

Pennsylvania Hillclimb Association
Minutes of the March 08, 2025, Organizational Meeting

The meeting was called to order by President Rich Rock at 1:00 PM.

Officers: Rich Rock, President; Trevor Filipowicz, Vice President; Eli Sharp, Secretary; and Grace Huntzinger, Treasurer.

Regional Representatives: Don McLaughlin, Sue Salsburg, Dave Aaron, Trevor Filipowicz, Rich Rock, Rick Terrill, Joe Whiteley, Grace Huntzinger, Eli Sharp, Bill Feist* and Jason Fraley*.

Alternative Representatives: Mike Daley, Don DeHart, and Nancy Lewis.

PHA members: George Ackerman, Gibby Bozicevich*, Timothy Cahill, Frank Callhoun*, Dave Cutchins*, Joe Cyburt, Randy Hartinger, Matt Hoegg, Kristen Israel*, Don Kennedy, Ray Kochin, Cory Michael, William Norton, Bob Oswald Jr, Keith Schaeffer, Brian Serfass, Jim Swift, Ursula Whistler, Vince Wieczorek, George Witman, Karen Witman, and Matthew Yohn.

[* participated on Zoom]

1. Welcome, Meeting Rules Recap and Regional Rep Poll: Eli S recapped the meeting rules and process. Rich R determined that a quorum of Regional Representatives was in attendance.

2. Treasurer's Report:

Grace H relayed that the club did an audit after the last meeting, and everything was good. No discrepancies were found during the audit. She presented the Treasurer's report showing income and expenses from 2025 year to date. Trevor F made a motion to accept the report and Bill N seconded. Grace H also stated that the PHA event assessment fees for 2025 will be \$8 per entry, which is a reduction from last year's fees that were \$10 per entry.

3. 2025 Schedule and Event Updates:

Carlisle Import Performance Show: Bill N stated that our contact at the Carlisle Import Performance Show on the 16th and 17th of May may be changing our location. We may be in a tent at another location due to someone else using the pavilion. Details are to be worked out, but we should have electricity available. He said that we need

cars and drivers. Information on how to apply is on the website already. He is coordinating our participation at the event, so people should reach out to him.

Jefferson and Shenandoah: Rich R said that the contracts have been signed for both Jefferson and Shenandoah, and the deposits have been sent. He thanked those who put up sponsorship money for Shenandoah last year. He said that there was sponsorship money left over, and BMR has that set aside, to be used as needed to cover any loss for Jefferson or Shenandoah this year. With that, he doesn't anticipate any changes in entry fees. Our banner for Summit Point was made and shipped and received last week. He also clarified the 40% off discount is still in effect for a driver driving a second car at a Summit Point event.

Pagoda and Duryea: Rich R will be applying to the city for a permit for Pagoda this coming week, as well as making sanction applications for Pagoda and for Jefferson. As far as the Reading addition of security gates and the camera system goes, the gates are in place, the poles for the camera system had to be removed and replaced with more wind resistant poles. That is now complete. The camera system will be installed and ready for testing by the end of this month. Jim S has been working on updating the BMR equipment trailer. The work is coming along well, and Jim deserves our thanks.

Weatherly: Joe C stated he and the Weatherly Hillclimb Association team met with people from Pocono Television Network, the Pocono Visitor Bureau, and WFMZ out of Philadelphia and Allentown. The hillclimb is going to be professionally filmed. They will have a big screen TV down at the paddock area. The Saturday June 7th hillclimb will be broadcast live, and there should be copies of the filmed event available for purchase. They are planning out the safety and emergency access issues.

Giants Despair and Pocono: Initially no one was on hand to discuss the Giants Despair and Pocono events, but the understanding was that the contract did get signed for the October 4-5 Pocono Track Sprint. It was also confirmed that the road at Giants was repaved. Bill F later called in, saying that there was nothing to report about Giants, everything's on schedule, and the Poconos event is definite.

Banquet: Grace H gave a Banquet update. The banquet has been moved to November 22. It was rescheduled so that Pocono could be a points event. There will be a block of rooms available. Grace will open the registration soon, and probably start pushing that in August to get that much as much work done ahead of time. She is considering raising the entry fee for the banquet, because it lost money last year. The increase will likely be around five dollars. Other than the date change, it's going to be pretty much the same as it's been the last couple years at the Holiday Inn in Grantville.

