

## Minutes – DGTA Annual Members Meeting

Tuesday August 20, 2013, Seelbach Hilton, Louisville, Kentucky

Attendees: Hank Baird, Leo Traverse, Steve Hawks, Mike Weston, Jim Powell, Deb Powel, Sonia Irusta, Pierre Boies, Robert Creighton, Bill Withrow, Scott Dunsmore, Rhonda Jessop, Bob Richard, Jeff Greenwald, Colleen Tieman, Leif Soderman, Debbie Hape, Blake Dye

1. The meeting was called to order and the past chairman, Leif Soderman (Optimal Assistans), made a few opening remarks before introducing the new chairman, Colleen Tieman (Purolator Courier). The board of directors was also introduced, and then general introductions around the room were made. Colleen thanked Leif for his service as chairman and then gave the group an overview of the agenda for the meeting.
2. Debbie Hape, (Pfizer) provided the member and financial reports. While membership appears static, we have actually gained several new members, partially as a result of the conference that was held in Copenhagen in April. However, we have also lost a few members due to retirement, attrition etc., so our numbers have not grown. The financial report indicated the DGTA is sustaining itself, but the only revenue stream is membership dues. This should change once the CDGP credential has been officially launched and the revenue share with IHMM starts. It was also noted that the figures presented did not account for several outstanding membership dues and other outstanding expenses. A question arose from the group about how we handle members whose dues go past the due deadline, and the board indicated that we simply do not drop members who find themselves in this situation without looking at the circumstances and providing the member some flexibility.
3. Bob Richard (Labelmaster Services) gave an update on DGTA's participation at the UN. He mentioned that we are being recognised as the "voice of training" at the meeting since there is no other organisation there devoted entirely to training. He feels our observer status can enhance and grow membership and give the DGTA more exposure at the international level. He also gave an update on the application for observer status at the joint meeting (ADR/RID) – it is currently pending and will be reviewed at the meeting in September, the decision will be made at that time. Once again, Bob highlighted the importance of getting this observer status as will further increase DGTA's visibility with an entirely different audience. There was a discussion on who would attend the September meeting, and Jim Powell (Transportation Development Group) volunteered to attend if there was no one else to cover. Bob also mentioned that we have other opportunities with ICAO and the IMO, which could also be key initiatives to DGTA's growth and expansion. The group agreed that all of these were very important to DGTA's future success.
4. Debbie Hape and Leif Soderman provided a review of the Copenhagen conference, which included number of attendees, speakers etc. , and overall it was a successful event. The agenda was very well received and the regulators that participated were of high quality and top in their field of expertise. One of the members questioned that the expenses versus the revenues seemed very high based on the

previous financial report, but it was explained that those figures were slightly outdated and in fact the conference expenses exceeded revenues by just over \$1000.00. It was also indicated that the incentive for speakers of having their room/travel covered was excellent for being able to attract the best possible speakers, and that no reimbursement was given to DGTA personnel.

5. Jeff Greenwald (IHMM) gave an update on the status of the CDGP credential. He asked to see a show of hands of how many in the room had taken the exam – only 4 hands were raised. A discussion ensued as to the roadblocks for people wanting to take the exam, but unable to because of cost (primary reason), lack of corporate support for the credential at the present etc. He urged the group to participate in the initiative that was being offered in conjunction with DGIS where persons are able to sit the exam for free, and only if they wanted their score/the credential would a fee apply. He highlighted the importance of getting the exam validated as quickly as possible as then the credential could be launched and once monies owed to IHMM have been accounted for, our revenue share could start. He thanked the DGTA and the exam committee for all of the hard work that had gone into getting the credential to where it is and recognised that this was all done by DGTA volunteers. He also commented on the very positive partnership between DGTA and IHMM, and that how the DGTA was really meeting its piece of the partnership and working hard to make it a success. A review of the different steering committees was done as well. A question arose from one of the board members regarding getting feedback from the DGTA members on the DGCSC, and it was confirmed by Jeff that the minutes of those meetings were supposed to be sent directly to all DGTA Board members, and that situation should be rectified immediately with the DGTA members serving on the DGCSC.

#### 6. New Business:

a. The chairman mentioned that in a review of the DGTA's articles of incorporation, we were listed as a "non-membership" organisation, which seems to contradict what the DGTA represents. The board feels that DGTA members should have a voice in the decisions made on behalf of the organisation and is reviewing the situation. If the group agrees and there are no legal, financial or other implications to having the articles changed, then that process will be started. Further communication will follow.

b. We are preparing a survey on how we can better meet the needs of the DGTAA membership. We would really appreciate your participation and feedback on the survey so we can provide the membership with value added features for their membership support. It will be sent out to the membership shortly.

c. Bob Richard reminded the group that we as a membership can petition the DOT on issues that arise from training in the field, and encouraged members to contact him with any of these.

With no further items of business, the meeting was adjourned.