

A.B.A.T.E. of Minnesota – Metro Chapter
VFW Coon Rapids
Tuesday, December 14th, 2021

Officers in Attendance:

President: Nick Capra
Treasurer: Joe Jones
Chapter Rep.: Ron Lischeid

Vice President: Marcia Capra
Secretary: Open Position

Master SGT. At ARMS: Brian LaDoux

SGT. At ARMS:

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Members Present: 7 Guests:

We opened at 7:01 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance Led by JJ

Secretary Report: Minutes Reviewed by Group. Motions to Approve with two corrections, which Marcia made: Putz/ Joe, All in Favor

Treasurer Report: Joe Jones Motions to Approve: Marcia/ Joe, All in Favor
Reviewed Full Report at Meeting - Contact Treasurer if Questions

Chapter Rep Report – Motorcycle Safety Task Force still needs us to get involved, the next State Rally Meeting January 14th at the BOD, Next BOD in Wilmar January 14th – 15th. BOD Best Western in Wilmar call 320-235-6060

Reports Available at Meeting – Contact Chapter Rep with Questions

Legislative News – Open Discussion: There is a big election in 2022 all Representatives are being voted in or out. We must get the Highway bill passed. Go to your Caucus the 2nd Tuesday of February and get involved vote for people that are motorcycle friendly.

NE District Director – Unable to attend. Last update was that our New Manuals are not quite ready yet, they are working on them.

State Rally – We need Sponsors for the Rally if you know any business who will Sponsor us let us know.

Dial-A-Ride – The season is over. Ron is meeting with Senator Hoffman about getting help with our trailer insurance because of the service we provide. We need more board members.

Products, Membership, and Retention – Joe (JJ): We sold \$64.00 in Products. Some discussion / clarification about new T-Shirts (Will add to product book) JJ wants us to all think of creative ways we can sell all the T-shirts we have. Putz set up our donation of older T shirts, which are not selling to the

Veterans, at Haven For Heroes which they really appreciated. We thought we could use any left in a Raffle, Plinko and Door prizes, also. JJ suggested we maybe put a donation jar out for ABATE at the breakfast and Taco Night.

WEB Page: Nick is working hard on the WEB Page; Nick has the catalog on the WEB page for handy ordering.

GrapeVine: No report this month Joe thinks the Coalition and ABATE should be more connected, supportive.

Social Media-Email - Doc.: Facebook / 1,034 Page Likes, 1,080 Followers, Metro Group Page has 563 Members

Events: **1.** Route 47 Breakfast Fundraiser January 9th. **2.** River Valley January Thaw January 15th. **3.** Taco Night February 7th **4.** CMA Auction February 12th **5.** Biker Day at The Capitol, February 16th. **6.** Youth Motorcycle Event February 18th -20th. **7.** OTMC Winter Party, February 26th

New Business: **1.** Calendar update, we are a little above break even. Nick handed out an excel sheet of where we stand. **2.** We discussed the Not The Winter Bash we will try for 5/29/22 the same way we did it last year with Vendors and the Band is being voted on. We made a motion to look at other bands Marcia / Benny AIF yes. We will want Ron to do the corn and potatoes again, he will need to figure out if this date will work for him to and we will talk more next month about dates. **3.** We ordered our 75 Buddy Bears with our gambling money as approved by the Chapter.

Ideas – Things to Remember Re: Member Retention, attracting New Members and Fundraising: Nick and Michelle were contacting expired Members Brian will help with this in the future. We've had great ideas to raise money and get people engaged. Michelle suggested doing volunteer work to get involved and get new members because we will be seen. Hay Days in North Branch is one opportunity. What a great idea. We are going to work on having more booths to get more members. RV and boat weekends are a great place to set up a booth. Lets continue to bring our ideas to each meeting. New ideas for fund raising? Benny is planning a ride each month, in the spring lets support him. Thank you everyone for all you do, we really appreciate it. Quick Trips have 2 promotions for Non-Profit organizations to raise awareness for ABATE & Dial-A-Ride

Next meeting at the Park Tavern on January 11th nominations will be that night.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:04 p.m.: Motions: Joe/ Putz/, All in Favor