

Heart of the Lakes A.B.A.T.E. Meeting Notes
October 21, 2011
7:40pm

Meeting Place: Joe and Julie Grotjohn's home in Hawley

People in Attendance: Edgar Burke (Northwest District Director), Justin Grotjohn (President, Chapter Rep.), Lacy Schmidt (Secretary), Crystal Lesko (Treasurer), LeAnn Burke, Rob Thiel, Joe Grotjohn, Julie Grotjohn.

Visitors: Amy Grotjohn

Pledge of Allegiance

Secretary's Report: Last time we got together we discussed that buddy bear delivery did not work out for September 8th as planned so after some group discussion it was decided that October 1st would work out better for all involved so Edgar said he would find a time that worked for both Ponsford and Wolf Lake and he would post the times of delivery on face book so watch for that. Remember February 8th is going to biker ay at the capitol this year. Todd Riba has been in communication with Edgar about trying to get a "northern" bus set up for that event. If we could get the state to pay for half of the cost for the bus it would cost the other chapters approximately \$250.00 each to cover the other half of the bus. **Rob made a motion to contribute \$250.00 to pay for our chapter's part of the "northern" bus for biker day at the capitol as long as we can get the support we need from the other chapters for the cost coverage, Edgar seconded the motion and the motion was passed unanimously.** We are planning to try to get those commitments by the October BOD meeting. Rob has also brought it to the chapters' attention that he is interested in going to Washington D.C. to lobby. The event id called bikers on the beltway. Rob has been on this kind of trip before and has no idea what it would cost to go. He is asking for the chapter to keep an open mind on this and he would very much appreciate the chapter trying to support him on this and help make this lobbying trip happen if possible. The enhanced penalty bill will be voted on at the October BOD meeting. As a chapter we need to decide how we want Justin to vote on this matter. **Rob makes a motion that we increase attendance at biker day at the capitol by 20%, That when the tri-folds go to reprint we donate 50 cents of each new/renewed membership to the PAC, and that each chapter designates a legislative coordinator to help write letters to our elected officials, Edgar seconded he motion and the motion was passed unanimously.** It was also discussed how important it is that we continue to support the PAC and **Edgar made a motion to donate 50 cents of each ticket sold to our chapters annual pool and dart fundraiser to the PAC, Noel seconded the motion and the motion was passed unanimously.** The last couple of years we have been doing our annual fundraiser in March instead of February. When we hold the event in March we just seem to get a better turn out due to better weather. If we are looking to go in March again we are tentatively looking at March 17th which is the third weekend that we have been doing it. **Edgar makes a motion that if the VFW in New York Mills is available for the date of March 17th we have our annual chapter fundraise there again, Noel seconds the motion and the motion was passed**

unanimously. We would like to have a committee to meet with the location between meetings so that we can decide things we need to at our meetings and Justin, Edgar and Rob have volunteered for this committee. We need to get some advanced tickets to the bar this year as last year they had many requests for them and didn't have any to sell. We decided to table the topic of price for band only admission since we could not come up with an answer all agreed upon so we will further discuss it next meeting. Last but definitely not least it has been brought to everyone's attention that rally admission has been steadily declining for a few years and we need to try to do something to bring our numbers back up. It has been suggested that maybe we need to try another weekend and maybe a 2 day rally instead of 3 day rally like some other states have been doing. We need to send our chapters vote to the October BOD with Justin to keep it or change it.

Donald makes a motion to give the weekend before Labor Day weekend a try for a few years and see if that brings in more people to our state rally, Edgar seconds the motion and the motion was passed unanimously.

Rob makes a motion to accept the secretary's report, Joe seconds the motion and the motion was passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report:

Currently we have a cash balance of \$1833.17 and a Petty cash balance of \$50.00. We also have \$488.67 in our chapter's gambling account. We had 8 new/renewed memberships this past month.

Edgar makes a motion to accept the treasurer's report, Rob seconds the motion and the motion was passed unanimously.

Committee Reports:

Buddy Bears- We did make delivery of bears on October 1st. We had a good turn out with 9 bikes riding and 12 people to distribute. We do currently have buddy bears left.

Dial-a-Ride- Dial-a-ride wants to know about the places we distribute the dial-a-ride merchandise to and the inventory we have left that didn't get distributed. The New York Mills VFW would like some dial-a-ride stuff for their establishment. Dial-a-ride is also interested in knowing how many interventions we have helped with in our area.

Rob makes a motion to accept the committee reports, Edgar seconds the motion and the motion was passed unanimously.

Northwest District Director's Report: The vote on in increased penalty law was voted for with a vote of 21 to 3. We are looking for higher attendance at biker day at the capitol this year. We would need to get 38 commitments to make the "northern" bus happen. It was also voted on for a change of dates for state rally. Minnesota will be going to a 2 day rally and it will be held the weekend before Labor Day weekend which will be August 24th and 25th for 2012. Online registration for biker day at the capitol starts November 1st.

Before we get into old business Justin would like to disclose that he is dating/living with the manager of the VFW in New York Mills and that in no way has his relationship with her influenced our vote of where we are having our annual pool and dart event.

Old Business: Pool and Dart will be held March 17, 2012 at the VFW in New York Mills. The VFW would like advanced tickets this year. The only difference we will have from last year is the RMH ride bike will not be at our event to look at this year as that weekend is also the Fargo bike show and the bike is needed there that weekend. **Rob makes a motion that all ticket sales go to \$5.00 across the board advanced ticket or not, Edgar seconds the motion and the motion was passed unanimously.** It has been brought to our attention that we could have a better presentation of our silent auction.

New Business: We will be looking for a new Northwest District Director this coming year as Edgar will not be accepting the position again. **Rob makes a motion to accept the request to reimburse Justin's gas expense to the October BOD meeting that was \$29.01, Joe seconds the motion and the motion was passed unanimously.**

Upcoming Meeting Dates:

November 18th @ NYM VFW 7:30pm

December 9th @ Zorbas in Detroit Lakes 7:30pm

January 13th @ Edgar and LeAnn's home in Ottertail 7:30pm

Rob makes a motion to adjourn the meeting, Justin seconds the motion and the motion was carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned 9:10pm

