

ABATE of Illinois, Inc. E Board Meeting – Sept 30, 2006

These minutes approved on October 21, 2006

State Office - ABATE of Illinois, Inc.
311 E. Main Street - Suite 418
Galesburg, Illinois 61401

State Secretary – Linda Pasetti-Olson
1922 Bradley Dr.
Montgomery, Illinois 60538

Executive Board of Directors - Regular Business Meeting – October 2006

Meeting Location – Prairieland Chapter Building
1901 Railroad Ave
Decatur, Illinois

Executive Board Members Present

1. State Coord.- Jim 'Legs' Korte
2. Ass't State Coord.- Ed Domine
3. Secretary-Linda Pasetti-Olson
4. Treasurer-Julie Bacon
5. Office Manager-Pauli Ward
6. Legislative Coord – Dan Harper
7. Safety & Ed Coord-Paulette Pinkham
8. Newsletter Coord.-Ray Heck
9. Products Coord.- Laura Mayer
10. Public Relations Coord-Deb King
11. NE Region Co-Coord.- Rick 'RO'
Olson
12. NW Region Co-Coord-Roger Larson
13. WC Region Co-Coord-Rodney Stage
14. SE Region Coord.- Rick 'Doc' Jones
15. SW Region Coord-Bob Myers

Executive Board Members Absent

1. Activities Coord.-Carl Shamhart
2. Bike Raffle Coord-Gus Miller
3. NE Region Co-Coord.- Mike Ryan
4. NW Region Co-Coord.-Todd 'Turk'
Nichols
5. EC Region Co-Coord.- Sharilyn
Kibler-Russell & Jeff Marsh
6. WC Region Co-Coord.- Steve 'Rat'
Surratt

Others Present

1. Elizabeth Kren-Ass't S & E
2. Razor Swinda – Freedom by Choice
3. Bob Sheets – Freedom by Choice

Note - All references to the Executive Board herein, will be as 'E Board', and all references to the State Board of Directors will be as 'BOD'.

Motions to accept minutes, reports and adjournment are not numbered.

Call to Order

State Coord. Jim 'Legs' Korte called the meeting to order at 10:39 AM, due to the late arrival of several E Board members. Pledge of allegiance was said and recording of the meeting was announced. Quorum was present.

Approval of August 2006 E Board Minutes

Other's Present – Elizabeth Kren, Paula & Dave White, and Dave Acker were added to the list.

Swap Meet Proceeds – 'Raffle' was changed to 'attendance drawing'.

Lincoln Circuit Ride/Lincoln Marker Association – Last paragraph before motion was changed to read 'It was suggested to the State Coord. that ABATE of Illinois, Inc. take over the Lincoln Marker Association'. In the sentence preceding that, 'when' was changed to 'where'.

Rich Neb Award – Deadline to turn in nominations was corrected from 'October 1' to 'December 1'.

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Paulette Pinkham moved to approve the Sept minutes as amended. Rick ‘Doc’ Jones seconded, and the motion carried without opposition.

Old Business

Document Control Policy

The original Document Control policy, which details the procedures to follow when requesting documents from ABATE of Illinois, Inc was approved by the E Board in 2002 but never presented to the BOD. Ed Domine distributed a revised policy that he updated, on request from the E Board. Underlined passages are new and allow reasonable charges for extra copies of approved minutes. Discussion ensued on the legality of limiting access to documents of a not-for-profit organization. It was stated that since chapters are subordinates of ABATE of IL, Inc. information about them need not be supplied under the law, just the corporation’s information. **Paulette Pinkham moved to recommend to the BOD that the Document Control Policy, as written today, be accepted. Rick Olson seconded. Motion was carried without opposition. # E2006-078** Discussion ensued on the original version of the Document Control policy, approved by the E Board in 2002. **Ray Heck moved to amend the Document Control Policy accepted by the E Board in 2002, to the version presented today. Paulette Pinkham seconded. Motion was carried without opposition. # E2006-079** Discussion ensued on the necessity of putting “DRAFT” across the body of the policy and it was decided that added wording of ‘2nd Revision’ to the document would be done.

Sled Use

Discussion postponed as Activity Coord. Carl Shamhart was absent.

