

A.B.A.T.E of Minnesota - Metro Chapter
Coon Rapids V.F.W.
September 10, 2024

Attendance:

President: Nick Capra Vice President: Jameson Lemke
Treasurer: Joe "JJ" Jones Secretary: Alyssa "Ally" Schommer
Chapter Rep: Rob Benjamin
Sgt at Arms: Shannon Bros, Brian Ladoux, Marcia Capra

Members: Camilla Benjamin, Putz, Randy Swenson, Ron Lischeid, Karen Semmler,
Randy Swenson, Samantha Godfrey, Andrew Godfrey, Marcia Borchardt Guests:
Sharen Wright (East Central), Jim Kosse (Lake), April Murch (Lake) Total in attendance:
16 Members in attendance, 3 Guests

We opened the meeting at 7pm with the pledge of allegiance led by Shannon.

Special guest presentations: The benefit for George was presented to the chapter. The run will have two separate starting points, one in Kasota and the other at Route 47. Both runs will join together at the second location to finish the rest of the run. They are currently looking for help with road guards and donations to the silent auction. A donation for a raffle has been made that will include a week long stay in a cabin during the fishing opener. Raffle tickets to be made available to purchase soon. The end of the run has been updated to end at Route 47 to accommodate all riders wishing to participate. The ride is predicted to end by 4pm and there will be a live band and auction after.

Ike from the American Legion Riders was looking for any chapter members to do a mini ride for the Minnesota Softball Military Appreciation game. The ride would be leaving from Scoops and would travel around the ballfield. No cost to join the ride and would be departing on Friday, September 13th and 5:50pm.

Sharen Wright from East Central discussed a possible collaboration with Metro to put together an ABATE and Young Riders group for the Anoka Halloween Grand Parade. She is looking for up to 15 bikes to ride along. The current king and queen will be riding on a designated float. Young riders may walk and pass out candy to parade attendees. They would appreciate help setting up the float and staging the day of the parade.

Secretary Report: We as a chapter went over the minutes from the last meeting. Randy Swenson listed twice on attendance and number of members in attendance updated. Meeting was repeated twice in one sentence. Corrections made. Motion to accept August minutes, Putz/Camilla. All in favor motion passed.

Treasurer Report: We had another rough taco night. Chapter to look into methods of boosting attendance. Metro banners are in. Motion to accept treasurer's report Putz/Camilla. All in favor, motion passed.

Chapter Rep Report: The position for the Northeast Director is open. Any interested candidates are to print off a resume to bring to the January BOD. Next BOD meeting is set for October 19th in Wilmar, MN. ABATE U date pushed up due to the Easter holiday. There is currently no change in the anti profiling law. Motion to accept chapter rep report, Camilla/Ally. All in favor, motion passed.

Chapter Committee Reports:

Membership Committees, events and updates

--Member Activity & Event Committees

--Fall Events Committee. Large fall festival voted to not pursue it this year. Focus has shifted to the fall ride, trunk or treat, and the Halloween parade. Rob has set a route starting in Cambridge and ending at the Coon Rapids VFW. The chapter was looking into joining the VFW trunk or treat event. The chapter has reached out to Sharen Wright from East Central about collaborating on a Dial A Ride/ABATE float for the Anoka Halloween Grande Day Parade.

--Member Retention. Members have been making their presence known at other chapters and organizations events. New connections and relationships for future collaborations to come from this hopefully. Outreach mailings received 2 new membership renewals.

--Member Training & Activities Committee: Accident scene management set for October 19th from 9-5pm at the Grace Point Church. CMA is hosting the class but it will be open to anyone who would like to participate. The cost is \$100 up front and the chapter voted to reimburse up to 5 students 50/50 on cost if they are ABATE members in our chapter.

State Rally Report: The rally happened. Looking forward to planning for next year. We had a good Metro chapter turnout.

New Business:

– Buddy Bear dropoff set up for Ronald McDonald house and Allina Mounds View.

– The chapter voted to buy 100 of the approved Metro patches. Ron has offered to cover the cost between 50 patches vs 100. This will give us good inventory and more income made per patch. Motion to order 100 patches, Camilla/Ally. All in favor, motion passed.

Ally has stepped down as secretary. She has put in a lot of work in the chapter and we appreciate all her hard work. Shannon is serving as the acting secretary until officer elections this next March.

Events:

--Breakfast at Route 47, September 22

--Casa Rio the second Monday of the month.

--Fall Ride (details tbd)

Motion to adjourn meeting at 8:20pm. Motion made by Putz/Ally. All in favor, motion passed