

Minden Soaring Club Annual Membership Meeting and Election

Saturday May 16th 2026 6pm

Board Members Present

Jim Lee: President
Linda Hivert: Vice President
Don Adams: (Absent) Treasurer
Sam Whiteside: Trustee
Tom Stowers: Trustee
Tim Gardner: (Absent) Trustee, Maintenance
Jeffrey Bilyeu: Secretary
Ivan Altunin: (Absent) Trustee; Scholarship chair

Original Agenda items:

Call to Order (present)

Approval of Minutes for March 16th 2026 meeting

MSC Youth Scholarship Program (Ivan Altunin)

Marion Barette Donation (\$1000.00)

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

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

Wave camp - Report

Limit on glider bookings

Guest speaker for Carson EAA

Vote For Trustees of Minden Soaring Club

The meeting got started later than planned, everyone was hungry and started filling their plates.

I'm not exactly sure when the meeting started, but around 6:45 to 7 pm

Previous minutes of January 19th were approved

The agenda was approved

It was suggested and agreed by the members to get once-a-month social get togethers; at least during the soaring season

Scholarship fund: Marion Barrett donated \$1000.00 to the scholarship fund – Thank you Marion

Adriano Montejo received a scholarship, if you don't happen to know Leo and his wife, Carlotta (she helped me spell her son's name) were very happy he received the scholarship and are members of MSC

There are currently 6 scholarships in the works and 3 or 4 more coming soon; these additional students are from the Pathways to Aviation exposure.

Treasurer's report: Don Adams is out of the country so we have the basic information. The MSC account has \$150,000.00 in the bank accounts. The main thing is due to Don's relentless wrangling with the IRS and State of Nevada he was able to get the penalty from previous year waived. That is a significant savings for the club (\$12,000.00) Thank you Don.

Single Place Glider: Sam Whiteside has donated \$17,000.00 for the purchase of a single place glider. (See Board meeting below for more information regarding this)

It was voted on previously and approved for the Club to purchase the LX9000 from Jim Payne; this purchase has been completed and the plan is to install this in the Duo Discus.

Mass MSC mailings, Constant Contact:

Steve Sliwa has been working on this and previously we shared contacts with Sports Aviation; Steve has moved all this and went to MailChimp to separate the organizations. Steve had sent out mass mailing for flight instructors and immediately received responses. The MSC website has been fine-tuned (MindenSoaring.org). SoaringNV.com is still the ride business side of MSC. One of the key things is Steve has gained control of SoaringNV from Brian so that finalizes that part of the website. The old Minden soaring website which was the original website is expected to be "hopefully" back under MSC control in November when the domain expires. Steve would like to make the MSC websites the "envy" of the world. Steve had gone to *Indeed* soliciting for office managers, and in the middle of all that Stacy poked her head into the MSC hangar and asked if MSC was hiring. Jim Lee interviewed her and she was hired. Thank You, Steve, for everything.

It was also solicited for a full-time tow pilot. Eric Rensel was hired to be full time and he was intercepted before going to the Sky Diving operation; he also wants to help with maintenance. MSC also has an ad for a full-time flight instructor; MSC is looking for someone that will be able to service the scholarship students. MSC needs full time people to supplement our extremely valuable instructors we currently have.

Pathways to Aviation:

Linda Mae has been involved with this organization for years; it is a “not-for-profit” organization. Their goal is to get kids interested in aviation. This year’s event brought in 400 people which was a very good turnout. Gordo’s was the best presentation they have ever had! The Gilmont foundation is who funds Pathways and also funded the ramp office. This came out a little more than planned, but they paid it without any issue. Thank You Linda and Gordo and others who volunteered to help both items happen.

Wave Camp:

The wave camp was a great success; 24 people enrolled. The first day had wave so there was an impromptu meeting to get them in the air safely. The next wave day (Wednesday) was a “gentleman’s” wave. Everyone was able to get in the air except one. As a side note I would like to point out that Jim Lee is notorious for the saying of “Gentleman’s” wave. I heard that the first time when he was comparing wave with me. The other wave **Not** “Gentleman’s” wave is when you are at redline at 18,000 ft and still going up, and or when you’re landing at 40-knot wind. The speaker expertise was fantastic. Thank you all who participated and who had presentations.