Strategic Planning Panel

Discussion did not take place since no representative of the panel was present. **Paulette Pinkham moved to drop the Strategic Planning Panel issue from the E Board agenda. Bob Myers seconded. Motion was carried without opposition. # E2006-080**

Special License Plates

Ed Domine has researched the ‘Remember 911’ bike plates and full year ‘ABATE of Illinois’ bike plates. Each would require 850 signatures and neither would yield any income to ABATE. Additionally, Ed felt that full year ABATE plates would detract from the ‘special event’ bike plates sold by ABATE during May and June. Deb King asked that the ‘special event’ plates be sold in 2007 to commemorate ABATE’s 20th anniversary. Veteran’s bike plates are a separate issue that others have spearheaded. Ed will present his findings to the BOD in Oct and recommend they decided which one of the plate programs, if any, ABATE should pursue. Supporting a state bill asking for Veteran’s motorcycle plates was also discussed.

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ABATE Calendars

Sharilyn Kibler-Russell was absent, so no calendar preview was available. It was discussed that the October BOD distribution schedule should be met in order to sell the maximum amount thru the chapters.

Lincoln Ride Comments

Feedback from board members who attended the event was offered. Serious work on organization of the event is needed before it takes place again. The route map is being revised by IDOT and the ride may be shortened to one day. About 30 people participated and one accident with injuries occurred. Some issues with departures from stops and signaling for turns were discussed. Programs presented at the stops were informative, but one town that had prepared an event was inadvertently bypassed. 100 Tee shirts were made up and some are still available. The ride planning committee can report their recommendations to the BOD in October.

Member Sanction

In response to questions on the letter to be sent to Terri White concerning a BOD sanction, Secretary Linda Pasetti-Olson distributed a letter she has written. Ms White's signature will be required when it is delivered and Rodney Stage volunteered to hand deliver a 2nd copy as well, to insure she receives a timely notification.

Pauli Ward moved to close Old Business. Paulette Pinkham seconded and a unanimous vote carried the motion.

New Business

Meeting of the Minds Recap

Elizabeth Kren represented Safety & Education Coord. Paulette Pinkham at the event, and sold several copies of the Safety & Ed video during the weekend.

One presentation by a legislative rep from the NRA was especially informative as he discussed the NRA's member resources. Suggestion was made today to supply ABATE chapters with membership booklets, so chapter officers would know who to contact with problems, and what to do within the chapter, BOD and E Board meetings. The current ABATE operations manual is out of date and new officers don't always understand ABATE procedures.

Most felt the workshops and presentations were very informative.

Dan Harper contributed several ABATE of Illinois concerns at the MRF SMRO legislative planning session. Specifically addressed was support of HIPPA and the Right to Repair Act. Impaired riding and sound / noise complaints are two issues that motorcycle riders will continue to face next year. Dan quoted one speaker who said 'We aren't risky, we're vulnerable'. Right of way laws were discussed again this year and while No Carolina has passed stricter laws there, State's Attorneys are often reluctant to enforce them, as they view the laws as too harsh.

Three of the six assistant MRF Reps from Illinois, Denny Lange, Shar

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Sonnenberg and Jim Conley, were recognized for recruiting MRF members and Mike 'Boz' Kerr has accepted a VP position at the MRF.

General sessions from the MOTM were broadcast and are archived on the internet. They can be accessed and listened to from the MRF website.

MRF Safety & Ed Assistant

Paulette Pinkham has been invited to become an Ass't. to the MRF S&E Coord. She discussed her plans to attend out of state MRF meetings and asked that the MRF board rep budget be split to cover her travel costs starting with a Feb meeting in Michigan. It was suggested that instead of increasing the MRF Board Member budget, Paulette and Mike 'Boz' Kerr could use the 2007 funds, and then the BOD could address the issue. No further action was taken.

Extended Warranty – Bike Raffle Truck

Per BOD motion # B2006-035 *{Motion to buy an extended warranty (on the bike raffle truck), was postponed to be addressed at a later date. Motion was carried with no opposition.}* it was decided to ask Gus to price an extended warranty, so the information could be given to the BOD. Product's Coord Laura Mayer stated that she has not yet received the old truck.

