

Detroit Region SCCA



August 12, 2015

Board of Directors Meeting
7:01 PM, Box Bar, Plymouth, MI

Attendees: Nathan Usher, Aaron Usher, Ken Wiedbusch, Sue Wiedbusch, Jeremiah Mauricio, Michael Nienhuis, Eric Penn, Jennifer Glass, Steve Balanecki, Jennifer Merideth, Matt Wolfe, Jerry Shiloff

Minutes:

1. July meeting minutes were approved on line.
2. Current Business and Online Business
 - a. Budget for the 2015 Fire School was approved on line
3. Reports
 - a. Treasurer - Aaron U. sent reports out electronically earlier this month. He is caught up with all expenses except for solo.
 - b. Solo - Jeremiah M. informed us that there are three events left this year, one in Oscoda chaired by Marcus Merideth and the last two at Belle Isle. He has received the flyer for the Belle Isle event from Frank Putman.
 - c. Rally - Ken W. reported that we haven't had a rally in awhile and the next one is in a week and a half, chaired by Rob Moran. He reported that Rob is feeling very stressed about this rally, as he puts his heart and soul into each one he chairs. Ken plans on lending him whatever assistance is needed to ensure a successful event. Ken stated that there are currently 12 teams registered and has requested PR assistance from John Fishbeck and would like to send an email to all participants at the rally school offering them a free registration to participate in this rally. Matt Wolfe offered to send out invites and reminders via social media. Ken informed us that the POR and December rallies remain on the schedule this year.
 - i. Jerry S. informed us that the Sno*Drift Summer Rally had sixteen teams and was completed in perfect timing. He stated that everyone who participated liked the event, an old fashioned rally. It began with having all cars going through tech inspection, handing out the materials, running the rally and finishing with a party. He reported that he was not used to seeing the route without any snow and the biggest challenge was the dust. He stated there were a couple of complaints from locals, especially one who was at least a mile away from the route and not used to seeing that many cars on 'her' road.
 - d. Rallycross - Nathan U. informed us that the national challenge event held at I-96 Speedway had eighteen runs due to a lower than normal turnout. There were no protests on a grippy course and he expects a profit of about \$1,300.00.
 - i. Nathan stated that he has been selected to serve on the protest committee for the National Rallycross Championship as two of the members were participating in the event, so cannot serve on the committee for the event. He stated that one of the protests was about tires, an issue that he reported to the rallycross board about a year and half ago, but no action was taken. He informed us that the course was muddy due to rain which caused problems with some of the drivers in the 2WD classes. He reported that the event was better than in previous years and there were no safety related incidents.

