

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

Attendance:

President: Not Present Vice President: Jameson Lemke

Treasurer: Joe "JJ" Jones Secretary: Shannon Bros

Chapter Rep: Rob Benjamin

Sgt at Arms: Shannon Bros, Marcia Capra, Eric Gates, Benny

Members: Marcia Borchardt, Jane Doyle, Patricia Gates, Randy Swenson, Samantha Godfrey, Andrew Godfrey. Guests: April Murch (Lake President), Jim Kosse (Lake Vice President) Total members in attendance: 16

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

Secretary Report: The chapter looked over the minutes from last months meeting.

Amendment to add a first and second on the chapter report. Chapter took a few minutes to discuss. Motion to accept secretary report Randy/Benny. All in favor, motion passed.

Treasurer Report: Need to find a way to increase memberships. A portion of every membership gets split between state and chapter. Motion to accept Treasurer's Report Marcia C./Marcia J.. All in favor, motion passed.

Chapter Rep Report: ABATE U is planning on having a guest speaker at a banquet. They are looking for chapter assistance helping set up for this event. Biker Day at the capital is set for January 30. Those wishing to attend must be registered by January 15th. Biker day starts at 9am in the rotunda. If you register and are unable to go let the organizers know in advance. The time in between meetings will be a great opportunity to tour the capital. Write to ride is encouraging people to participate. Instructions can be found in the Road Noise to get your patch and talk to your rep. Young Riders is planning on setting up at dirtbike tracks to help draw kids interest in the program. There may be an opportunity for chapters to sponsor a track. Metro will be looking into possible tracks to sponsor. Motion to accept chapter rep report, Marcia/Samantha. All in favor, motion passed.

Guest Presentation: A special guest presentation was brought to chapter by Jane Doyle. Jane presented an event being hosted by one our young riders, Gavin. Gavin was challenged with hosting a fundraiser for school that included renting a space, finding sponsors, and hosting an event. The event will be held on January 4th from 11 to 1pm at the St. Francis American Legion. They will be teaching people about the Share the Road presentation and may bring in the motorcycle simulator. All proceeds from this event will be donated to ABATE.

April Murch from Lakes Chapter brought to the chapter their event Bowling for Kids which will take place on April 26th. All proceeds will be going to the Big Brother/Big Sisters organization. Bowlers can take pledge cards to get pledges. The event includes free bowling and shoes. You do not need to bowl. You can show up to hang out and cheer. There will be swag and prizes involved for participants. Lots of organizations show up to support.

April Murch from Lakes Chapter brought up a membership challenge that she is putting together with Harmony. The chapter with the most new sign ups in 2025 will win the challenge. We were presented with 2 options, Chapter vs chapter statewide or chapters competing just in their district. The chapter voted to compete against the state.

Chapter Committee Reports:

Membership Committees, events and updates

--Membership Activity & Event Committees

– St Patty's Day Party. The date has been set for Saturday, March 15th from 6 to 10pm. The band is booked, Maiden Minneapolis, which is an Iron Maiden cover band. The chapter is looking for items for a silent auction. The planning committee will be led by Jameson. Anyone who would like to participate in the planning committee should reach out to him.

– Donnie Smith Bike Show: The money for our booth will be turned in well ahead of the February 1st deadline.

--Member Training & Activities Committee: The chapter is looking into and discussing joining another chapter to do a road guard certification class.

State Rally Report: Nothing new to report.

Legislative Business: Monthly update in the road noise. Nothing new to report.

New Business:

–Metromorial: Southern Express has raised their rates. We are working with them to see what our options are. We are looking for volunteers and vendors to help run the event. As usual this event will be the Sunday of Memorial weekend.

–Web page has been renewed for 3 years along with the domain. Website is currently down due to a technical glitch but should be up and running by the 11th.

– Chapter incentive challenge: The challenge is ending at the January meeting. Rob has the prizes for those who participated.

– Eric Gates has been appointed as Sergeant at Arms. Welcome to the team Eric!

Events:

--Breakfast at Route 47, Sunday January 26th, 2025

--Taco Night at Casa Rio Monday January 13th, 2025

–Biker Day, January 30th, 2025

–St Pattys Party, March 15th, 2025

Motion to adjourn meeting at 8:10pm. Motion made by Trish/Eric. All in favor, motion passed