

# Detroit Region SCCA



April 8, 2015

Board of Directors Meeting  
Called to order at 7:00 PM  
The Box Bar & Grille, Plymouth, MI

Attendees: Jennifer Merideth, Mike Nienhuis, Dr. Jennifer Glass, Jerry Shiloff, John Kytasty, Sue Wiedbusch, Ken Wiedbusch, Nathan Usher, Aaron Usher, Pat Barber, Frank Putman, Diane Arthur, Ed Arthur, John Lisiecki, Jeremiah Mauricio, Eric Penn, Steve Balanecki, John Li

## Minutes:

1. March meeting minutes approval - approved on line
2. Current Business & Follow up from Online Business
  - a. Ballot results - Steve B. informed us that one hundred thirty-five ballots were returned, about 10% of those mailed. All proposed revisions to the by-laws were approved by the membership. The ballots were offered for review and audit. The board accepted the results as presented, making them official. Steve B. will submit the revised by-laws with today as the revision date for posting on the website.
    - i. The creation of a Financial Director received 121 votes in favor to 14 against, passed by 89.6%. Pat B. informed us that the next step would be to identify potential candidates for this position, recommending that we discuss this at next month's meeting. Ken W. inquired if this could be a contract position and Pat indicated that it could.
    - ii. The removal of the six year limitation of appointed directors was passed 105 in favor to 30 against, 77.8%.
    - iii. The change to increase the amount of a check that would require two signatures from \$500.00 to \$2,500.00 was approved by 106 in favor to 29 against, 78.5%.
  - b. Purchase of wireless timing equipment - approved on line
  - c. Budget for Solo Season Opener - approved on line
3. Reports
  - a. RE - Pat B. informed us that he had emailed all board members about Bob Pierson, Race Chair for the Detroit Belle Isle Grand Prix. He stated that Bob is convalescing after a bout with pneumonia and will be unable to chair this year's Grand Prix. Jerry S. informed us that he and Mary have been in contact with Pat Pierson who provided them with a list of items that need to be completed, the time line, and a list of contacts. Gordie Ensing was involved with the Grand Prix of St. Petersburg and will be with the upcoming race at NOLA next weekend. He has agreed to assist us with the planning and execution of the Detroit Grand Prix. A meeting of all chiefs has been scheduled for next Wednesday, here at the Box Bar, to review assignments. Pat B. has invited all board members to assist with the planning and requests assistance to identify a possible chairperson for next year's Grand Prix. Jerry S. mentioned that Bob & Pat Pierson have been chairing the Detroit Grand Prix for over twenty-five years and nothing has been written down.
  - b. Asst. RE - Jennifer G. informed us that the membership meeting had a good turnout and was a good venue. She mentioned that suggestions were made to consider visiting other car collections as possible social events. Ed A. informed us that he had heard members suggest that these social events be held on Fridays rather than on Wednesdays as have been done in the past. Ken W. indicated he was interested in considering visiting other car collections as a possible destination rally which we have not done previously.
  - c. Treasurer - Aaron U. informed us that there was not much activity and we are currently running a deficit which is expected at this time of the year. He stated that the check to purchase the wireless timing equipment had been issued. Mike N. informed us that the pylons were received last weekend.
  - d. Membership report - Steve B. reported that we have increased our membership by thirty-one since last month. We have 1,375 members as of this morning with

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36 new members. There were five members who either did not renew their membership or transferred to another region.

