

## **New Jersey Chapter of BMW CCA Board Meeting January 8, 2020**

Board members present: Neil Gambony, Jamie Kavalieros, Paul Ngai, Dave Allaway, Rich Altman, Ross Karlin, Mark Hulbrock, Jeff White, Ron Gemeinhardt, Colin Vozeh, Jerry Faber. Board member absent: Bob Isbitski. Others present: Brian Morgan, Mirril McMullen, Elihu Savad, Larry Engel, Stan Meyer, Lou D'Angeli.

### **President**

Neil Gambony called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM at Alfonso's in Somerville. Jamie Kavalieros motioned to approve the November minutes as distributed and Paul Ngai seconded (approved unanimously). Jeff White motioned to appoint Jerry Faber as Newsletter Editor, Colin Vozeh as Webmaster, Ross Karlin as Race Chair and Member-at-Large, and Jamie Kavalieros as Driver School Chair and Member-at-Large. Ron Gemeinhardt seconded (approved unanimously). Neil noted a change in the BMW CCA membership requirement to six months before eligibility for a BMW NA vehicle rebate [with three-year membership purchase, otherwise 12 months of membership prior to eligibility].

### **Vice President**

Paul Ngai reported that the January meeting will be at Shade Tree Garage in Morristown on 1/16. Phil Eng will speak on suspension and alignments. The February meeting will be at eMpower Automotive in Belvidere on 2/27. Owner Matt Kimple will host. There was concern expressed about parking [check website for parking details]. March is open. April will be the BMW Vehicle Distribution Center (VDC) tour on 4/4 or 4/11. June will be the Biergarten at the Deutscher Club of Clark (DCC), date TBD. July is open. August will be the Show & Shine at the DCC on 8/12 or 8/13. September will be at Tyspeed Automotive, date TBD. October is Oktoberfest at Circle BMW. November will be at 56 Degree Wine in Bernardsville. December will be the Pinewood Derby and elections at the DCC on 12/1 or 12/8.

### **Driving Events**

Jeff White reported that the Regional Instructor Seminar is scheduled for 3/14 at BMW NA. Jeff is seeking ITS candidates. The only available M Day at Spartanburg is 9/6 (the Sunday before Labor Day). The board consensus was to go ahead and reserve this, given the 60-day cancellation policy, and monitor registrations closely with a decision point in late June.

### **Driver Schools**

Jamie reported that the April Thunderbolt ITS and Intro School with DeVal Chapter will be 4/17-4/19. Jamie is still exploring a limo or bus for non-driving spectator-participants. The June Thunderbolt Driver School and Club Race to benefit the Westlake School will be 6/8 and 6/9. The Geoff Atkinson Memorial Driver School and Club Race will be 7/18 and 7/19 at Summit Point (main track). The Shenandoah Driver School will be 10/3 and 10/4. Ross Karlin noted that the June club races will be a North American Challenge event. We no longer have a conflict with the Pittsburgh Vintage GP. Larry Engel reported that our Tire Rack Street Survival (TRSS) schools will again be the last Sundays in June and September. NJMP would also like us to do another TRSS with possible dates of 3/21, 3/24, 4/4 or 4/5. There was a general discussion, with input from Lou D'Angeli, on additional co-sponsored events promoted by both chapters.

### **Autocross**

Elihu Savad reported that we now have six contracted dates: 4/26, 5/24, 7/26, 8/9, 8/30 and 10/11. Our NJSP license application is pending receipt of our insurance renewal. We will probably not purchase any helmets until the Snell 2020 models are available late this year or early next year.

### **Treasurer**

Ron Gemeinhardt distributed the year-end income and expense reports. Dues revenue was down 10% and will be dramatically lower in 2020 as a result of national changes. We did a little better on Driving Events in 2019 and had a \$2,948 profit on autocross. Ron expects that after final items, including TRSS and 4Q19 newsletter printing/ mailing we will be around break-even for 2019. Neil motioned to donate \$2,351 to the Westlake School, resulting in a chapter-generated total of \$6,500 including earmarked and direct donations. Jeff seconded (approved unanimously). The formal check presentation will be Wednesday 3/4. The NORWESCAP charity donation from the rally was \$600.

### **Secretary**

Dave Allaway reported that the uncontested slate of 2020 board members, as detailed at the November board meeting, was elected at the December membership meeting by unanimous acclamation. Jamie motioned to appoint Allison Mack as 2020 Business Manager and Paul seconded (approved unanimously). Per Ron, Allison has already reconciled 2019 invoicing and payments. She will draft a letter to sponsors regarding our change from mixed print/online to 100% online media.

### **Newsletter**

Jerry Faber reported that the NJ Chapter Bulletin, in its present form, has been discontinued. This will be replaced with a news and columns page on the website with links from periodic blast e-mails (similar to the online BimmerLife). Jerry and Mark will work on content and pacing for news and columns. The next print issue of BimmerLife will be July and our content will focus on the NJ Chapter 50th anniversary.

### **Webmaster**

Colin Vozech reported that the new website design is coalescing. He has received good feedback on the prototype. Sponsor logos will be at the bottom of every page. A news section can be added (see above). Colin's design philosophy is that no content will ever be lost. It was noted that the toolbox info needs updating. Colin will e-mail officers to confirm that we have the correct positions and contact info on the website.

### **Social Events**

Rich Altman reported that some new venues are under consideration, including a new car storage facility and miniature golf. There was a general discussion, initiated by Brian Morgan, on a 50th Anniversary social event which would attract long-time members. Dave suggested that we seek a weekend date at the DCC. Rich and Paul will work on this [Paul has since secured Sunday 6/14].

### **Members-at-Large**

Neil reported, on Bob Isbitski's behalf, that Bob has everything up to date on Facebook. Mark reported that we have 113 new members, 10 new followers on Facebook, and 54 new followers on Instagram. Mark will send a blast e-mail on the Shade Tree Garage (1/16) meeting.

### **New Business**

Jeff brought up the topic of formal chapter support of the proposed "Recognizing the Protection of Motorsports (RPM) Act" (HR 5434 / S 2602). There was favorable consensus, and it was determined that this is legislative rather than political activity, and therefore not prohibited by our charter. No board action was undertaken. The next board meeting was set for Wednesday 2/12 at 7:30 PM at Alfonso's. Jeff motioned to adjourn at 9:30 PM and Mark seconded (approved unanimously).

Respectfully submitted,  
Dave Allaway, Secretary