Lincoln Marker Association

Discussion ensued on the reasons for ABATE to become involved with the LMA *{Heart of Illinois moved to start a subsidiary corporation of ABATE for the Lincoln Marker Assoc. Blackhawk seconded. Motion carried without opposition # B2005-045}* since it had no connection to motorcycle rights or education. Putting the ABATE logo on markers as they are replaced and controlling funds and donations to the assoc. was mentioned as possibilities. The state ABATE office has received complaints from members of the DAR (Daughters of the American Revolution), and Sandy Barnett has received paperwork and old minutes from them as well. **Linda Pasetti-Olson moved to recommend to the BOD that more investigation be done before ABATE of Illinois forms a Lincoln Marker Association subsidiary corporation. Pauli Ward seconded. Motion was carried, with agreement by Deb King, Pauli Ward, Julie Bacon, Laura Mayer, Rick 'RO' Olson, Roger Larson, Bob Myers and Linda Pasetti-Olson. Opposing were Paulette Pinkham, Dan Harper, and Rick 'Doc' Jones. # E2006-081**

Paulette Pinkham moved that the State Coord. begin gathering information on the Lincoln Marker Association. Laura Mayer seconded. Motion was carried without opposition. # E2006-082

Kaskaskia Valley Logo

Logo design was passed around and discussion ensued that the graphic were acceptable, but the size was questioned. **Bob Myers moved to approve the graphics for the Kaskaskia Valley chapter logo, if patches were no larger than the state patch. Paulette Pinkham seconded. Motion was carried without opposition. # E2006-083**

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Belleville Swap Meet

Management of the swap meet has adopted a 'No Colors' policy, due to fairground regulations. ABATE has no control over this policy as the swap is not an ABATE event. An offer to run an ABATE rodeo at the fairgrounds has been extended, and discussion ensued on advertising in the state paper for any event held there under these restrictions. It was noted that precedent on advertising was set by BOD motion # **B2005-009** *{Southern Freedom moved to stop accepting newsletter ads for the 'Hog Rock' event, until it's clear that the colors issue is resolved. Heart of Illinois seconded. Opposing the motion were Mid-State, Shawnee Hills, Salt Creek, Ford Co, Franklin Co, Back Roads, Central, Liberty, Thunder Rock, Freedom Riders and Piasa-Gateway. Motion was carried by the majority.}*

Executive Board Shirts

Discussion ensued on buying matching shirts for E Board members to wear to events, such as the Meeting of the Minds. No support was forthcoming and no action was taken.

Corporate Sponsor

E Board members were contacted by a member this month about a publication from the Illinois High School and College Driver Education Association, Inc., which ABATE supports as a corporate sponsor. In their quarterly publication, 12 of the 13 pages concerning motorcycles directly encouraged mandatory helmet use, and specifically asked why helmets were not mandatory in Illinois. Copies of the offensive article were distributed today and discussed. In reply to questions, Paulette Pinkham stated that Safety & Ed funds pay \$200 for a workshop and the corporate sponsorship. Pulling the sponsorship donation unless a rebuttal article was included in their next issue was discussed on as the best course of action. **Dan Harper moved that the Safety & Ed Coordinator write a rebuttal to the IHSDA article, and the Legislative Coord and the Public Relations Coord approve it. Deb King seconded. Motion was carried without opposition. # E2006-084**

Northern Illinois Chapter Newsletter

Questioning dialogue in the No Illinois chapter article (state newsletter), it was noted that neither the State Coord nor or the State Office, has not received any copies of chapter newsletters from Northern Illinois, as directed in the Dec 2005 BOD sanction. Per BOD motion # **B2005-077** (which states in part) *{Furthermore, all flyers, publications and newsletters for the Chapter [Northern] must: 1.) Be sent to the State Coordinator and the state office until further notice from the BOD. (This will serve as an ongoing check.)*

Laura Mayer moved to require a representative to of No Illinois chapter to come to the Oct 2006 BOD meeting and state whether any chapter newsletters have been distributed since the Dec 2005 sanction. Linda Pasetti-Olson seconded. Motion was carried with no objections. # E2006-085

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Draft E Board Minutes-Watermark

Discussion ensued on the need to distinguish draft E Board minutes. **Rick ‘Doc’ Jones moved to have a ‘DRAFT’ watermark put across the pages on all copies of the draft E Board minutes before distribution. Dan Harper seconded. Motion was carried without opposition. # E2005-086**

Bike Raffle Contacts

Discussion ensued on availability of contacts, event dates, and locations where the raffle bike is taken every year. Since no list is presently available, it was agreed that Pauli Ward would discuss the issue with Gus Miller and ask him to compile the information from his record books.

