

LONG ISLAND ABATE INC.

MEETING MINUTES – Tuesday, October 14, 2025

LOCATION: Elks Lodge; 41 Horseblock Road, Centereach, NY

Doors Opened at 6:30 PM

Board Members in attendance:

President - Chris Beckhans

1st Vice President/Safety – Nick LaMorte

2nd Vice President – Josephine

Treasurer – Sherril Hart – unable to attend

Legislative/MRF/NCOM – Deb Stondell

Membership Officer - Donna Fowler

Public Relations – Josephine / Deb

Sergeant At Arms – Bill Bartasek

Website/Newsletter – Margaret – unable to attend.

Road Captain – Constantine – unable to attend.

Volunteer Coordinator – Gary Hart – unable to attend.

Products - Kathy Pfeil / Donna Fowler – Kathy Pfeil unable to attend.

Chaplain, Health & Wellness – Gerry – unable to attend.

National COIR Rep – Jim Bar – unable to attend

Donations Coordinator - Position Open

Secretary – Lisa Sheil

The regular meeting of the Long Island ABATE was called to order at 7:30 PM on October 14, 2025 at the Elks Lodge by Chris Beckhans.

Pledge of Allegiance/Moment of Silence –Bill Bartasek

Guest/New Member: Steve & Christine from Calverton. Jerry from Am Vets Post 48. Kathy “Big Red” Papus with National Income Life was there for Abate’s A&D benefits. \$4000 benefit for loss of life and \$2000 for loss of limb.

Motion #1 to accept the minutes from the last meeting, this was seconded and all agreed.

Treasurer Report from Sherril Hart (9/1/25 – 9/30/25) presented by Lisa Sheil:

General Account:

Opening Balance \$16,511.27

Paid checks totaling \$2,195.49

Deposits from Square One \$13,563.30
ATM & Debit Card Withdrawals \$694.10
Fees \$16.82 – this will be removed.
Ending Balance \$27,168.16

Vets Account

Starting Balance \$42,491.57
Deposits: \$1279.00
Checks Paid: \$0.00
Ending Balance \$43,770.57

-Motion #2 to accept the Treasurer's report, this was seconded and all agreed, motion carried

Recap of Events:

-9/13/25 – Motorcycle ride & Car show at Miller's Ale house in Deer Park to Levittown. New members signed up and raised money for the Vets jug.

-9/14/25 – USMV end of summer party – there was table traffic and money raised for the Vets jug.

-9/20/25 – ALR Suicide prevention ride

-9/0/25 – Brotherhood of United Bikers

9/20/25 – Josephine at Nassau Harley Post 106 of Brentwood. \$23 was raised from the Vets jug.

-9/21/25 – Celebration of life for Bob Brinka – There was a great showing of support.

-9/21/25 – Ride for Brave

-9/25 – 9/28/25 – Meeting of the Minds

There were 400+ people and approximately 40 states in attendance. There was a lot of networking, legislative strategy and Town Hall meetings. This is a networking event that was very well attended.

-9/27/25 – Am Vets Post 111 Poker Run & Pig Roast – attended by ABATE. There was table traffic and \$21 was raised in the Vets jug.

-9/28/25 – Post 48 Bike Show – attended by ABATE. There was a lot of table traffic, Vets shirts were sold, new members were signed up as well as renewals.

-10/5/25 – Rocking the Road for a Cure - \$26 raised in the Vets jug, 2 new 5 year memberships; 1 new 1 year membership; 2 renewals and 3 shirts were sold.

-10/11/25 – Punishers Ronald McDonald house event – good turnout. ABATE was invited to attend one of their meetings as a one-on-one opportunity to discuss ABATE.

-10/11/25 – American Patriots - weather was bad so it was a light turn out.

-10/12/25 – Rolling Thunder PTSD Ride – light turn out but a good event overall. Two new members signed up.

-Driver's Ed Classes Update – For period 10/1/24 – 9/30/25 there were 121 presentations; over 3616 students for year in 4 counties and served 109 schools. Total presentations 194; Total students 5328 in 121 schools.

This year, 10/1/25 – 9/30/26, we can do up to 350 presentations for all of New York.

Update from Nick

Meeting of Minds – attended classes from Friday to Saturday. Connected with ABATE members from other states.

-Attended Closing the Generation Gap – new to lifestyle and seniors. There was a dialog between both groups. The instructor for the class was 27 years old.

-Attended MRF fundraiser that raises money for lobbyists.

-On Saturday attended a motorcycle safe class which helped make him more aware in riding, merging etc.

-A general session with a congressman who rides and was challenged by another group member. The congressman handled this with grace.

-There was a session on how to sustain clubs and membership session.

-There was a session on ABATE Wisconsin Model who is the leading state recruiting, keeping as well as MRF members. They broke down into different districts.

-Also connected with ABATE members from Rochester NY and the Albany area.

President, Chris Beckhans, discussed the Meeting of the Minds award dinner and his award that he won. Chris stated he could not do this without the help of all of the ABATE community. Chris stated that Jim Barr won the Lifetime Achievement Award as well.

Update from Josephine

-Discussed Meeting of the Minds – Each state got up and discussed laws that were passed and what they want to pass.

-Attended meeting about conducting a regional event like Meeting of the Minds – they went over a whole list of how to host a big event.