There is no plan to have Wave Camp next year, while it was popular the reason is that the Nationals are next June at Minden, and it is considered a little too much to have two events that year.

Booking Rule:

This was actually voted on last meeting and the restriction is 4 days in a row max. For the Duo Discus. Currently there is one person who is exempt from this booking rule as they had the booking before the board vote and did not want to rescind the booking, especially since they are coming from the other side of the country.

A member brought up regarding leasebacks for the club; this was discussed in previous meetings and basically no private owners have stepped up to leaseback their ships.

The Carson EAA is looking for volunteer speakers, if anyone wants to volunteer. Their meetings are on Tuesday mornings.\

Staging Area:

The Airport manager was very impressed with the operation at the staging area. She reiterated to keep the area clear as possible while operating. Jim Lee would like to see position one be kept clear just in case someone on the ramp needs to be pushed back behind the demarcation lines to be out of the way of traffic. It is understood that some large planes may have an issue with this. The website has staging area instructions.

Membership:

It was suggested to have a new membership level. This new membership level was voted on and approved; it is a family membership for \$150.00. It was discussed about limitations but basically decided there are none other than actual family members or significant others. This will be re-visited only if it is viewed as being abused.

It was noted by a member to please get your gliders off the runway when landing as soon as possible.

OLC:

Jim Payne discussed the position of MSC on OLC. We are in 5th place. This was not including that day's results which had some very good flights. Jim discussed forecasting and mentioned that AI was pessimistic. He mentioned 3 leagues in OLC, Gold, US and sorry I did not catch the last one. WeGlide has (DAGR) and we were 2nd overall. He reminded everyone that OLC has 4 legs and WeGlide has 3 legs, and that after 2 hours you need to be at the same height as the start or higher. Jim encourages everyone to come out and join the fun.

Vote for Trustees:

So, the original rules for MSC were for 7 trustees, apparently, we had one extra, likely me. Two people wanted to be Trustees, and it was viewed that the best option was to vote for the rules to be amended to allow 10 trustees. This was 1st and 2nded and voted on and approved. So now MSC will have 10 trustees. This is very good news as these new trustees have already been helping the club, and this facilitated more without having to lose a valued trustee. There was really no opposition for board positions so a vote was put to the membership to keep the existing trustees as one vote and including the two additional trustees. This was approved by the membership.

The following are the trustees that were voted for:

Jim Lee

Linda Mae Hivert

Don Adams

Tom Stowers

Tim Gardner

Ivan Altunin

Sam Whiteside

Steve Sliwa

Elizabeth Tattersall

Jeffrey Bilyeu

Keep in mind the trustees will later during a board meeting vote for the positions within the board (after annual meeting).

Operations Notes:

The avionics shop (Mario) of Accurate Aero said that he cannot legally put transponders into the 2-32 and the Blanik. This issue is going to be investigated. It is at the time theorized that it is due to the standard category certificates not accommodating electrical systems.

It was noted by a tow pilot that 57Z traffic display had gone out for a short time, and after resetting it is back up and working. MSC has 2 FLARM Flex units that are basically portable FLARM units. AB has ADSB but not Flarm. 57Z & 3P have FLARM units installed, and are currently working.

WhatsApp:

It was asked how well the membership thought that WhatsApp was working. Generally, it was felt that it is working well. Steve suggested that a social group under MSC be added to facilitate social communications and connections such that it won't interfere with MSC operations. I believe it was agreed on to implement.

Reeba Coombs wished to speak and generally praised how well the club has done. It was noted by someone else that Reeba had kept the club going during the "lean" years.

A motion was made to adjourn the annual member meeting this was 2nd ed and was approved.

The Annual Members Meeting was adjourned.