

ABATE membership meeting 1-10-12 at the Riverhead Elks

7:38 Meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance; Jim asked that we keep in our thoughts and prayers the rider who went down on our toy run.

Welcome to new members and guests.

Thank you to the 2011 Board of Long Island ABATE.

Motion 1-2012: to wave the reading of the December 2011 minutes. (seconded) all in favor.

Old Business

Veteran's Run Donations: Long Island ABATE raised \$5,000 on this run and Bill Quinn (chairperson of the Veteran's Run) has received a matching dollar amount to total \$10,000 in donations, which will be distributed to various Veteran organizations at our February 14 membership meeting at the Am Vets in Ronkonkoma.

Correspondence

Long Island ABATE received a letter from the Shinnecock Indian Nation thanking us for our kindness and generosity in remembering their children and families at Christmas.

New Business

Long Island ABATE Guidebook concept: Proposal to develop a pocket-sized guidebook containing our run list, run lists of other motorcycle organizations, advertisements and discounts at biker friendly establishments, etc.

ABATE of New York State Seminar: will be held January 13 -15 in Owego , NY. Training for officers will be held. The state office manager position is currently open. Kim (membership officer) will be interviewing for this position.

Jacob Javits Motorcycle Show: will be January 20 -22. ABATE does not have a booth at this event this year.

Meeting of various motorcycle clubs on Long Island will be held January 21, to discuss each club's / organization's proposed runs for 2012. Jim (President) and Stavros (Vice-President) will attend this meeting to discuss our important runs and current legal issues facing the motorcycle community.

Annual run list is not yet complete, however we do have dates for our Awareness Run, April 15, and our campout, August 18-19.

NY State Troopers Motorcycle Only Roadblock lawsuit has been lost. The judge ruled that the roadblocks were permitted due to the amount of safety violations that were issued. Mitch Proner, who is representing motorcyclists, has filed for an appeal. He is also funding this appeal. Discussion ensued on this matter.

Senator Flanagan will host a Town Hall Meeting 7pm on Thursday, February 2 at the Middle Country Public Library in Centereach to discuss state issues affecting you and your family. Jim requests that the motorcycle community attends this meeting to discuss the preceding lawsuit. Mitch Proner was also invited to attend. It is our hope that Senator Flanagan will bring this issue back to the State Legislature. (Jim will speak to Senator Flanagan ahead of time of our intent to appear at this meeting.)

HAMC Dinner Dance will be held February 26 at the Watermill Inn on Terry Road in Nesconset. The cost is \$65 per person. There will be an open bar. Please contact Frank Banya for tickets.

April 15, Motorcycle Safety and Awareness Run will be sponsored by Long Island ABATE, Full Throttle Magazine and Suffolk County Executive Steve Bellone. Our Chaplin Ski, and the Rushing Wind Biker Church will perform a blessing for each motorcycle. Details to follow.

Tentative guest speakers to attend upcoming membership meetings were discussed. Possibilities include the Suffolk County Police, an insurance broker to discuss coverage for motorcyclists, Suffolk County Legislator Tom Muratore, who has also stated that he supports ABATE. State Assemblyman Dan LoSquadro was also suggested.

Committee Reports

Wayne (Vice President) and Gina (Public Relations/Products) have developed a motorcycle awareness class, which they have presented in various high school classes. Patchogue-Medford School District has already invited them back to speak this year. Also with the assistance of former Suffolk County Legislator Jack Eddington, BOCES will help to produce a video on motorcycle awareness for this presentation.

Officer's Reports

Wayne (Vice President) asks that anyone who wants to advertise in our new guidebook or newsletter, please send an e-mail or contact any board officer. He again stresses to members to please support ABATE advertisers.

Stavros (Vice President) states "this organization is only as good as the members that make it" and encourages members to get involved and have fun this year.

Kim (Membership) reports that membership is up to 540.

Gina (Public Relations, Products) reports that our facebook page has over 1,100 people. She will set up a membership application on facebook with a hyperlink to our website. Gina is also looking into an ABATE night at the Long Island Duck's Stadium.

Ray (Newsletter Editor, Webmaster) has updated our website. Please check out the new additions including political contacts and legislative news. Sign our guest book and post a comment.

Bob (Sergeant at Arms) looks forward to a busy year, and also encourages members to get involved.

Ski (Chaplin) Rushing Winds Biker Church has moved to Knickerbocker Avenue in Bohemia. An 8:30 service on Sundays has been added. The church will also host a Biker Coffee/Music Night on the third Saturday of the month. April 8th, Easter morning, will be the annual sunrise run. Details to follow.

Frank (Safety Officer) reports that the US Veterans MC is hosting a military care package event, Monday, January 30 at the Bellport Fire Dept (161 Main Street) from 7-10pm. Please bring toiletries, snacks, phone cards, etc., to donate to our troops in Afghanistan.

Motion 2-2012 to adjourn. (seconded) All in favor.

Meeting adjourned 8:55.