

PENNSYLVANIA HILLCLIMB ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the March 18, 2017 Meeting

The meeting of the Pennsylvania Hillclimb Association held at Canal Street Pub in Reading was called to order at 1:13 PM after it was determined that a quorum of SCCA Regional Representatives was in attendance.

I. Regional Representatives Poll

PHA Officers: *President:* Rich Rock; *Vice President:* Dave Merritt; and *Treasurer:* John Pitman.
(*Secretary:* Cannon Roberts – absent)

SCCA Regional Representatives: *Susquehanna* – Gordon Wise; and Don DeHart. *Philadelphia* – Grace Huntzinger; Dale Gogel; and Rich Sweigert. *NEPA* – none. *BMR* – Rich Rock; John Pitman; and Steve Lewis. *Steel Cities* – Dave Merritt.

Others attending: *Susquehanna* – Ursula Whisler. *Philadelphia* – Michelle Sweigert. *NEPA* – none. *BMR* – Nelson Kase; Mike Robinson; Nancy Lewis; Don Kennedy; Gary Reider; and Mike White. *Steel Cities* – Only Reps. *Others* – none.

II. Minutes of the January, 2017 Meeting

Printed copies of the January 21, 2017 minutes were distributed, read individually, and then approved based on a Motion: Nancy Lewis / 2nd: Gordon Wise. Minutes will be published on the PHA website.

III. Treasurer's Report

John Pitman presented the Treasurer's Report. John reported that there was no new activity except for a \$26 printing charge, and that there was \$7,300 in the bank. The Treasurer's Report was approved based on a Motion: Mike Robinson / 2nd: Ursula Whisler.

IV. Rose Valley

Dave Merritt reported on the progress for the Rose Valley Hillclimb. Dave and Rich Rock visited the area on February 11th and met with Dan Hollingsworth and Andrew Clark. Dan is the Assistant Fire Chief for the Trout Run VFD; Dan expressed a lot of interest in the event and supported the scheduling of the event for the weekend of July 22-23. Andrew is helping "on the ground" with a number of local logistics, such as fire extinguishers, permission from the townships and residents on the hill, and working with PennDOT for road repairs. There were a number of cross cuts on the road whose repair would have been critical to the event. The near term tasks were the sanction, insurance and road permit.

Don Kennedy suggested that Dave reach out to Boyd Smith; a rally driver and organizer. Grace Huntzinger suggested that Dave reach out to Sue Salsburg for help with the necessary paperwork (that Sue had done for 2015).

V. Other Event Updates

Carlisle – Gordon Wise provided an update, suggesting that we could bring up to 50 cars. Gordon indicated that Nelson Kase would send out an email to PHA members. Pre-registration is free,

requiring an application and photo of the car. Last year there were 97 attendees in the PHA pavilion at one point; rain may have helped. The theme will be import and performance cars.

NEPA Sanctions – Rich Rock reported that the Weatherly and Giants Despair sanctions had been approved.

Polish Mountain – Dave Merritt reported that he had met with National Road Autosport, and they are looking forward to running their 11th event. They have been very receptive to suggestions for improvements.

New Hill? - Dave Merritt reported on his visit to a potential hillclimb location in WV. If it would be developed over the next few years, it would be near the town of Scherr, be 1.4 miles and have 12 turns. Some challenges include no hotels, no cell service, 1 gas station, and one hour further than Summit Point or Polish Mountain (from the east). Don Kennedy suggested that extra distance (vs. other events) should not matter. Mike White suggested that a survey should be conducted to determine interest. Further input will be gathered at drivers' meetings at upcoming events.

BMR Events – Rich Rock reported that Summit Point is now instituting a \$15/bag oil dry charge for track cleanup.

The sanctions for Spring Jefferson and Pagoda have been approved; Rich is working on Duryea. With regard to Reading events, Rich indicated that cancellations would be less lenient.

Rich indicated that he is on the Steering Committee for the Mt Penn Preserve, and that there is a link to their usage survey. Everyone at the meeting had taken the survey. The Preserve is still soliciting input; no decisions have been made. Rich reported that there was no news on the Skyline paving project.

Rich indicated there would be a raffle again this year for a free entry to the 3 BMR events. Also, Dale Gogel won the worker CJ Tire raffle last year.

Time Trial Program – Rich Rock reported that SCCA would be rebranding Time Trial programs as Track Events for 2018. Hillclimbs will remain as their own program.

2018 Supps – Rich reported that we will be revising this Supps for next year; the revised Supps will be PHA specific.

VI. **Timing**

Grace Huntzinger suggested that an additional \$1 per car per event be added for a timing equipment fund for future replacement costs. Rich Rock proposed a motion to increase the PHA assessment from \$5 to \$6 (in line with the VIP reduction from \$5 to \$4). The motion was approved: Grace Huntzinger / 2nd: Mike Robinson.

VII. **Website**

There were no new issues with the website.

VIII. **New Business/Non-agenda items**

Reserved Numbers – Ursula Whisler reported that had spoken to Matt Rowe about transferring responsibility for Reserved Numbers to Nelson Kase. Matt had indicated to Nelson that he would like to hear from one of the Officers; Rich Rock said he would follow up.

Lloyd Geib –Rich indicated that Lloyd’s MG would be on display at the Eastern Museum of Motor Racing, with an opening on the weekend of April 1-2.

Reading Cleanup – Rich Rock reported that there would be a BMR cleanup on the hill on April 22nd (Earth Day).

Novice Hillclimb Program – Dave Merritt reported on the Novice Hillclimb Program being organized by Mike Ancas based on the donation of a Neon racecar by Michael Daley. The program is intended to allow first time hillclimbers a chance to race in one event. The car and all gear will be provided, except for a helmet. Entry fees will also be covered. Gordon Wise recounted the history and some of the anecdotes about the car.

IX. **Next Meeting/Banquet**

Rich Rock reported that the Annual PHA Banquet will be held Saturday November 11th at the Holiday Inn Grantville; a deposit has already been made. Rich had looked into the Hershey AACA Museum; it might have been a nice change but hotels were expensive and the Museum contact did not return Rich’s calls.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:40 based on a Motion: Gary Reider / 2nd: Ursula Whisler.