

New Jersey Chapter of BMW CCA Board Meeting May 23, 2018

Board members present: Neil Gambony, Jeff Caldwell, Jamie Kavalieros, Bob Isbitski, Paul Ngai, Dave Allaway, Ron Gemeinhardt, Ross Karlin, Vic Lucariello, Jr. Board members absent: Jeff White, Colin Vozeh, Jerry Faber. Others present: Stan Mayer, Elihu Savad, Doug Feigel, Larry Engel, Ron Acher, Kevin Sheehy.

President

Neil Gambony called the meeting to order at 7:32 PM at Alfonso's in Somerville. Jamie Kavalieros motioned to approve the March minutes as distributed and Ross Karlin seconded (approved unanimously). [Note: There was no April board meeting.] Neil reported that the VDC tour on 3/24 raised almost \$5,500 for the BMW CCA Foundation, many thanks to those who made it happen. The BMW CCA Foundation received \$591.20 from the Charity Matching Fund Program of 2017, courtesy of the NJ BMW CCA. The Westlake School check presentation for the 2017 contribution took place on Wednesday, 4/4 at the UCESC office in Westfield. Neil noted that any new member who joins the Club with a 3-year or more membership will automatically be qualified for the Membership Reward Rebate Program without having to wait the one-year time period to be eligible to receive the rebate. A three-year membership is \$134. A BMW CCA regional summit meeting will be held on 8/4 in Hartford, CT. Paul Ngai will attend for Neil. Neil presented Jeff Caldwell with a custom-made gavel in recognition of his five years of service as chapter president.

Vice President

Paul Ngai reported that the Liqui Moly presentation at Deutscher Club of Clark (DCC) was a success. The last Wednesday of the month is now the only day available at DCC (downstairs only). The July meeting will be 7/11 at Tyspeed Automotive in Jackson, NJ. The topic will be turning a factory BMW into a race car. This will possibly be rescheduled to 7/18 from 6:30 to 9:00pm. The Circle BMW annual event is tentatively scheduled for Saturday 10/20. Jeff Caldwell will work on an increased NJ Chapter presence at this year's event. Doug Feigel attended a Cars & Coffee event at Garden State Plaza and reported that there were approximately 1,000 cars (5,000 last year with better weather), including 400 BMW's. Attendees are typically in the 16-25 age range. It was noted that there is a regular event at SteelStacks in Bethlehem, PA, with a previous focus on German imports. Neil will be working with Kevin Sheehy (Membership Chair) on chapter presence at such events. Larry and Doug reported that Biergarten at DCC was great, with about 20 cars. Prizes were awarded in three classes. Neil suggested a Show & Shine at DCC in August.

Driving Events

Jeff White reported via e-mail that we held our annual Instructor Training School at NJMP as part of the three-day tri-chapter driver school event. We had nine candidates take the school, a mix of people who are NJ members and who were new to us, including current PCA instructors. Seven of the nine completed the course over the weekend and their names have been forwarded to both Bill Wade as national ITS coordinator and to GVC, DeVal, NY, and Patroon. The chapter M-day at the Performance Center now has 24 people registered out of 32 slots. This is in line with what other chapters see this far out. As a reminder, we are a co-sponsor with NNJR SCCA for a simple TSD Rally on May 6. No special timing equipment is required. The event is listed on the website and calendar. Jeff will ask Bob Isbitski to get it posted to our Facebook page and ask Jeff Caldwell to do an e-blast to the membership. Ross Karlin reported he and Jeff have secured sponsorship from BMW of Morristown for the June NJMP Thunderbolt club race and driver school. This will include bringing people, cars and parts, and providing a pace car. There was a discussion on promoting banquet attendance. Twenty-five racers have signed up so far. A VIP ticket for the public event is \$15 if purchased through the chapter (regularly \$45). The banquet is \$25 per person. Jamie Kavalieros noted that he is considering tiered pricing for 2019, based on registration date. Larry Engel reported that our 6/24 Tire Rack Street Survival (TRSS) school is full, with 15 on the waiting list. We are good with staff. Our second TRSS of the year will be the last Sunday in September (9/30).

Autocross

Elihu Savad reported that we have six autocrosses on the schedule and no conflicts with SCCA. We have added 10/14 at TD Bank Ballpark. The electronic timer issue was resolved without need for repair.

Treasurer

Ron Gemeinhardt distributed the current financial report. The April NJMP Lightning event is about break-even. Ron noted that the MotorsportReg income for registrations is not reflected until the registrants' credit cards are charged.

The officers insurance has been paid, and is now over \$600. The deposit refund has been received from Reeves-Reed Arboretum. The taxes were filed on time. There was no tax due for unrelated business activity in 2017.

Business Manager

Matt Baratz reported, via e-mail, that our January-April advertising and sponsorship invoicing was \$10,380 (vs. \$5,060 for the same period last year).

Newsletter

Jerry Faber reported, via e-mail, that the quarterly bulletin has been sent to the printer.

Social Events

Vic Lucariello, Jr. noted that three prizes were awarded at the DCC event, with thanks to Springfield BMW for last-minute assistance. There was a discussion on not awarding prizes next year. The Winter (Spring) get-together has been tentatively scheduled for Saturday 3/30/19. Alternative dates are 4/13 and 4/20, but these could potentially conflict with holidays and the first driver school of the season. Vic will store the leftover wine from 2017 for next year's get-together.

Members-at-Large

Jeff Caldwell reminded all that he is prepared to do e-mail blasts on demand, but requires the specific content, including pictures, not just a request.

New Business

The next board meeting was set for Wednesday 6/27 at 7:30 PM at Alfonso's. Jeff Caldwell motioned to adjourn at 8:53 PM and Doug Feigel seconded (carried unanimously).

Respectfully submitted,
Dave Allaway, Secretary