

ABATE OF NEW YORK, INC.
State Board Prep Meeting
Ghent, NY
May 17, 2009

The Meeting was called to order at Noon. All stood and gave the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

Roll call of officers was taken: Pres., Vice Pres., Treasurer, Secretary, Legislative Coord., Public Relations Coord., Region A, Region C, Region D, Region E were all present. Sgt. @ Arms was absent.

Motion #B23-09 made by Beth with a 2nd by Suzi to accept the minutes of the previous meeting as amended to include the name of Mitch Proner in previous motion #B19-09. Unanimous

Correspondence:

Roadkill mentioned that the board had been looking into the need for an attorney, other than the corporate attorney we already have. He read a letter from Benjamin C. Rabin, Esq. which stated the hourly rate he would charge us for his services. He also enclosed a copy of his resume. Ben introduced himself at our meeting. He does ride and does have an insight into the issues as bikers that we face. He is willing to represent ABATE of NY, Inc. It was discussed that should we decide to retain his services that they will be moderated through the State Board. He would not be taking on unnecessary individual cases. He is also a member of the Onondaga Chapter and has been a member for 3 years.

Presidents Report:

Motion #B24-09 made by Roadkill, 2nd by Beth that we accept the formation of Delaware Chapter into ABATE of NY, Inc. Unanimous

There were 8 members from the Delaware Chapter present at the Board meeting. The new officers took their oath of office. It was pointed out that they already have 20 members in their chapter and I am sure more to follow.

North Ulster submitted a new logo design for a shirt that Roadkill approved due to its conformity. Niagara also submitted an idea for a design on a ladies t-shirt and it was brought before the board for our consideration due to its uniqueness of design.

Motion #B25-09 made by Roadkill, 2nd by Beth to approve the design submitted by Niagara Chapter for a ladies t-shirt. Unanimous

Niagara Chapter also is currently selling a patch that does not conform to ABATE of NY guidelines. They have responded with an e-mail in defense of the change in the design.

Motion #B26-09 made by George, 2nd by Beth to let Niagara Chapter continue to produce and sell the patches. Unanimous

Vice Presidents Report:

Contracts are written with thanks to Pete for his help getting them done. She will give the rest of her report at the State Chapters meeting.

Treasurers Report:

Pete reported that our taxes were filed and on time. (Loud cheer from the room) He also submitted bills to be paid.

Motion #B27-09 made by Michael, 2nd by Beth to pay the bills. Unanimous

Legislative Report:

George reported that he has created a hand out for the Freedom Rally, to use while getting with the Legislators, Assembly people, etc at the State Capitol. More information to be given at the State Chapters meeting.

Public Relations Officer Report:

Suzi apologized to all because she thought she had ordered the kick stand pucks, but there was a miscommunication with the vendor, resulting in a failed order. Instead she would like to order bumper stickers, by ordering the stickers we would be getting far more product than with the kick stand pucks. More bang for our buck!

Motion #B28-09 made by Roadkill, 2nd by Michael to amend the kick stand puck money to be used for stickers instead. Unanimous

Regional Coordinator's Reports:

Region A – Michael – Working on a new chapter close to the former Alley-Catt area.

Region C – Keith – Tom Alton is working on Cayuga's financials, January's report is still missing. Cayuga had a run scheduled for today so they could not be present.

Region D – Jim – He attended the CCMS meeting and met with Mitch Proner. He is planning on a large group of riders out of NYC area for the Freedom Rally, including sport bike riders.

Region E – Gary – waives his report until State Chapters meeting.

Newsletter Report:

Pam unable to attend today's meeting. There was a complaint from one of our advertisers about the fact that there appears to be a beer can in the picture on the front cover of the newest Freedom Writer. It was pointed out that it is a nearly unrecognizable small image. Compliments were also to be relayed to Pam for getting the newsletter out early enough to include the Freedom Rally advertisement.

Committee Reports:

State Seminar – Beth and Chris will need volunteers again this upcoming year to help with this.

Grants – How we can make use of them

Freedom Rally – awaiting the arrival of Ralph

Unfinished Business:

There were approximately 30-35 people at the picket/protest on May 6th in Syracuse. Jim Kenyon from Channel 3 in Syracuse did show up to video tape the show, however the final viewing was chopped up pretty good. Many people drove by honking their support. We also anticipate another picket/protest again in October at the NYS Highway Safety Conference, to be held in Saratoga Springs this year.

New Business:

Motion #B29-09 made by George, 2nd by Beth to make Tonya Cruz and Christina Rathbun, by appointment, Assistant Legislative Coordinators for ABATE of NY, Inc., these would be nonvoting positions. There was much discussion on this subject, due to the recent e-mail discussions that were sent out on the ABATE of NY address. One person was venting about another and it was all made too public. Suzi spoke that Christina is a very driven and dedicated member who just used a poor choice of venue to vent. The motion was carried with the following vote: 7 yes, 1 opposed, 2 abstain.

Motion made to adjourn by Michael, 2nd by Beth at 1:03pm.

Kathy A. Grasby
Secretary