Possible new venues and collaborations: Rich R informed the group that there is a hillclimb event coming up in Pittsburgh in July. It's going to be part of the Pittsburgh Vintage Grand Prix. They run the Pittsburgh Grand Prix through Schenley Park, but they now have a section of road that they can't use as part of the road course because a

bridge is out. And so they decided to add a hillclimb. It's going to be on Saturday and Sunday the 19th and 20th of July.

Rick T continued the update saying there's a lot of information available right now on Motorsport.reg. Searching for PGVP or Panther Hollow will take you to the registration page. The old course went up past the golf course, and the golf course is where about 3000 spectator automobiles are on display. There's a lot of people up there, but with the reconfiguration of the race course, those spectators aren't going to be able to see anything. So they thought of putting on a hill climb. Now, as hill climbs go, it's not a tremendous steep hill. It's a gain of altitude of about 150 feet in one mile. The first part of the course is pretty flat. There are several good turns and then it starts uphill. The main part of the gain goes up to a about 150-degree turn, almost a switch back, and then loops back around anyhow, and it ends up after a mile. In the spirit of a vintage event, it's going to be timed with stop watches.

They basically want to have just four classes; Over three-liter cars - big cars, might be older Mustangs, older Corvettes, that sort of thing. Next, dropping down between two and three liters, then under two liters and the fourth class would be historic cars, pre-1940. Rick T didn't think they would get any pre-1940. He said they are having a meeting this coming Thursday and going to iron out some of these details. Things are still subject to change. Cars must conform to a high standard of appearance. Entries must be presented in a clean, neat, properly finished condition. Amateur paint jobs, dents, rippled panels, unrepaired accident damage and visible roughs are not permitted. Photos must be provided when registering and the final approval is contingent upon appearance. Hill Climb license should be required. They're aiming for 20 cars in each class. The plan is to have two runs for each car in the morning, two runs for each car in the afternoon. That's four runs in the day, and it's a two-day event, eight trips up the hill. They are also looking for volunteers to help out / corner work at the event for either one or both days.

Vince W stated, most of our licenses are now listed as time trial driver intermediate, is that acceptable? Others stated all it takes is a call in to SCCA. You can have your license upgraded to Hillclimb driver and Time Trial Advanced. Someone talking to the chief steward of the event, Dan del Bianco, heard if you mention PHA, that would be fine.

4. Changes to the Supps for 2025:

Grace H stated that she has the draft version of the supps that was created after the last meeting. All she has to do is change the word draft to final and republish it, and she was going to do that after the meeting.

Rich R said that Mike Robinson and he had talked about the possibility of having a separate class for the Crosskarts - the actual ones with FIA certifications. They got

bogged down and stalled when thinking about how they would write the rules. Mike R got a copy of the rules that they ran under, but they had questions that they weren't able to get answered, not that they were unanswerable questions. There was some wording in there that they weren't comfortable with, because they didn't understand exactly what it meant and what it might lead to. Listing that class is probably not going to happen this year. Matt H made a motion to accept the current draft for the PHA 2025, supps. It was seconded by Trevor F.

5. Website and Social Media: Grace H said she had updated the schedule to include Pocono. She hadn't put a Pocono Course Description out yet because she didn't know what course we will be running, so she will update that when she has it. She needs to put the events on Facebook, and as soon as registration opens for each event, she will send out notifications. Jason F is working on Instagram.

Jason F stated that the PHA Instagram page is up, but he is not posting anything currently, because we don't have anything that's being produced currently. But as we get closer to the first event of the year, he is collecting a bunch of content to put up. It's going to mostly automatically upload content throughout the season as he sets the stuff up.

6. Timing: Nancy L said that she was still looking for volunteers to do timing. Jim S said he thought his daughter would be willing to help and said she is committed to doing two events and learning the system.

7. New Business / non agenda Items:

There were no notable additional items.

8. Meeting Wrap Up and Next Meeting:

Rich R then wrapped up the meeting. The next meeting will be November 22nd. Eli S asked for a motion to adjourn. It was raised and seconded. The Organizational Meeting was adjourned at around 2:30 pm.

Respectively submitted,

Eli Sharp
PHA Secretary