

Minden Soaring Club Meeting

Monday March 16th 2026 6pm

Board Members Present

Jim Lee: President

Linda Hivert: Vice President

Don Adams: Treasurer

Sam Whiteside: Trustee

Tom Stowers: Trustee

Tim Gardner: Trustee, Maintenance

Jeffrey Bilyeu: Secretary

Unable to attend: Ivan Altunin: Trustee; Scholarship chair

Original Agenda items:

Approval of Minutes for Jan 19th 2026 meeting

MSC Youth Scholarship Program (Ivan Altunin)

Discuss Scholarship Applications

Possible Marian Barrett donation

Treasurers Report (Don Adams)

Financial update

IRS and NV sales Taxes

Single Place Glider (Sam Whiteside)

Mass MSC mailing for dues renewal, flight privilege dues, VIP program, and Constant Contact

Minden Soaring east side Barbeque/ Work party Saturday 03/21/26

Booth/ table for Pathways to Aviation program with Gordo at UNR

Wave camp planning and promotion & SAF dinner (Sports Aviation)

Limit on glider bookings

Genoa Ranch Visit

Guest speaker for Carson EAA

Meeting started at 6pm

Previous minutes of January 19th were approved

Jim Lee was showing the board members the website that Steve had created for the club. MindenSoaring.org, you can do most everything at this website; soaringnv.com is the commercial side for booking rides.

Do not use the old site mindensoaringclub.com you will find that it has been hacked and we have no control over it, hopefully the domain will eventually be lost.

Ivan Altunin could not make the meeting however he did have an email with all the information regarding the status of the scholarship students

The following is extracted directly from his email

“A brief update on our Youth program: We currently have 4 scholarship students - Silas, Paxx, Julia, and Gavin. Paxx soloed last week and Julia and Gavin have started flying. Silas has been taking a break for the Ski Season and is expected to return to flying this Spring/Summer. Paxx checked out the flight sim and is working on a proposed budget for upgrades, hopefully to present to the board soon. Steve has created a sign-up form for the youth program on the MSC website - please direct any prospective youth members there. Thanks to Tim we also have a new Youth program chat in the MSC WhatsApp group!”

There are currently 5 scholarships active with MSC and they are actively flying. It was suggested by Ivan (from email) and by Tim to keep track of the money spent on scholarships across the years to help convince donations to the club vs the SSA. This conversation related to a discussion regarding Marion Barrett in which it appears she may direct her possible donation to the SSA.

There are currently no new applications for a scholarship. It was also noted that MSC dues are waived for scholarship beneficiary's

It was noted that the scholarship beneficiary's funds awarded goes towards tows, and that the rental fees of the gliders and instruction time is donated through MSC. This creates a value for the scholarship which is more than the original scholarship amount. It is easily equivalent to \$5000.00. Upon approval for a scholarship the student receives \$1500.00 in credit, and after the written test another \$1000.00 is available. So, in essence everything is free (donated) except for the tows. The club is going to encourage Stacy Hughes daughter to avail herself of the scholarship before she passes the 25th year cutoff.

Treasurers report:

Bank Of America account \$77,300.00 (Operating account)

Schwab account \$32,000.00 (scholarship and investment income)

It was discussed previously in meetings however in this meeting it was voted on and approved to make another financial account to separate the scholarship monies from the MSC investment monies. The exact amount was not known without looking it up, but it is approximately \$15000.00 for the scholarship amount. It is felt it will be much easier to manage being separated, especially regarding interest accrued.

Don Adams has gone to length to deal with the previous IRS tax burden (they are behind on processing due to shutdowns and have not acknowledged receipt), and currently the 2024 penalty of \$4500.00 is going to be answered by May 5th; He is trying to get that penalty waived.

NV sales tax; Don has submitted to Nevada and they have acknowledged receipt of the packet for a waiver on Nevada sales tax which could be substantial due to towplane fuel. It takes 60 days for an answer from the state.

Single Place Glider:

Sam and Tom were involved in trying to get a G-102 and it was thought that one might be donated but unfortunately that did not happen and the owners decided not to even sell it, even though it is not being flown.

There is a club Barbeque on Saturday March 21st. There is a work party scheduled for 10:30 am to spread some gravel at the new clubhouse at the staging area. The food is expected to be ready and served around 1:30 to 2pm at the hangar. **See WhatsApp** for possible time changes

It was discussed and voted on to have another level of membership of 25 and under. This new membership will cost \$25.00. It was discussed to have a Minden Youth Soaring League, and the club would like Steve Sliwa and Ivan Altunin to be the sponsors/mentors for the youth group that should be organized and lead by the youth members

Wave Camp:

The wave camp will cost \$250.00 and runs from April 11th to April 18th. If you are not a member you will have to join and add the \$100.00. There will be dinners at 5pm or if flying at 7pm on April 11th and the 18th. You will have to sign up for and pay for these dinners. There will also be a dinner with Sports Aviation at CVIC Hall and the guest speaker is Steve Sliwa. This dinner will cost approximately \$50.00. There is also a dinner at Gordon Boettger's house; he has a shot in WhatsApp from I believe his house of spectacular wave. You can find more information on the Club's website regarding dates at MindenSoaring.org.

It was agreed to limit the reservation times on club gliders to 3 reservations along with limits the days to 3. So, at any one time you can only have 3 reservations active.

Maintenance:

The Duo needs a new wing wheel and has 48 hours left before an Annual. 83P towplane is going into the hangar on 03/17 and needs a gasket and an Annual.

On 03/17/26 Don Adams will guide a tour of approximately 24 people of the club operations. They are called the "Day Trippers"

Nobody volunteered to speak at the Carson EAA.

It was decided to have a General Membership Meeting on May 16th at 6pm with a BBQ also. This meeting is to discuss with the membership the financial health of the club, and the club's future plans. It will also be the time to elect board members.

Jim Lee has been working hard to organize the club more and he sees light at the end of the tunnel for getting the club "more" organized.

After the meeting but before the official posting of the minutes Don Adams has already taken steps to separate the scholarship funds from the reserve/investment account.

Meeting adjourned

Jeffrey Bilyeu reporting