

CMT/ABATE Inc. Board of Directors Meeting

September 11, 2005 - 1pm Elks Lodge, Madison, TN

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag at approximately at 1:16pm.

MOTION - by Dean & seconded by Randy to accept the Minutes as written was unanimously approved.

Director's Statement

Mark stated that Steve Lundwall would remain as the NCOM representative for CMT/ABATE and apologized for the grief of the prior Friday. Director also apologized for not getting the agenda out earlier. Illness and work interfered with how he would have preferred to have provided it.

ACTIVITIES

Liberty Rally October 1 – 2nd. Nashville is hosting the bike show. Dickson/Humphries is hosting Rodeo finals. Last chance to get points before the finals will be at Smith/Wilson's Points Rodeo on the 17th. Liberty Rally vendor spaces are still available. Offering blanket spaces for swap meet parts. No RV hookups are available but there will be separate generator camping offered and separate non-generator camping.

STR had first start up Committee meeting with a good turn out. John Carter was appointed Comptroller and will supervise all financial matters. Instead of eliminating the drags we are having open dirt drags. Vikki Dale has provided a contact to a shirt vendor who makes t-shirt on site which will help us avoid t-shirt cost for next year. Committees list is available and there are a couple of vacancies we need filled. Sponsorship package has been revised and is available for all members to begin selling.

2006 Activities planning calendar is right before the December 11th BoD meeting at 12pm. If you want first dibs at a date, you or your activities chairman needs to be there.

LEGISLATIVE

We haven't stopped working on legislation and are still making friends. We will continue with out efforts to repeal helmet law. The current bill is still in the Budget Sub-committee. We will also start a new helmet bill that will not include a health insurance amendment. There should be some big changes in committees chairmanships this next year too.

The Right of Way Violation Bill will be continued to be improved next Session. As currently written it provides the opportunity to prosecute for violation of right of way. Right now it is a Class C Misdemeanor. We will attempt to raise that penalty. We are looking at the SR22 insurance clause as well.

We will be proposing a bill that will allow us to ride at or below 20mph on the shoulder of a multi-lane highway if the other traffic is moving at less than 10 mph. We'll agree to give way to any emergency vehicle.

On October 15th Carol Simpson is hosting a Legislative Retreat for members only. It will be a brainstorming session to evaluate last year's program and figure out how to improve the effort for '06. We will also be discussing our bills for next year. There may be guest speakers.

MEMBERSHIP - absent.

Provided Mark with his resignation due to work expectations. We will need to have resumes in for this office by next BoD.

OFFICE/NEWSPAPER

\$10 donation from the website Paypal currently has reached \$210. That does not include the charter meeting challenge contributions. Office needs to receive the endorsed backsides of Poker run books no later than September 18th. We currently have 210 T-shirts and # STR pins if anyone wants to purchase.

PRODUCTS - absent

SAFETY & EDUCATION

Feds passed Transportation Equity Act with motorcycle safety clauses included. This makes grants available to states if applied for. They range from \$100k to 25% of historical donations. There are specific criteria required to meet for eligibility of this money. It can also be sub-allocated to non-profit organizations to administrate in one of those six categories.

Bob will tender his resignation at the close of this meeting. He's hoping that someone will step up to the position. He would have liked to have seen a Safety & Ed Committee and will gladly serve that committee for whoever chairs it. He's not walking away from Safety & Ed, just the Board voting position.

TREASURER - absent.

Paper shows that we did not use general funds for the STR. Discussion was heard on the balance of our account. This caused a jump in our agenda to 6.3 "Our Financial Situation".

Director acknowledged that we screwed up the Poker Run books in several accounts. He pointed out that people aren't coming to our events like they used to and Charters are having different kinds of events. The landscape of bikers has changed in the recent decades. Need to re-address fund raising and sustaining this organization to meet that new genre of bikers and raise funds from them.

