

A.B.A.T.E. of Minnesota – Metro Chapter
VFW Coon Rapids
Tuesday, November 9th, 2021

Officers in Attendance:

President: Nick Capra

Vice President: Marcia Capra

Treasurer: Joe Jones

Secretary: Open Position

Chapter Rep.: Ron Lischeid

Master SGT. At ARMS: Brian LaDoux

SGT. At ARMS:

SGT. At ARMS:

Members Present: 6 + 1 Zoom

Guests:

We opened at 7:04 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance Led by JJ and a silent prayer for all Veterans

Secretary Report: Minutes Reviewed by Group Motions to Approve: Putz/ Benny, All in Favor

Treasurer Report: Joe Jones Motions to Approve: Michelle/ Putz, 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, Next BOD in Wilmar
January 14th – 15th. Meeting of Minds in Atlanta,

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. Go to your Caucus and get involved vote for people that are motorcycle friendly.

NE District Director – Kent: New Manuals at they aren't quite ready yet, they are working on them.

Chapter Growth (Ideas – What Other Chapters are doing) Kent attended all the monthly meetings 10 of them and did not have time for any District meeting. Kent is still healing from knee surgery. The Northeast Chapter donated their gambling money \$335.00 to Dial A Ride. We decided to use our gambling money to buy Buddy Bears.

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

Dial-A-Ride – No pick-ups the season is winding down. 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): No calls for 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, that aren't selling to the Veterans. Haven For Heroes December 6th at 6:20. We thought we could use them in a Raffle, Plinko and Door prizes, also.

WEB Page: Nick is working hard on the WEB Page, we want to thank Uncle Bill for all the years and hours he has put into the WEB Page. Nick has the catalog on the WEB page for handy ordering.

GrapeVine: Joe submitted an article with our Fund Raisers

Social Media-Email - Doc.: Facebook / 1,024 Page Likes, 1,068 Followers, Metro Group Page has 553 Members

Events: **1.** Casa Rio Taco Night, December 13th (birthday cake will be there). **2.** Route 47 Breakfast Fundraiser January 9th. **3.** River Valley January Thaw January 15th. **4.** Biker Day At The Capitol, February 16th. **5.** Youth Motorcycle Event February 18th -20th. **6.** 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 5/21/21 the same way we did it last year with Vendors and the Southern Express Band. 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'll talk more next month about dates.

Ideas for Member Retention and attracting New Members: Nick and Michelle are contacting expired Members Brian will help. We had great ideas to raise money and get people engaged. Michelle suggested doing volunteer work to get involved and maybe get new members because we will be seen. Hay Days in North Branch is 1 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. Let's bring our ideas to our December 14th meeting. New ideas for fund raising? Benny is planning a ride each month, lets support him. Thank you for all you do, we really appreciate it.

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

Re-adjourned 8:15 to vote on the number of Buddy Bears, we will purchase 75. Michelle made a motion to spend all the money form gambling fund and some from our general fund if needed, Benny second it, all in Favor.

Meeting adjourned again at 8:17