in working the bugs out...**

Old Business:

- 501(c)(3) Status of Chapter – President Jeff is leading on this but noted that he is a bit stuck in legaleze and needs help from an attorney or accountant. Janis Volker may know an attorney that would help – someone who has helped the scholarship foundation at Janis's school. Ric Brekke and John Ostrem noted that Scott Warwick, hangar tenant at Cumberland, is very versed in non-profit issues and may be able to help. Jeff will check into these ideas for help.

New Business:

- John Ostrem knows a relative of Francis Gary Powers (U2 Pilot shot down over Russia in 1960). Mr. Powers' son does presentations on his father and the U2 program and lives somewhere in the Twin Cities metro. John is going to see if he can arrange a presentation for 631; if it can be arranged this would be worth inviting the public to. Stay tuned. Thanks John.
- President Jeff noted that there could be times on Chapter purchases where time is of the essence and wondered if the Chapter officers could be approved to make a purchase up to some \$ amount without membership action/approval. The need for this would likely be quite rare, especially in today's age where a motion/2nd/vote by email can take place. Ric Brekke moved; Gerry Winch 2nd that Chapter officers able to make up to a \$500 purchase without membership vote as long as all officers in the loop and in agreement with such. 26 Ayes; 2 Nays – approved. All agreed such should be used very sparingly, if at all.
- A question/idea by Secretary Volker – could/should EAA Ch. 631 purchase some used folding chairs to be stored at RPD so that when we have larger gatherings at RPD we do not need to bring folding chairs from elsewhere (recently in the past a couple of times we have borrowed chairs from Island City Aero Club at UBE)? Volker thinks RPD would let us store such somewhere in the terminal or maybe in the snow plow hangar. There was a discussion and consensus that RPD needs to get some chairs for such. If they do not, 631 should avoid RPD for larger gatherings.
- EAA HQ-provided officer training discussed briefly. Potocnik and Volker have done some webinar training via HQ, but should the chapter be planning to participate in future rounds of in-person training offered to chapters at Oshkosh from time to time? All agreed that, yes, 631 should plan for this (especially for newer officers), assuming the officers' busy schedules allow for such.
- Member Dave Neilsen asked if members have an interest in VMC and/or IMC clubs (noted that this was originally John Ostrem's idea last year)? Dave noted that he has been researching a bit, as John did last year. Dave is willing to be the CFI/CFII that is needed for both clubs. The clubs also need a coordinator – this can be the CFI, but ideally someone else handles that. Approximately ten folks expressed interest. Dave will pursue and we'll see what it evolves into. Thanks Dave/John.

Adjournment:

Tom Elliott moved to adjourn. Gerry Winch 2nd. Approved.

Respectfully submitted, Brad Volker – Chapter Secretary
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