State Party Vendor

Freeport chapter inquired about buying a vendor space at the state party for their chapter and the early entrance policies for vendors.

State Activities Coord.

It was noted that Carl Shamhart has taken a new job and the hours make attending board meeting difficult for him. Carl has not accepted the E Board nomination for State Activities Coord and he will not be listed on the ballot.

Dan Harper moved to close New Business. Julie Bacon seconded and a unanimous vote carried the motion.

Break 1:06 – 1:30 PM

Officer Reports

Legislative

Legislative Coord Dan Harper noted that a statewide sign-building event for Judy Baar Topinka is taking place today, and ABATE members were asked to help, Jessie White material and bumper stickers are on hand today, and Voter Guildes are also still available. Protecting the Cycle Rider Training funds and Right of Way bills are major Legislative topics .

March 7, 2007 has been set as the tentative date for ABATE Legislative Day in Springfield. Date will be finalized in January. AMA trips to Washington DC are being set up, one more person is needed for the April trip.

As of Oct 1, 2006 helmets are required for motorcyclists on all Argonne Labs property. Chairman of the energy committee, Congressional Rep. Judy Biggert is addressing the policy. Checks moving money to the general fund have been written out of the Cycle Riders Training money, since the judge lifted our temporary restraining order.

PAC Reports

Both PACs are still funding targeted races. State PAC will work closer with chapters on candidate endorsements in the future. Suggestion was made that the PACs put their grading policies into writing.

Safety & Education

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S&E Coord. Paulette Pinkham reported on policies of Craig Williams, IDOT (Illinois Dept of Transportation), and discussed a phone conference request she received for motorcycle issues ABATE of Illinois, Inc would like addressed.

ABATE does not qualify for most of the grants IDOT has available.

Steve Esslinger will administer the TEA applications. 2007 Life Savers Conference will be held in Chicago and Paulette will be attending, along with Elizabeth Kren, Ed Show and Dave Acker. Paulette has asked that chapters planning to send representatives notify Elizabeth in advance.

MSF (Motorcycle Safety Foundation) and NHTSA (National Highway & Transportation Safety Association) may be moving to take over the Motorcycle Awareness programs currently being presented in several states, including Illinois. **Dan Harper moved to copyright the Safety & Ed Motorcycle Awareness program currently being presented in Illinois high schools and to adult drivers. Ed Domine seconded. Motion was carried without opposition. # E2006-087** Cost is expected to be about \$100.

Assistant State Coordinator / Bylaw Review Chair

Ed Domine is working on the 2007 ABATE 'special event' bike plates and asked for suggestions on speakers for the 2007 state seminar. Several were given. Seminar dates are Jan 19,20 & 21.

He also reported that the Bylaw Review Committee met recently and is recommending that the BOD adopt the bylaw change proposed by Ray 'Razor' Swinda pertaining to chapter sanctions and members transferring chapters. (Text enclosed at end of minutes.)

State Secretary

Secretary Linda Pasetti-Olson had nothing further to report.

Treasurer

Treasurer Julie Bacon had nothing further to report.

State Office

Office Manager Pauli Ward reported that donations received from chapters are now over 2006 budget projections.

In response to inquiry, she stated that she is tracking donations separately from chapters who are donating their \$5 membership credits back to the state.

Three chapters, Hubbard Trail, Brothers of Grundy, and Tri-Co still owe for advance state party tickets they received.

Public Relations

PR Coord. Deb King reported that she has still not received a response from the Anheuser Bush distributor on the cold drink coaster program she is promoting.

Tickets and flyers for the 20th Anniversary Disney World trip have been printed.

To avoid confusion on ABATE policies, she asked that members sign their own name when writing editorial letters to newspapers, instead of just using 'ABATE of Illinois'.

Products

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Products Coord. Laura Mayer asked that the 'Products Coord' budget and the 'Products Merchandise Sales' budgets be combined, instead of reporting them separately. Pauli Ward said she would combine them into one column.

