

LONG ISLAND ABATE INC.

MEETING MINUTES – Tuesday, September 9, 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

Legislative/MRF/NCOM – Deb Stondell

Membership Officer - Donna Fowler – Unable to attend.

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 – unable to attend.

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

National COIR Rep – Jim Bar

Donations Coordinator - Position Open

Secretary – Lisa Sheil

The regular meeting of the Long Island ABATE was called to order at 7:30 PM on September 9, 2025 at the Elks Lodge by Chris Beckhans.

Pledge of Allegiance/Moment of Silence –Bill Bartasek

Guest/New Member: Mark Mendosa is a 5 year member and this was his first meeting.

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

Treasurer Report by Sherril Hart (8/1/25 – 8/31/25):

General Account:

Opening Balance \$ 20,916.73

Paid checks totaling \$2,936.04

Deposits from Square One \$1895.25

ATM & Debit Card Withdrawals \$2,864.67

Ending Balance \$16,511.27

Vets Account

Starting Balance \$41,566.57

Deposits: \$925.00

Checks Paid: \$0.00

Ending Balance \$42,491.57

Motion #2 made to accept the Treasurer report, motion 2nd and carried.

Recap of Events:

- 8/17/25 – Bikers & Burgritos
- 8/17/25 – Combat Vet Post 7277 & Paws of War
- 8/23/25 – 20th Annual Campout. No issues and good time was had by all. The weather was good. Thank you to all participants and volunteers. Spoke with some of the campers and the event keeps getting better and bigger. There were some people from Abate of NY, NJ, PA and Maryland at this year's campout. Wayne Blast made banners for the bikers to take pictures in front of which were very popular.
- 8/31/25 – Ronkonkoma Street Fair – we were unable to attend the fair this year.
- 9/1/25 – Free Ride day at Big Apple Motorcycle School. This was attended by Patrick Sheil. There was a good turnout for this event. There was about 50/60 people and about ½ would be students.
- 9/3/25 – Blood Drive with LI Hog. There were 36 donations with 2 using group code. This would save 117 people. The next blood drive would be April 2026.
- 9/4/25 – Nassau Co Traffic Safety meeting.
DWI Information.
Joe Cuomo – new coordinator.
Talked about EBikes – should be used by people 16 years and older. They are not legal in parks.
Fatalities are down in Nassau Co but up in Suffolk Co.
- 9/6/25 Fight Suicide Run – Abate was unable to attend.

Update from Nick

- Attended blood drive.
- Unable to attend the Nassau County Meeting.
- Meeting of Minds is at the end of this month and is looking forward to promoting ABATE and discussing legislation with the motorcycle community.

Update from Gary

- Thank you to Pastor Gerry and Pastor Ski for their help with this year's campout. Also thank you to Joe P and Morgan for their help with this year's campout.
- The place that we rent the BBQs from, Lopers, would like to attend next year's campout.

Update from Donna

- Renewal letters to go out next week for the month of October.

Update from Deb

- NCOM – Zoom Meetings are the 1st Wednesday of every month. Flyers will be out soon for the next meeting which is in Cleveland.
- On table is a supply of stickers that state your helmet should not be removed in case of an accident. There are stickers from NOM as well.
- Deb will be going to bike shops dropping off information that she to Abate.
- In 2 weeks is Meeting of the Minds. Legislation will be set. Agenda on federal level of what we're fighting for Some are:
 1. Definition of a motorcycle.
 2. Want Motorcycles to be in a category by themselves.
 3. Anti-Profiling legislation with "teeth".
- Other states are also looking for motorcycle definition as well as on a federal level.
- As issues come up, she will put it out as a "Call to Action" for us to read and vote on.
- On Thursday, 9/11/25, meeting with a few people and putting together a tri-fold of bills we feel are important. Including MRF agenda of what we are fighting in Washington which will also include information about EBikes.
- Deb will speak with other Abate States that got profiling bills passed.
- On 10/4/25 Deb will be doing a 5K Alzheimer's walk/run. Sean's Shamrocks is a sponsor.
- Deb is working on putting a bill together about motorcycle moving up in traffic without idling.

Update from Bill Bartasek

- 9/20/25 American Legion Riders Fundraiser Ride. This is out of Suffolk Harley. ABATE to have a tent set up.
- 9/24/25 – Am Vets Post 111 1st Annual Poker Run.

Update from Margaret

- She continues to update the website and newsletter.

Update from Constantine

-11/2/25 St. Mary's Run is in the works. He is working on an escort. The meeting place is the Riverhead Elks.

Update from Gerry

- Update on Randy w/Tier Rats – he is doing better every day from his crash on the Vets Run.
- Woman who hit Patty is doing well.
- Patty – is getting better but is out of work for a while.
- Ronnie – He is mending with a blood disorder. His son had an accident and is on the mend.

National COIR

- Is registering as a 501C3 for information purposes with some lobbying.

NEW BUSINESS

- 9/13/25 – Motorcycle Bike and Car show.
- 9/14/25 – Rain date for food drive.
- 9/14/25 – USMV end of summer event.
- 9/14/25 – Poker Run
- 9/20/25 – Indian Larry – unsure if Abate will be set up.
- 9/21/25 – Celebration of Life for Bob Brinka at Amer Legion in Bohemia.
- 9/21/25 - Ride for the Brave at Hometown in Ronkonkoma.
- 9/21/25 – SAR (Suicide Awareness & Remembrance) Flag Ceremony at the Dennison Bldg.
- 9/25/25-9/28/25 – Meeting of the Minds.
- 9/28/25 – Post 48 in Ronkonkoma – ABATE tent will be set up.

At the October meeting Kathy from NYIL Insurance will be at the meeting.

October Meeting – Nomination will be open and November nominations will continue followed by elections.

Veterans Committee will be meeting soon.

- Driver Ed Classes Grant \$255,000 which covers 355 classes and there has been 254 classes already done. Bruce LaPorte is going to retire and we will need help. Bruce is going to put the grant in ABATE's hands.
- Looking into putting together some type of "Thank You" for all that Bruce LaPorte has done.
- We are looking into holding a CPR class.

Vets Jug – collected \$120.

50/50 total is \$70.00. \$35 to the winner. Ticket #8490039 is the winner. The winner donated his winnings to the Vets fund.

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

-Meeting ended at 8:36 pm