

Arlington ABATE chapter meeting minutes

20 Aug 2023

Meeting held at VFW Post 6111.

Meeting opened at 1210 with the Pledge of Allegiance and moment of silence.

Officers present: Rick Boland, Nay-Nay, Shelly, Troy, Doni, Laurie (by phone) and Byrrd Gutierrez.

Bad news about Robin and Doc

Minutes accepted as read after discussion regarding 2 bikes per lane and lane splitting.

Treasurer's report: All bills paid accepted as read.

Membership: 56 current, 25 expired. Addresses have been updated. New chapter specific 3 part membership form presented and changes explained.

Products: Quotes on frisbees, cozies and patches were given. Discussion concerning costs, colors and other possible vendors. Motion to order 100 glow in the dark frisbees with the chapter logo in black. Approximately \$160.00 plus tax and shipping and handling. Passed by voice vote.

Chapter Rep: The next state meeting is 07 October in Arlington at this VFW Post. Could we maybe provide a light lunch for the Board? Discussion concerning the state tri-folds and suggested changes that could be made. We will suggest to the state that we remove the membership form and replace it with chapter information. The State Rally is 08 – 10 Sep. We still need volunteers to man the gate.

Newsletter: Waiting for the proof copy of the August edition. Chapter reps should be receiving both full and condensed versions of the newsletter for distribution. If you are not getting your newsletter check your spam folder and make sure the chapter rep has the correct e-mail address.

Legislative: HB4122 allowing bikes to ride to in the lane has been signed by the governor. SB478 Motorcycle operator training safety program monies can only be used to finance the program. HB3313 regarding LED ground effect lighting only allows amber or white, non-flashing lights. A new vehicle registration fee for electric vehicles that would offset the lost fuel tax revenues was discussed. SB2090 Preserving Choice in Vehicle Purchasing Act is still in the works. There is no House version yet. HR906 Right to Repair Act needs more supporters.

Security: We're secure.

Website: Still working to get the web-site up to date.

Old Business: We are still short of the price-break point for ordering bears. Hit up businesses for 10 bear sponsorships. Arlington area, not just Arlington. Only 3 months left until it is time to purchase and pack the bears.

Kid's Carriage: 05 August. We need to decide on a time for KSU to ride to the event. Decided that we will meet here at 2:30, KSU at 3. Shelly has a few backpacks available for anybody who won't be able to attend to purchase.

Shelly's Fun Run 14 Oct. Details at the next meeting.

Deliver bears to the fire stations 19 Nov.

Mid-South Mile is 20 – 23 October in Springfield, Mo. We still don't know the theme for the basket. Arkansas will be represented by the MSM committee.

Meeting of the Minds will be 21-24 September in Harrisburg, Pa..

New business: ABATE member life insurance policy was discussed. To keep all of your information current you should re-enroll every year, but it is not required. More member participation can lead to increased benefits. Discussion regarding the benefits, rules, etc.

Do we want to do another gun raffle? We would start selling tickets in August and hold the drawing in December. Discussion regarding what to raffle. This led to a broader discussion regarding the various fund raisers that are already in the works, and trying to add another one into the time frame leading to the end of the year. Decided to move the gun raffle ticket sales start to October, and hold the drawing in March, or so. Possibly at the Biker's Ball. Ticket sales will start at the Fun Run.

Patriot Vanguard would like us to partner with them for a benefit to raise money for the DFW National Cemetery. \$100.00 to get our name and logo on the T-shirt and in all other media. The event would be on 098 September. Motion to donate the \$100.00 was passed by voice vote.

Discussion regarding how to increase membership. One suggestion was to get involved with a name brand charity. Rick will take that suggestion to the state board. Discussion concerning local support v state level support.

Discussion regarding the possibility of advertising to get our name out and past efforts to get our name out.

Doni will check to see if we have more membership tri-folds.

Should we set up a table at the gun show and swap meets? Probably not. Discussion concerning options and ideas of ways to get literature out to the public.

Meeting closed @ 1315.

Minutes by Byrrd.