Laura also requested an updated list of House and Senate bills ABATE has supported. Dan Harper will compile the list for her.

State Newsletter Coord.

Editor Ray Heck had nothing further to report.

Activities

Activities Coord. Carl Shamhart was absent and sent no report.

Bike Raffle Coord.

Coordinator Gus Miller was absent and sent no report. Pauli Ward reported the 2007 raffle bike has been delivered. No information is available on another Vespa for the 2007 raffle. Pictures of the 2006 winners will be given to the Newsletter Coord as soon as they are available.

Regional Reports

NE Region – Co-Coord. Rick Olson reported that about 20,000 yard signs have been assembled by the NE region during this campaign. Fed PAC fundraiser 'Pactoberfest' will be held on Oct 14th

NW Region – Co-Coord. Roger Larson reported that he had attend a Judy Baar Topinka fundraiser.

EC Region – Co-Coord. Sharilyn Kibler-Russell & Jeff Marsh were both absent.

WC Region – Co-Coord. Rodney Stage that Peo-Taz chapter is moving to the WC Region. A WC Region meeting would be held Oct 29th.

SE Region – Coord. Rick 'Doc' Jones report that the SE Region party was held and while the weather was good, attendance was low.

SW Region – Coord. Bob Myers gave the board an update on Grafton developments, signs and banners are being considered. He also noted the region's successful marble run. A SW Region meeting is scheduled for Nov 2. Two chapters were asked by Christine Radogno for sign help, but refused.

Adjournment - The meeting was adjourned at 2:33 PM on a motion made by Rodney Stage. Pauli Ward seconded and a unanimous vote carried the motion.

Attachments (distributed at meeting)

Sept E Board agenda

Document Control Policy

Member Sanction Letter

IHSDEA Helmet Article

Treasury Report (Copies available from state office)

Bylaw Review Committee

The following proposed bylaw amendment was submitted to the Bylaw Review Committee at the Board of Directors Meeting on August 26, 2006:

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There seems to be a need for an addition to the Bylaws. When writing this I tried to be fair to all parties. The intent of this change is to inform the chapters involved and to prevent a member from changing chapters to escape sanctions or reprimands from taking place or being enforced.

This will give the chapter being switched into, the right and choice to honor the previous chapter's actions & findings, or to ignore them.

This change is fair to all parties, and seems to give the member and both affected chapters a chance to voice their position.

In some cases, not all cases, a member might be picked on unfairly. Also, a chapter acting in good faith could be hampered by deception. To prevent such, this does have some wiggle room built into the change. This allows a review of the problem and leaves opening for remedies, while helping to filter out personal squabbles, from the process.

Additions needed are:

ARTICLE 2

Section 5

D) No member may move chapter affiliation, without informing the intended chapter, of any current or pending sanctions or restrictions from the previous chapter, including all charges from said chapter, leaving the intended chapter time to review any actions with officers of the previous chapter. Failure by the member to inform the intended chapter, prior to switching, will result in further charges or actions that can be brought by the affected chapters, together or separately.

E) Charges and actions against a member can be upheld by the intended chapter, after a review with the officers of the previous chapter. The review must be done in a timely manner.

Respectfully Submitted by

Freedom By Choice Inc.
Chapter Board of Directors Rep.
Raymond "Razor" Swinda

The Bylaw Review Committee has reviewed this proposal, and recommends a vote in favor of adopting this amendment to our bylaws. This proposal closes a loophole in our bylaws that allows a member that is facing sanctions within their chapter to escape those sanctions by transferring their membership to a different chapter. By adopting this new bylaw proposal, the new chapter will be made aware of the members past actions and the sanctions against that member, and can then make an informed decision on whether those sanctions against the member should remain in effect at the new chapter.

Administrative Note: If this proposal is adopted by the BOD, the committee also recommends that the numbering sequence of paragraphs be modified so that the new amendment becomes paragraph C & D, and the current paragraph C become the new paragraph E. This will present the sanctions in a logical progression from the chapter sanctions up to the maximum of termination of affiliation.

Respectfully submitted, ABATE of Illinois Bylaw Review Committee - Ed Domine, Chair