- ii. The next event is this coming Saturday at Crystal with twenty-eight currently registered. The site rental expense should be less than at past events as it is based on the number of cars participating. He is currently planning on 12 runs (6 & 6) with Dave Schilke as the primary Safety Steward and Bob Martin as the secondary.
 - iii. The next event will be held at Thistle Hill on September 5th. The date was changed due to a scheduling issue with the site.
- e. Equipment - Ken W. informed us that he had received notification from Mike McClintock that the timing equipment had been moved to the storage locker. So, he and Sue made an 89 mile round trip visit to the locker to remove the batteries to prevent degrading of the equipment. He discovered that the equipment was not in the locker. He contacted Mike who responded that it was in the Fun Mover, as Christian Hubbell requested to use it for the After The Fireworks Solo. He would like to be informed of the equipment's location in the future to prevent unsuccessful trips.
 - i. The RV is in good shape and is doing some maintenance on the rusty rear bumper. Ken stated that the hose for draining the waste tank is currently stored near the rear bumper and he plans on removing it so the space can be used to store banner stakes.
 - ii. Ken indicated that the race trailer is next on the list for maintenance. He plans on modifying the trailer to accommodate the charging of batteries for the many radios used at the Grand Prix. Jerry S. informed us that they needed to be creative at this past Grand Prix as many of the extension cords were in puddles of water. Ken recommended that we should have access to electrical power at all future Grand Prix so we don't need to run our generators overnight to charge the radios. Ken stated that we need to find space to store the fire extinguishers and flag sets used at the Grand Prix.
- f. Race - Jerry S. submitted the final budget for the Grand Prix. We made a profit and is awaiting fuel receipts from Gordon Ensing. Jennifer M. questioned the expense shown for fire extinguishers as she recalls we had authorized purchasing new water based extinguishers required by IndyCar. Ken W. and Jerry informed us that each year some of our older extinguishers cannot pass testing and need to be replaced as they cannot be recharged and are scrapped.
 - i. Jerry submitted the final budget for the recent Majors race at Gingerman, which was very profitable. He informed us that there were 160 participants and thanked all who assisted with this event. He stated that the event is so profitable that it allows us to co-host a regional event in the Spring with SBR and WOR that has the potential of being unprofitable.
 - ii. He informed us that the next Majors race is in a week and a half at MIS, hosted by Western Michigan Region. He reminded us that the number of races in the GLDiv are limited and next year one of the Majors races will be held at NCM Motorsports Park in Bowling Green, KY. He informed us that we may be competing with WMR to host the other Majors race next year. He informed us that the upcoming event at MIS has less participants registered than the one at Gingerman last month.
- g. Membership report - Steve B. informed the board that we 1,429 members as of this morning, an increase of 11 since last month. He reported that the good news is that 55 new members were added to the region, and the bad news is that 44 members either did not renew or transferred to

another region. While we are successful in recruiting new members, we are unsuccessful in retaining members. Jennifer M. inquired if we have analyzed the data to determine how long some have been members before deciding to either transfer or not renew their membership. Steve stated that no analysis has been performed but could be done.

- i. 15 service awards were mailed at the beginning of the month
- h. Website - No report
- i. Open Exhaust - No report
- j. RE - No report
- k. Asst. RE - Nothing new to report

4. New Business

a. Event budgets

- i. Nathan U. presented the budget for the rallycross to be held October 24th at I-96 Speedway. He informed us that the site rental has increased, but he still expects the event to be profitable. Jerry S. moved to accept the budget as presented and Jeremiah M. seconded the motion. the budget was approved.
- ii. Ken W. made a motion that all budgets in the future should include a line item for rental fees to be paid to members who provide their own (expensive) equipment used at events. He requested someone second his motion prior to any discussion. He did provide an example of Jerry S. bringing his ATV and trailer to rallycross events for distributing and retrieving cones used on the course. Nathan U. seconded the motion. Ken informed us that the reason for his motion was because Jerry and Mike McClintock, who has used his trailer to transport solo equipment, had been declined reimbursement for repair expenses to their equipment in the past. A discussion ensued about how much expense should be budgeted and what equipment would qualify for potential rental. A question was posed about a possible conflict with any of our policies and by-laws, or if it could affect our nonprofit status. Aaron U. reviewed his copy of our policies and by-laws and indicated he did not see anything related to this. It was suggested that the chairperson for each event was ultimately responsible for the budget for that event. A line item for renting a member's equipment could be included in a budget which could then be discussed at each board meeting when a new budget is submitted. It was agreed that no vote was necessary on this proposal.
- iii. Matt Wolfe informed us that the Automotive Hall of Fame, where he is employed, is holding a Cars & Coffee event on August 30th. He provided a flyer and informed us that he would like to invite all members of the region to this event, using the social media he manages for us. Mike N. suggested he may want to contact John Li who has been looking for ideas to hold a social event for our members. Jennifer G. reminded us that she and Ken W. had also been looking for ideas. It was agreed that any invitation sent to groups on social media need to include a notice that this is not a SCCA event, but is from the Automotive Hall of Fame. Matt will proceed accordingly.

- 5. The next meeting is scheduled to be held at the Box Bar and Grille, Plymouth, MI on September 16th. The date was changed to the third Wednesday of the month

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as there is a conflict with the Solo Nationals Championship on September 9th which some board members are planning to attend.

6. Adjourned at 8:22 PM