***Free Spirit Flight HGC, Inc.*** Fall Meeting, Nov.6, 2021 at Draht Hill location

Attendance: Karl Link, Karen Parsiegla, Bill Vickery, Dave Zeigler, Ed Jowett, Jim Kolynich, Jim Fardette, Steve Houser

Meeting was called to order at 5:15PM by Pres. Jim Kolynich. Steve H read the minutes of the April 3 spring meeting and they were accepted as read. No treasurer’s report was given, but year end report will be emailed to the board members. Jim Kolynich reported that the new Ariens zoom max mower was performing well and beyond expectations. Seems to be holding up to the job also. Jim Fardette reported on the process of appealing to the Foundation for Free Flight for assistance with its cost. $1350 was covered by them and the other 50% was raised via fundraising among the active FSF membership. Jim F noted that the FFF expected that a short letter of thanks and description of the purchase, along with a photograph, be sent to the USHPA headquarters to be put into a future edition of the magazine. Secretary Steve agreed to do that.

Discussion of increasing the list of “local” pilots to contact for flying club sites. Chris Toomey of the Rochester area was suggested, and Jim K will contact him to see if he is willing to be designated as a local.

Chapter renewal was discussed. Many ideas and opinions were aired about the pros and cons of remaining a chapter. Single greatest advantage that was agreed upon was the indemnification of the officers, but the feeling in general was that the USHPA has not been of particular benefit to smaller clubs because of past policies that dampened local small school training efforts. Members reported stories of areas of liability limitations due to conflicting clubs or XC incidents. It was agreed that members would review and revise the worksheets as needed so that our site guides would be improved to hopefully meet RRG’s expectations better. Steve will email a working copy of the worksheets for each site to the member assigned. Jim F will do Harris, Jim K will do Draht, Steve and Dave will do Indian Cliffs and Katydid. Target date is Dec. 15 for submission. Steve agreed to process the renewal again so we will revisit the decision to renew at all at a later date.

Discussion of the possibility of dissolving the club altogether was held. Lack of growth and active new membership and the aging out of “the old guard”, could lead to lack of maintenance and supervision of the sites. Questions about the future of Harris, in particular, arose. How would sale of the property be handled, and money be dispersed if that were the action? Would another club take it over? Would USHPA want to own/manage it? Discussion will be ongoing. Steve volunteered to interact with USHPA officers to bring such concerns to their attention and elicit feedback.

 Meeting adjourned at 6:57PM Steve Houser, Sec.