WEBSITE REPORT

Right now the requests have slowed substantially so that has allowed Bob to update for needs as requested. Once Legislative session begins, he'd like to see a Daily update included on our website. He will not be available to do that and is looking for a volunteer.

Advertising on the website could be a possibility to help pay for itself. Providing our Tennessee Motorcyclists on-line is something we are working towards as well. A Board member encouraged that we not put the paper on line for free because it might reduce membership if they can get it for free. It was added that if the paper was a little more like a magazine we might attract more advertising.

MRF REPORT

Meeting of the Minds is September 22nd to 24th in Little Rock. It provides workshops and the opportunity to socialize with the premiere freedom fighters of the nation. Nationally the TEA was passed for all transportation in the USA. It's the entire federal budget for transportation and everyone fights for a piece of the pie including motorcyclists through the MRF.

NCOM REPORT

Steve reminded us that as a member of CMT/ABATE you are automatically a member of NCOM. The COC is very interested in working with us on a Discrimination bill. There is a position available for paid AIM reps to go to motorcycle events. Mark added that Steve is going to remain our NCOM position.

OLD BUSINESS

By-Laws Committee working to clean up the By-laws and to make them more easily understood. It is more work than realized and will need a little more time to present their recommendations to the Board. The next committee meeting is 11:30am at October 1st during the Liberty Rally.

Acronym Definition of ABATE. June of 2004 Bob Edwards gave a history of ABATE and the definitions he found across the nation. With By-laws committee we have an opportunity to nail his down and put it in our By-laws. Association of Bikers for Awareness, Training and Education got 9 votes and it was not even contained in his Action Memorandum sent out to the charters in the December 2004 Director packages.

MOTION – Made by Bob and seconded by Dean to ask the Board “Do we accept Association of Bikers for Awareness Training and Education as the definition of our acronym?” Unanimous No

Motion will be made at the December Board meeting whether we define our acronym as “American Bikers Active Towards Education” or “A Brotherhood Against Totalitarian Enactments”. The By-laws Committee will be instructed to incorporate the results of this final vote into the By-laws as a permanent record. Bob has motioned the proposal and Dean has seconded it. Board directed that notification of this By-law vote and change must go out in the newspaper as an advisory to the membership.

The Newspaper is a sales tool to this organization. It was clarified by Director that we will leave it the same or even better. We have only discussed the possibility of adding it online. We are not doing away with it at all.

NEW BUSINESS

The Thunder Mountain Charter Director has moved to Florida. The charter is no longer meeting and has not attended the past 6 Board of Director meetings. A letter from Dean was sent out to their membership asking if anyone wished to step up to those Charter Officer positions and no reply was received.

MOTION – by Dean Lucas and seconded by Scott McColpin to dissolve the Thunder Mountain Charter passed unanimously.

MOTION – by Dean Lucas and seconded by Ann Stout to accept resume of Jessica Good to the At Large Coordinator Position passes.

In the Dickson/Humphries Charter report, Beefy challenged each charter to find three advertisements for the paper by next Board meeting.

Several charter events were announced and flyers were made available on the table. The Soaring Eagle Charter announced that they are planning on an October 8th Legislative Parade out of Sevierville. It will be an 8.5 mile parade down Hwy 56 to Smoky Stadium. It is a preamble to a future motorcycle rally that will be jointly spearheaded by Sevierville in cooperation with CMT/ABATE. Further information will soon be available www.paradefreedom.com. Paypal will be available for early registrations.

Mike Dale resigned as Sumner Charter Director and asked that his membership be changed to “At large” along with his wife’s membership.

Nancy announced her resignation from the Newspaper/Office Manager position to become effective October 1st. She will make herself available to help our replacement until the 15th and as available after that date. Several members recommended that maybe in this interim that they would be willing to volunteer to help with that job as well as learn it for the new Office Manager.

With that our meeting was adjourned.

Next Board of Directors meeting will be December 11th, 2005 with an Activities Calendar meeting preceding it at noon.