

STEEL CITIES REGION, SCCA
General Membership Meeting September 6th, 2017, at Tolerico's in Monroeville

Regional Executive Paula Hawthorne called the meeting to order at 7:29 PM.

A motion (Mike/Rick) to approve the minutes of the August meeting passed 13-0-0.

MEMBERSHIP: Jeff Hutzelman

There are 8 new or renewed members in August and 10 memberships expired or non-renewed. Current membership count is 439. A copy of Jeff's report is attached to the file copy of these minutes, and it includes the list of new members. Gene Kern is with us tonight.

RALLY REPORT: Les Walter and Jeff Hutzelman

The USRRC is coming up in Alaska, and Steel Cities Region has two teams participating. BRMSCC will host a rally November 19th with Don Baker as Rallymaster in the Irwin area. It will be around 60 miles in length, with registration opening at 1PM, and first car off at 2:01PM.

SOLO REPORT: Nick Phillips

Nick walked in after this report began by discussing that the National Championships are going on right now. Alex Peele is entered and finished 3rd after his front shocks failed. Greg Maloy and some other STC members are there also.

The remaining Solo events are listed in the current Tickler.

The event we ran for Ohio Muscle Car (Bob Burtelson) brought in around \$2000. It was hard to do – very grueling – and because of that we may not do it next year, or else we will have to raise the fees.

The last event 8/2/17 showed about 90 entries with lots of new entries – around 10 novices. The next events are October 1st and October 15th.

Nick went to the last PIRC "low key" event to "advertise", and plans to go to the next one as well. He asked if we could offer some incentive to attract entries to our events. Since our fee is \$35 + a weekend membership (\$50 total) and the PIRC events are \$40, could we offer the weekend membership for free? We again discussed the difference in how PIRC, NHSCC and our events are run, and ours are more serious where NH events are more of a party. How to handle the incentive is really a Solo Board decision.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Mark Maehling

This month Mark has financial statements for August (copies distributed, and a copy is attached to the file copy of these minutes). Bank statement balance at the end of July was \$87,166.41, + income of around \$31,000 and expenses of about \$39,000 bring us to the August balance of \$79,288.44. We had a lot of expenses and income turned in tonight.

TRACK TRIALS & HILLCLIMB REPORTS: Dave Merritt

Polish Mountain was 8/6. This was our 11th year. We had 81 entries. They haven't cashed the check we sent them last year. Fall Shenandoah was 9/2-3, and we had 80 entries. It rained Saturday but improved Sunday. The financial handout is not final, but we can expect about \$4,000. We had a huge oil cleanup that took 18 bags of kitty litter (\$270) to clean up.

We have one more event, listed in The Tickler, Fall Weatherly 9/16-17.

We emailed Chris White, Summit Point Track Manager to request our rates for 2018 for Jefferson and Shenandoah.

The banquet is scheduled for 11/11 in Grantville.

HISTORIAN: Don Baker

Don had passed around cards for signatures to be sent to the families of Chris Patrick, Allen Patterson and Jim Kreitzburg.

Dave Badger and Dave Hammer were recognized for 12-19 days.

The Hopwood family who has moved to NE had a 30th membership anniversary, and Bill Haus and Chris Granche both have 25 years.

ROAD RACING REPORT: AJ Anselm

AJ passed out a summary of the Regional. We lost \$10,849, largely do to a low car count. DC Region promoted our event to their drivers but was disappointed that more of them did not attend.

AJ did a survey at Bob Liddle's request (see the handout- copy attached to the file copy of this report) and he sent the results to the members of the Board last night. The responses were largely positive. We talked about all the "what if's" of the event.

Bob then spoke to the Board saying that he has asked 12 people about the event, and 10 of the 12 did not like the three-session format, and wanted bigger groups. He sent the results of these conversations the BOD as a letter that he then read aloud.

AJ again thanked all those who stuck around to help pack the trailer up for the winter.

Barry Kaplan said that PIRC has found the problem with radio communications there, and as a result has changed their repeater frequencies. He will reprogram all the radios in the Spring.

For 2018, Dave Hois has the Supertour dates, probably Mother's Day weekend or the one after. At the next August Regional we could have a BMW Series race or a HRG Vintage group.

OLD BUSINESS:

Kelsey reminded us that there will be a memorial service for Allen Patterson at the East Liberty Presbyterian Church October 1st at 2PM.

New Business:

The observer's report on the August Regional was all good.

Paula tabled the SCCA Gear discussion for October.

The Track Night in America event 9/13 will be the final one for the year. Haywood emailed out a list of all those that participated in TNIA at PIRC. Paula wants to use it as a basis for sending invitations to all non-SCCA entrants to attend our events, including our 2018 schedule.

Kelsey announced that the annual banquet will be held February 3, 2018, at the Comfort Inn on Rodi Road in Penn Hills. Having a buffet will make the cost a little less, and it will be from 5 to 10PM with dinner around 6.

Jeff Hutzelman, Paula Hawthorne and Don Baker are going to the Runoffs.

The National Convention will be in Las Vegas January 18-20, 2018. Is anybody here planning to attend? The schedule is up online. Dan Hodge invited Paula to be on his panel.

Paula attended the open Comp Board meeting at the last DC Regional race, and Chris White (Summit Point Track Manager) gave our registration high praises. Next year there will be no spectator fees at Summit Park. Car counts were way down in the last half of the season. MARRS supports Summit, but it seems they want to keep all the series events there.

The miniconvention will be November 11 or 18 somewhere near Baltimore.

Paula reminded all present to start thinking of nominees for the annual awards.

Elections are coming. Walt has nominating petitions here, and they will be available on our website. Ray Colbert demonstrated his patent-pending electrically lighted red flag. His prototype cost about \$50 to build, whereas a normal flag goes for around \$14 per Dan). The main problem is that it doesn't fold, and would need an actuation switch on the shaft. SCCA may be migrating toward FIA flag rules.

The 50/50 drawing awarded \$48 to Chris Granche.

A motion to adjourn (Geoff/AJ) passed 13-0-0 at 8:34 PM.

Respectfully submitted by

Walt Matenkosky, Secretary, Steel Cities Region, SCCA