- i. Twenty-eight service awards were mailed at the beginning of this month from Zephyrhills, FL
- e. Solo - Jeremiah M. informed us that he has had lengthy discussions with MIS regarding the use of their facilities, especially regarding their insurance requirement of \$5M of liability. This requirement was removed and the contract has been signed. The contract was reviewed by the national office which accepted it. He informed us that the sanction requests for the next two events have been submitted to national and is awaiting the contract with the Silverdome.
  - i. The timing equipment has been ordered and will be shipped to Mike McClintock's home address.
  - ii. Mike N. informed us that he and Greg Arnold would be meeting at Mike McClintock's home on Monday evening, April 13th, between 5 and 6 o'clock to prepare the Fun Mover and get the equipment organized for the upcoming season.
  - iii. Mike N. expressed concerns about raising the entry fee for solo events \$5.00 to \$40.00 for the first events. He cited other events hosted by neighboring regions that are less expensive and could draw members from our events as the driving distance is no greater. Pat B. suggested leaving it as is for now and review the results after our events to determine any impact. Ken W. reminded us that the series director is ultimately responsible for establishing the budget for each event and does not feel the board should be involved in the decision.
  - iv. A discussion ensued regarding the event scheduled following FSAE on Sunday, May 17th, regarding setting a cap on the number of FSAE teams that would be able to participate. It was suggested that no cap be considered this year as it is unknown how many teams would be staying to compete rather than leaving MIS that day or how many cars would be able to compete after the FSAE event.
  - v. Jennifer M. informed us that Larry MacLeod has borrowed the region's scales.
- f. FSAE - John Lisiecki reported that we appear to be in good shape for volunteers. the track maps are available on line. Volunteer orientation has begun at Chrysler, Ford and General Motors.
  - i. Mike N. informed us that the equipment is being organized and Ken W. stated that he has the 5th laser light that he will arrange to deliver to Mike McClintock. Mike N. stated that a driver will be needed for the Fun Mover after the first two events as Mike McClintock will probably not be available after his surgery which is scheduled next month. He also informed us that the race trailer may be required at FSAE and the Fun Mover may not be able to tow it.
  - ii. Pat B. stated that he is still working on the contract for the Fun Mover to be used at MIS. He informed us that MIS wants \$1M of insurance coverage and John K. will review with our insurance agent, sending any bill to Aaron U. for payment.
  - iii. John Lisiecki informed us that Chrysler is hosting 10 teams at their Chelsea Proving Grounds on April 24 - 26 including a baja event. Ed A. informed us that they referred Chrysler's management to the local Alpha club to support the event with possible volunteers and equipment.
- g. Website - John Li informed us that he is planning to meet with Bryan Danielson the weekend of April 18th & 19th for the transfer of all the files and forum to the new site. He stated that he planned on doing a dry run within the next week and a half. Pat B. recommended that the board members test the dry run prior to completing any final transfer to the new site and discuss it at next month's meeting.
- h. Race - Jerry S. informed us that the classroom session for the Driver's School is scheduled for this weekend with the on track portion being held April 25 & 26 at Waterford Hills. He stated that there will only be five club races at Waterford this year as they earn more money holding an open track day than a race. As the

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club needs funds for some major repairs, they will host seven open track days this year.

