



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



Minutes of the Meeting of April 2nd, 2019:

The meeting was called to order by Secretary Brad Volker (Pres. Gillette and VP Peterson unable to attend) at the Chuck Lewis Terminal Building at Shell Lake Airport at 6:00 pm – Full house; terminal building packed! Bob and Judy still in California. Ray called Brad the other day and apologized for not being able to attend – Ray’s wife has had the flu and Ray is doing more evenings/weekends for the bakery business than ever before because of that (hope she feels better soon!).

November 6th, 2018 Meeting Minutes (Gillette’s Fire Hall in Stone Lake):

Secretary Brad asked for any additions or corrections to Secretary Volker’s November 6th minutes. Ed Knutson moved to approve; Joe Rounce 2nd. Approved.

Treasurer’s Report for End of March, 2019 - presented by Treasurer Jeff Potocnik

Gerry Winch moved to approve; Kirby Crawford 2nd. Approved.

The voted/approved dues structure (starting 2020) was discussed again some. Jeff P. had been thinking about it and wanted to make sure the \$25 membership (individual or family) made sense. All agreed “already voted on; and fine.”

With the scholarship fund being relatively ample, and the general operating fund being smaller there was discussion again on possible future actions to adjust that some. No formal action taken.

Young Eagles Discussion (Jack and Sally still in Arizona, so a discussion by several others in attendance):

- Reminder to renew your youth protection training/background check if it is expired; and a request for additional pilots to consider flying YE.
- Maxine has a draft list of those that have renewed their youth protection training/background check; she’d like to keep updated so let her know if you have updated – she has now found a way to look such up and print certificates from headquarters.
- Bruce has drafted flyers for the first couple of YE days.
- We have an ambitious YE Ride schedule for 2019 as usual. Please take a schedule from printed stack here and get the dates on your calendars for helping out (thanks!)
- Ray Foundation Scholarship opportunity – see below.

Scholarship Committee Report (Brad with the help of others; Jan still in Arizona):

Ray Foundation Scholarship-specific:

- Brad “unveiled” to those in attendance that 631 has been qualified to nominate a Ray Foundation Scholarship recipient for 2019.
- More chapters applied than scholarships to give. Thus, 631 being able to nominate in 2020 probably unlikely; 2021 a big unknown (Brad asked HQ to comment on this and they said “hard to say”).
- Brad, Jan, Jack are a selection committee thus far; we welcome others to join the committee if interested as we need to select by committee and ensure we are not playing favorites.
- If you have a youth in mind that you feel is a good candidate for nomination let Brad, Jan, or Jack know ASAP. Brad, Jack, Jan have 2 or 3 candidates in mind currently.
- Age for getting started needs to be 16-19 (for private pilot scholarship of up to \$10K). Glider can be 15.
- Jack and Jan plan to be back from Arizona in mid-April and we plan to do candidate interviews shortly thereafter
- Brad knows from recent experience that \$10K+ is what is needed to pursue your private in today’s age; so this is a real big deal that 631 can steer a \$10K scholarship to a good candidate.
- The candidate, and the candidate’s family will need to convince 631 that they are prepared to hammer down on lessons (schedule 3 or 4 per week), and that will likely require giving up other activities.
- 631 will receive funds from EAA in chunks, and then 631 will write checks for CFI, gas, plane rental, etc.
- 631 will have some work in oversight to include regularly-scheduled meetings with the student, CFI, family to ensure adequate progress
- The recipient is expected to complete his/her private within 12 months of starting
- 631 needs a great candidate as we need to show that we are a good steward of this great opportunity so we can remain qualified to nominate future candidates

631 Scholarship-general:

- The idea of splitting future picnic donations between general fund and scholarship fund was discussed more (as it was in November). Brad thinks pretty strong consensus that folks are fine with bolstering the general fund in that manner – we’ll put on an agenda for vote prior to picnic.
- For those newer to 631 we noted real briefly that 631 offers its own reimbursement-type scholarship that is much smaller than the Ray Foundation opportunity we have in front of us currently.
- Brad noted that he’d like folks to at least think about raising the amount of the 631 scholarship by a considerable amount (but not so much that fund gets depleted). It used to be \$500 that was match by another \$500 from Island City Aero for a total of \$1000. 631 has discussed raising its share to \$1000, and asked ICAC if they would raise to \$1000 also (they declined). \$500 to \$1,500 just does not go far at all Brad noted. Also, possibly it could be steered to students (maybe held by CFI) as they near their check ride with the stipulation that it be returned to 631 should they not finish. Currently it is payed to recipient only after they have earned private. Just stuff to think about...
- Not discussed at meeting, but – is there some sort of not-too-hard to liquidate investment that the fund (or part of it) could be in to earn dollars?

All that said,

- Brad would like to set up a date to do interviews. Not sure, but Jack and Jan’s return date might be a bit fluid. **Suggest a date when you can Jack and Jan.** . Once we have a date, Brad will invite the families and see if they can make the date work. Brad, Jack, Jan will listen for any other

candidate suggestions from the chapter membership between now and then. Brad should attempt to get minutes out to membership soon so that all have an opportunity to know about this. A reminder, though, that EAA HQ has directed us to “hand-pick” our candidate as opposed to “advertising widely” this opportunity.

- John and Nancy Ostrem of Cumberland are interested in assisting with this/scholarship committee in general.

Tech/Safety:

- Gerry Winch noted that Shell Lake will be hosting an AOPA Rusty Pilots seminar on Saturday May 11th, 9:00 a.m. to noon. Gerry/AOPA looking for a couple CFIs to help with this. Also, would like a few pilots/airplanes for rides – get some folks back up in the air to inspire them to “get back at it.” Look for more info on this soon via AOPA/Gerry, and let Gerry know if you can be available.

Old Business:

- Interested in 631 apparel? If so see Brad or Janis. There is an inventory of shirts and hats available.

New Business:

- 631 “Report Card” from HQ. 631 scores a 6 out of 10. Looking at criteria Jeff P. thinks we should score at least a 7 out of 10. No requirement to improve, but things we could do to have a higher score: run a “Flying Start” program; have IMC and/or VMC club(s), have more club officers attend leadership training at KOSH (Bob has done this). It was noted that our YE program is more robust than the typical chapter and we can only do so much. We can consider doing more over time.
- Gerry Wince noted that on July 3rd the City of Shell Lake will be shooting off its annual fireworks from the airport this year rather than the beach (location for many years). Safety concerns have prompted the change. This will require closure of the airport on July 3rd from 6 pm until midnight. Gerry invited 631 to have a cookout during the shutdown – best seats in town for the fireworks. Please consider flying or driving in, and spending the night (camp at airport, or we’ll find you a bed). Gerry will arrange passes so 631 members can drive down Burgs Park Drive past the road block that will stop the general public. The public will view the show from the trail adjacent Hwy 63.

Adjournment:

Ed K. moved to adjourn. Gerry Winch 2nd. Motion Approved.

Respectfully submitted, Brad Volker – Chapter Secretary

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