-Attended Bridge the Biker that was conducted by Kaylie who was 27 years old. This was about how to get young people involved in ABATE. Josephine made a connection with Kaylie sending her a care package of stuff like our coloring book.

-Listened to a speech by Hardtail – main thing for this year – look to inspire someone or be inspired by them.

Update from Deb

-The MRF set legislation for 2026. Biker in the Belt is set for 5/18/26-5/19/26. The high priority objectives are:

- Autonomous Vehicles
- Crash Avoidance
- Data Recording
- Definition of a Motorcycle
- Emission Regulations
- Helmet Laws/Equipment Mandates
- Internal Combustion Engines
- Profiling
- Renewable Fuels
- Right to Repair/Modify
- Surface Transportation Reauthorization (Highway Bill)
- Vulnerable Roadway User Terminology.

-Deb, Jim Barr and Chris Beckhans are putting together a tri-fold that will have our top 12 NYS and Federal issues.

-At Meeting of the Minds they wanted the top 3 things and what help is needed to getting them passed.

-Deb connected with Texas to get their help with our anti-profiling bill since they have one that passed.

-Alaska has issues with Awareness and Deb will get together with them to help them on this issue. Deb also obtained other connections to exchange ideas.

-MRF and National Coalition have always been separate but in the last few years they have gotten together.

-In May, in Cleveland, is the National Coalition meeting.

-Next Meeting of the Mind is 9/24/26 – 9/27/26 in Milwaukee.

-There was a session in lobbying and compiling a list, what they stand for, how they vote etc.

-Bills will be introduced in January of 2026.

Nick attended community events with different precincts present. Two weeks ago in Sayville where he connected with Piccirillo.

Update from Donna

-Membership is updated to the end of September and renewal letters are out.

-Product – last call for t-shirts. Sweatshirts will be out.

Vets Shirts \$20 or 2 for \$30

Camp Shirts \$20

Abate T's - \$10 each

Hoodie - \$25

Crew sweatshirt - \$20

Zips with Abate on sleeve - \$35.

Donna has an order for Zips in black and purple.

Update from Constantine

-St Mary's Run escort will be there and the logistics are worked out.

Update from Gary

-Volunteers are needed for St. Mary's Run 9am to 11:30 am should be at location by 8:30 AM.

Update from Gerry

-Jimmy Coons broke 3/4s of his ribs. He has little use in right arm. Jimmy is encouraging people to use a full face helmet. He is at a rehab facility. There is a fundraiser on 10/25/25 and there is a GoFundMe page on Facebook.

-Mark Pizzo was in the crash with the school bus and is on the mend. He has 2 broken legs and a broken arm and is still in the hospital.

National COIR – Jim Barr

-Jim is working to expand and getting information out. National COIR is in 50 states including Canada and Puerto Rico.

Officer Nominations:

Sherril Hart is stepping down as treasurer. Nomination made for Nany G for treasurer, Nancy G accepted. There were no other nominations and nominations were closed until November meeting.

Donna Fowler was nominated for Membership – Donna accepted the nomination. There were no other nominations and nominations were closed until November meeting.

Josephine was nominated for 2nd VP; Josephine accepted the nomination. There were no other nominations and nominations were closed until November meeting.

Nick was nominated for VP; Nick accepted the nomination. There were no other nominations and nominations were closed until November meeting.

Chris Beckhans was nominated for President; Chris accepted the nomination. There were no other nominations and nominations were closed until November meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Upcoming Events

- 10/18/25 – Sons of Italia
- 10/19/25 – OTRA Rodeo
- 10/25/25 – NYC Fire Riders Toy Drive – Millers Ale House in Deer Park to Levittown.
- 10/25/25 – Rushing Wind spaghetti and meatball dinner.
- 10/25/25 – Club house fundraiser for Jimmy Coons
- 11/1/25 – Tier Rats Texas Roadhouse in Deer Park 8am to 9:15am; KSU at 9:30 AM.
- 11/2/25 – St. Mary's run - 35th Annual Run from Riverhead Elks Lodge to the church. 9:00 am with KSU at 11:30 AM.
- 11/8/25 – Chilli Cook Off – Fundraiser
- 11/9/25 – Turkey Run – Fighter of Fire
- 11/11/25 – Team Eva marathon – 7 in 7 days. All money raised goes to turkey donations for the vets.
- 11/15/25 – Vets benefit symposium American Legion Post 16
- 11/23/25 – Teddy Run
- 12/6/25 – Toy Run – Shadow Order & Iron Sights
- 12/7/25 – NYFAC Toy Run

** -11/18/25 – Membership Meeting at Elks Club – we will discuss the Nassau Meeting at the October Board Meeting **

The Board will be putting together a handbook that outlines all the Officer Positions and the responsibilities of each.

Discussed membership pricing going up next year, 2026. \$30 for a one-year membership and \$100 for a 4-year membership.

Update on the ABATE BBQ unit – The old one rotated out but a new one was found and Joe P is rebuilding a new for us.

Discussed if involved in a crash – make a report so it's on paper.

Vets Jug – collected \$165.

50/50 - \$33 to the winner. Ticket #8490069 is the winner. Winner was Deb Stondell.

Motion #3 to adjourn the meeting. Motion was seconded and all were in favor, Motion carried.

-Meeting ended at 8:45 pm