- i. The first race weekend at Waterford is scheduled for May 2nd & 3rd
  - ii. The regional race will be held at Gingerman on May 16th & 17, hosted by us, South Bend and Western Ohio Regions.
  - iii. The planning meeting for the Detroit Grand Prix to be held May 29th - 31st is scheduled for next Wednesday.
  - iv. Race #2 at Waterford is scheduled for June 6th & 7th
  - v. The Majors race at Gingerman is scheduled for July 10 - 12
  - vi. Race #3 at Waterford is scheduled for July 18th & 19th
- i. Rallycross - Nathan U. informed us that the March event was cancelled due to the soft ground on the access roads and paddock area. Jerry S. stated that he drove to the track prior to the event and reported the conditions to Nathan. He indicated that he was able to watch the tires sink into the ground slated for the paddock area after driving through about two inches of mud on the access roads.
- i. Jerry S. informed us that Thayer Automotive is again sponsoring our rallycross program this year and POR. He stated that four of our members have purchased vehicles from them since the first of this year.
- j. Rally - Ken W. informed us that the school was profitable with 10 students this year and presented the final budget.
- i. Points awarded at the Moonlight Monte rally will be included as part of the divisional championship this year. Mike Bennett had informed Ken W. that rallies need to be run as a regional for one year before they can be considered for divisional points.
  - ii. Twilight Tour rally is scheduled for April 18th and everything is looking good. He plans on performing the safety check this weekend.
  - iii. There will be two national points rallies scheduled for August 22nd and 23rd, chaired by Rob Moran. The Thumbs Up rally will be dedicated to the memory of Jim Mickle on the 22nd and the Cast in Stone rally will be held on the 23rd. He will have the website event calendar updated shortly.
  - iv. Ken W. informed us that the rally rules have been posted on line. He was disappointed that the RRB has apparently determined that synching a competitor's timing clock with the rallymaster's clock at the start of the event is considered unsportsmanlike. He was very concerned that there was no discussion about this prior to it being made available via FasTrac. As our region is providing both the TimeWise and Alpha clocks available to participants for synching, he has informed Rob Moran that he can write this as an exception in the event requirements.
- k. Street Survival - Eric P. informed us that the event will be held in Fowlerville on September 26th and the sanction has been submitted. BMW and Porsche clubs are hosting public events in Melvindale this year.
- i. Steve B. stated that he had spoken with Linda Duncan at the national convention about our involvement with TRSS and she would like us to consider hosting an event open to the public after he informed her that the Fowlerville event was limited to students of Fowlerville schools. Eric indicated that this was possible if a site could be located.
  - ii. Frank P. informed us that he is assisting with an event at Ford this year and will not be able to assist with this year's TRSS, but would keep Eric in the loop if the site of the Ford event was a possibility.
- l. Equipment - Mike N. reiterated that the cones have been received and the wireless timing equipment ordered. Ken W. informed us that he hoped to test a prototype wireless system at the rallycross in May. John K. reported that he has the new pop up canopy and side walls.
- m. Open Exhaust - Mike N. reported that he should have an issue out for review by this coming Friday. He requested a list of members who have received service awards this year. Steve B. informed him that he would send him the list.

## 4. Calendar Review - The calendar was reviewed and revised as necessary.

## 5. New Business

- a. Worker point redemption at SPA - Steve B. informed us that he had arranged to have SPS include an item on their website to allow our members to redeem worker points for merchandise the same as is on their SCCA Region Gear website. It has been tested and is operational. He will provide the information on the region's forum. Ken W. requested that a link be placed on our website for a member to click on to open the SPS website and the website to order SCCA Region Gear. Steve B. will investigate.
- b. Renewing memberships on a member's behalf - Steve B. inquired if we could renew a membership using the member's region worker points on their behalf prior to their membership expiring rather than have them forfeit their points. Jennifer G and Jennifer M. stated that they did not believe this was a good idea as members are given ample opportunity and reminders prior to their membership expiring. The consensus was that we should not automatically renew a membership, continuing the process we currently have.
- c. New budgets were presented
  - i. Rallycross - Nathan U. presented the budget for the June rallycross to be held at Oakshade on June 14th, chaired by Burke Davis. Pat B. moved to accept the budget and Jeremiah M. seconded the motion. The budget was approved.
  - ii. Rally - Ken W. presented the budget for Press on Regardless, chaired by Bruce Fisher, to be held on September 12 & 13. He mentioned that the budget shows a slight loss which could be eliminated if one more car is registered than in the budget. Steve B. moved to accept the budget and Jennifer G. seconded the motion. The budget was approved.
  - iii. Sol o - Mike N. presented the budget for the After FMSAE event scheduled for May 17th. He suggested that the entry fee should be reduced by \$5.00 which would reduce the potential profitability. As the result is within the 10% allowable variance he would not need to submit a revised budget. Jennifer G. moved to accept the budget and Jennifer M. seconded the motion. The budget was approved.
- d. Jennifer M. informed us that she has not received the information she requires to open registration. She stated that she has not visited the forums as she knows people are wondering when registration will open and she doesn't have the answer. Jeremiah M. informed her that he is working on getting her the information.

## 6. May BOD meeting

- a. Steve B. reminded us that our normal second Wednesday night meeting conflicts with FSAE next month. We have moved the meeting to the first Wednesday of May in prior years due to the conflict in the schedule. After a discussion it was agreed that next month's meeting will be held on the first Wednesday, May 6, 2015 at the Box Bar & Grille, Plymouth, MI

## 7. Adjourned at 8:40 PM