

New Jersey Chapter of BMW CCA Board Meeting November 17, 2021

Board members present: Neil Gambony, Paul Ngai, Bob Isbitski, Jeff White, Dave Allaway, Ron Gemeinhardt, Jamie Kavalieros, Ross Karlin, Mark Hulbrook. Board members absent: Colin Vozeh, Rich Altman. Others present: Allison Mack, Larry Engel, Hank Farber, Tom Fitzgerald, Bill Van Ocker, Kevin Sheehy, Mirril McMullen, Brian Morgan, Mark Biunno.

President

Neil Gambony called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM at Alfonso's in Somerville. Jamie Kavalieros moved to approve the minutes of the September meeting [there was no October meeting] as distributed and Jeff White seconded (approved unanimously).

Neil noted that December meeting at Deutscher Club of Clark (DCC) will be the Pinewood Derby. Larry Engel will be running unopposed for Regional VP (3 years starting in April). Larry summarized his candidacy statement. Jamie motioned to appoint Mark Biunno as Newsletter Editor and Paul Ngai seconded (approved unanimously).

Vice President

Paul Ngai reported that he is working with Allison on next year's meetings. January will be at Shade Tree Garage (Phil Eng as speaker). February will be Circle BMW (DIY topic), March will be at eMpower Automotive (tentative). Paul thanked Klaus Schnitzer for his October presentation at DCC.

Driving Events

Jeff White reported the Pick-Your-Pumpkin Rally went well, with two DNF's. We raised \$860 for Norwescap. Jeff noted that next year we will not permit solo rally entrants. Our Intro School and ITS will be 4/1 - 4/3 at NJMP Thunderbolt (Friday) and Lightning. Our Driver School and Club Race will be Monday-Tuesday 6/6 - 6/7 at NJMP Thunderbolt. It was noted that this overlaps with the Trillium/GVC/Allegheny event at Pittsburgh. We have requested 7/16 - 7/17 (main track) and 10/15 - 10/16 (Shenandoah) at Summit Point Raceway.

Ross Karlin reported that the Westlake School was severely flooded (3 ft.) in September, with \$5-10 million in repairs needed. They are using Holy Spirit School in Union this school year. We are always welcome to visit. They are very interested in coming back to the track next year. We are in need of serious sponsorship. In February or March we will present our 2021 donation check, plus any additional contributions.

Treasurer

Ron Gemeinhardt distributed the current profit & loss statement. The joint event with the New York and Delaware Valley Chapters has been reconciled. There was a \$2,848 loss at Summit Point (main track) and \$6,146 loss at Shenandoah. Ron proposed a \$3,000 contribution to the BMW CCA Foundation, and that we round up our Norwescap donation \$1,000. We have been postponing helmet purchases. We need 8 or 9 helmets to replenish our supply (\$3,500 estimate). It was noted that there are no shared helmets during events. Jeff motioned to donate \$3,000 to the BMW CCA Foundation and \$1,000 to Norwescap and Jamie seconded (carried unanimously).

Business Manager

Allison Mack reported that we will be keeping our advertising/sponsor rates the same as this year: \$400 for a small ad and \$800 for a large ad plus social media promotion.

Secretary

Dave Allaway reported that 2022 Board nominations were received as follows. President: Paul Ngai; Vice President: Allison Mack; Secretary: Dave Allaway; Director of Driving Events: Jeff White; Member-at-Large (2): Bob Isbitski, Mark Hulbrook, and Deborah DeRiso Allen. The Treasurer and Director of Social Events positions received no nominations and will be appointed by the 2022 board as per the bylaws. The chapter election will be conducted online using the BMW CCA national website, same as last year.

Members-at-Large

Mark Hulbrook reported our social media followers: Facebook 104 new, 1,290 total; Instagram 349 new, 1,296 total. This year's most read posts were the thank you for BimToberFest, the 50th Anniversary event, the Biergarten, and NJMP. The \$15 for paid ads for driving events resulted in a significant increase in views. Participant e-mails from Motorsports Reg have been added to our Mailchimp list. Our e-mail list is now about 6,000 addresses. Almost all new member welcome e-mails are opened. The welcome message will be sent to board members to see if we want to refresh it. The most popular recent e-mails were: October Circle BMW, NJMP April, Pick-Your-Pumpkin rally, 50th Anniversary event, and Autocross. The most popular website pages were: HPDE, Calendar, Autocross, and 50th Anniversary event.

Membership

Kevin Sheehy noted that a re-joining member asked about a year-end dinner meeting.

Old Business

Neil reiterated the idea of establishing an instructor award in Blake Smith's name. It was noted that we still need to formally present the BMW CCA Friend of the Club award to Blake Smith's family. Neil will follow up. Ross raised the need to decide on the Westlake School donation. Ron will send out a number for an e-mail vote.

New Business

The next board meeting was set for January 12th at Alfonso's. Neil thanked everyone for working with him over the past two years, it has been an honor. Ross motioned to adjourn at 8:32 PM and Ron seconded (approved unanimously).

Respectfully submitted,
Dave Allaway, Secretary