

New Jersey Chapter of BMW CCA Board Meeting July 22, 2020

Board members present: Neil Gambony, Paul Ngai, Dave Allaway, Rich Altman, Colin Vozeh, Ross Karlin, Ron Gemeinhardt, Bob Isbitski, Jamie Kavalieros, Jeff White, Mark Hulbrock. Board member absent: Jerry Faber. Others present: Allison Mack.

President

Neil Gambony called the meeting to order at 7:20 PM via teleconference. Jamie Kavalieros motioned to approve the June minutes as distributed and Jeff White seconded (carried unanimously). Neil reported that we wouldn't be paying insurance for non-HPDE events, and that there was a further premium reduction to \$750 for driver schools/club races and \$130 for autocrosses. O'Fest Palm Springs has been canceled for this year. The MX1 Enthusiast Weekend at Greer, SC has been canceled.

Vice President

Paul Ngai had no update on any upcoming meetings or car shows. The Biergarten at Deutscher Club of Clark (DCC) was a rain-out. The 8/13 Show 'N Shine at DCC is still uncertain. The BMW of Bridgewater September event is still on.

Driving Events

Jeff White reported that Rich Altman and Wade Howard organized and ran a chapter Fun Drive on 7/12 to benefit NORWESCAP. Turnout was excellent with 33 cars including 24 guests, many of whom were new to club activities, raising a total of nearly \$700. The drive began in Bedminster, wound through back roads to the Long Valley Brew Pub where the group stopped for an outdoor lunch, then up to Jockey Hollow and returned to Bedminster. Rich and Wade have begun planning a second drive along the Delaware River - details to be announced. Jeff reported that the July autocross is canceled, and we have a wait-and-see position on subsequent autocrosses. Planning for the Whack Your Turkey rally is still tentative given the uncertainty of being able to end at a restaurant. At this point we are assuming no availability of indoor spaces, and our route planning would assume an outdoor venue. As with all our events this year, we may be forced to a different format and date (a Smash Your Pumpkin rally was suggested). The status of the Tire Rack Street Survival in September is still undecided. Ross Karlin noted that we do not wish to compromise the quality of our instruction.

Driver Schools/Club Racing

Jamie Kavalieros reported that we had a hot weekend at Summit Point. The event was run in a new format for us because of the pandemic. We had no in-car instruction. We had three run groups: 1) Instructor/Solo: 9 A+ Solo students ran with 20 instructors. 2) Advanced: 13 advanced students, with a few doing lead/follow. All were signed off to run solo after the first day. 3) Beginner/intermediate: 11 students, all lead/follow. We charged instructors \$275 to attend. The student and instructor turnout was light with several late cancellations. We did not implement our usual two-week cutoff for cancellations or charge cancellation fees. Racer turnout was almost at the 50-car capacity and 49 entrants put a wheel on the track (i.e., were charged). Ross noted that this was the first BMW Club Racing event in the North Atlantic Region this year, and we had four very good races. Jeff Caldwell provided Regional VP financial support.

Jamie noted that we were fearful the event was going to be canceled when it was announced the Monday before the event that West Virginia had placed a 25 person limit on gatherings. Luckily, SPR was able to get permission to hold events due to the size of the facility. There were restrictions. The Summit Point cafeteria stand was closed. No spectators were permitted. We were told not to congregate and try to

remain in our paddock area when not driving. We had decided a week earlier not to proceed with our usual Saturday evening BBQ, and we discounted all registrations by \$25 for the canceled BBQ. Jamie is still waiting for some final numbers but we should be at about \$4,500 profit for the event.

Social Events

Rich Altman reported that the NJ Chapter hosted a fun drive on July 12th over the winding backroads of Somerset, Hunterdon, and Morris counties to raise funds for NORWESCAP. Wade Howard and Rich organized the event, which was promoted to members of the NJ Chapter, DelVal Chapter, and the TriState 5ers group. Approximately 50 people participated in the event, which raised \$750 for NORWESCAP. They are looking into the possibility of hosting a similar drive along the Delaware River from Easton to Trenton in October with the DelVal Chapter and the TriState 5ers group.

Treasurer

Ron Gemienhardt provided the current financial statements. None of the income for Summit Point is reflected. Insurance was refunded for one canceled event, but there was a charge from October, so that was a wash. Our deposit and lot rental checks to Bergen County have not been cashed. Ross will contact the county to resolve. Our federal income tax return has been filed. No tax was owed this year. The Fun Drive resulted in an \$800 donation to NORWESCAP. We still have two past due sponsor/advertising accounts to reconcile, but both sponsors are agreeable to settling up.

Business Manager

Allison Mack reported that our sponsors seem to be happy with their social media posts. She has posted the second round of social media ads for everyone (June and July). Allison has sponsor checks for Ron to deposit.

Newsletter

Jerry Faber reported via e-mail that our September/3Q issue deadline is 8/15. Jerry asked if someone could provide a write-up of our Fun Drive (which sounded great) and of the Summit Point event. Our December/4Q issue deadline is 11/21. These issues will be PDF as well as have links to columns - call these a hybrid distribution. The e-mail blast will show PDF page 1 with a link to the PDF and have snippets of columns with links to support advertisers who have ads in the newsletter. The next BimmerLife deadline is early-mid December. We can include the Fun Drive and Summit Point write-ups. Photos are needed.

Members-at-Large

Mark Hulbrock reported that he has been resuming his normal posting schedule. Allison has been posting the sponsor ads that seem to have great feedback. We ran \$55 worth of ads for the Summit Point event. There were 9,848 views of the two ads, and 163 link clicks to MotorsportReg. Mark ran the ads the entirety of the month until the registration close date. The board agreed that \$50 was a reasonable ad cost for event promotion. Rich wrote a great article about the Fun Drive and it is posted to the website. Mark suggested this be added to the upcoming newsletter promotions. A new member e-mail was sent. Summit Point (x2) and Fun Drive e-mails were sent. Facebook added 12 likes and Instagram added 29 likes.

New Business

The next board meeting was set for Wednesday 8/19. Jamie motioned to adjourn at 7:54 PM and Paul seconded (approved unanimously).

Respectfully submitted,
Dave Allaway, Secretary