# download?mid=1_73791_ANbSi2IAAIF8Trc5SwTHlTjdGMM&pid=5&fid=Corvette%20Club&inline=1SMCC CLUB MEETING

# MINUTES

# December 9, 2013

# Note: For brevity, last names are abbreviated, and speakers are identified in parenthesis.

President Tom Santangelo called the meeting to order at 7:00pm. Dennis Lyons led the Pledge of Allegiance.

A total of 14 members were in attendance. As tradition, each member introduced themselves and their cars. Afterwards, Tom S. gave a special thanks to Ben Mendoza for getting his car running again!

Tom S. also informed the members that the Executive Board met prior to the club meeting.

**SECRETARY REPORT (Patrice Hopkins)**

* Tom S. reminded members that the minutes were distributed via email. He opened the floor for questions; there were none. Ben M. made a motion to accept the minutes; Rick Davis seconded the motion. Members voted in favor of the motion, and the motion was carried.

**TREASURY REPORT AND CLUB MAIL/CORRESPONDENCE(Susie Mendoza)**

* Susie M. briefed the current treasury report. The current account balance is $5,607.35 as a result of member dues submitted and three checks written as follows: 1) St. Cecilia food pantry on November 13, 2013 for $500, 2) State Farm Insurance on November 18, 2013 for $425, and 3) Rick D. for website expenses in the amount of $135.
* Susie M. expressed the importance of filing an EZ Form 990 with the IRS in order to report the club as a non-profit organization.
* Susie M. informed the club about the below mail received:
  + PO Box application (Tom S. requested the membership chair and/or treasurer to remain responsible for picking up the club mail)
  + Thank you card from the St. Cecilia food pantry for the club’s donation
  + Three membership dues
* Also, Susie M. reminded the members to decide whether or not the club will contribute to the Business, Education, and Community Alliance (BECA), Inc. scholarship. She was contacted by the BECA committee members regarding the status of the club’s decision. It is imperative the club makes a decision quickly because the scholarship fair will be held on January 22, 2014. (Note: This topic is further discussed under “Unfinished Business” (page two). Here is the link to BECA: <http://www.smcbeca.org/BECA/>).
* **Action(s):**
  + **Ben M. will update and submit the PO Box application and continue to pick up the mail.**
  + **Susie M. will complete and file the EZ Form 990 and update BECA on our participation.**

**MEMBERSHIP CHAIR REPORT (Ben Mendoza)**

* Ben M. reported that two members renewed their membership (Jim Huber and Jack Raynord), and one new member, Richard Lord, joined the club and has ordered a 2014 C7 Chevy Corvette.

**MERCHANDISE CHAIR POSITION**

* Tom S. asked for volunteers for this vacant position; Jim Jacobs graciously volunteered. Tom S. asked to meet with Jim J. after the meeting.

**EVENT CHAIR REPORT (Mike Doncevic)**

Mike D. reminded us of the following events:

* **Wednesday, December 11th:** Rod and Classic Club cruise to Bubby Knotts at 7:00pm (Rainy day date: Thursday, December 12th)
* **Friday, December 13th:** Christmas party at the Mendozas (Susie M. passed around a sign-up sheet for food and attendance).
* **Saturday, December 14th:** Toys for Tots at Walmart (meeting at 10:00am)
* **Sunday, December 15th** **at 2:00pm-8:00pm:** Bert’s Diner Kids’ Christmas Party (weather permitting)
* **Other events members have attended/participated:** 
  + Mike D. thanked Ray Smith, Linda Smith, Ben M., and Susie M. for donating to the VX-20 ornament drive
  + Tom S., Chris L. and Rick D. attended the Will Cooksey book-signing event on December 7th at Waldorf Chevrolet and networked with other car clubs.
* **Action(s):** 
  + **Members were reminded to provide other ideas to Mike D. for events.**

**WEBSITE REPORT (Rick Davis)**

* Rick D. asked members if they have visited the website; many responded that they have visited and gave kudos to Rick about the progress.
* Rick D. reported the latest updates to the club’s website as follows: Picture of the 2014 Corvette Stingray Convertible on the Home Page, club member car pictures, and links to registries, Maryland corvette clubs, parts/supplier sites and local car clubs.
* Tom S. appreciated and thanked Rick D. for his over-and-above efforts on the website.
* Rick D. requested Tom’s picture for the President’s Page and plans to provide a blurb to members when he has made updates to the club website; Chris LaQuay concurred.
* **Action(s):** 
  + **Tom S. will provide Rick D. with his picture for the President’s Page**
  + **Rick D. will email members when there have been updates to the website**

**OUTREACH**

* + - * Tom S. is working on the letter to old members and hopes to complete it before the next meeting (January 13, 2014).
      * **Action(s):** 
        + **Tom S. will provide the executive club members a copy of the outreach letter for review.**

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

* **Details for the Toys for Tots event:** The club planned to meet on Saturday, December 14, 2013, at 10am at Walmart to present the toys to the Marines.
* **Participation with Bert’s Diner’s Children Christmas Party**: Ben M. volunteered to lead.
* **Decision on BECA Scholarship:**
  + Susie M. gave a summary about the scholarship:
    - BECA, Inc. is a 501(c) non-profit organization which raises its own funds for scholarships.
    - BECA is run by the educators at the Tech Center.
    - The application process for scholarships starts in January and a fair is held for students to learn more about various organizations’ criteria. Basic required criteria include SAT scores, a financial information/background, essay, weighted GPA score and transcripts. BECA prepares a package for each student and provides it to each organization for review.

Last year, our club received about 50 applications. As a minimum requirement for our club, applicants had to desire to pursue the automotive or engineering occupation (there are more applicants who are pursuing engineering than automotive).

Susie stressed the importance of the club making a decision soon due to the scholarship fair at the Tech Center on January 22, 2014.

* + - Ben M. recommended that there should not be a large group of people reviewing the applications because we would be close to the deadline.
    - Linda S. emphasized the club needs to raise money before giving it away. For example, if we were to conduct a car show next year, we would need $5000 in the account to cover ourselves.
    - Tom S. agreed, but requested we close the loop on the scholarship decision before discussing the fundraisers in detail (see the discussion under the “Fundraisers” bullet).
    - The following motions were made to support the scholarship donation:
      1. Ben made a motion for the club to proceed with donating to the BECA scholarship fund. Dennis L. seconded the motion. Members voted in favor of the motion, and the motion was carried.
      2. Linda S. made a motion to contribute $500 to the BECA scholarship fund. Dennis L. seconded the motion. Members voted in favor of the motion, and the motion was carried.

In addition, Ben Mendoza graciously volunteered to match the club’s contributions, make it a total $1000 that will be donated to the BECA scholarship fund.

* + - * + **Action(s):**

**Susie M. will contact BECA to update them on our decision to participate and the amount we will contribute.**

* **Fundraisers**
  + As a sidebar discussion prior to making the second motion about the scholarship amount, Tom S. stated we need to make a keep a stable amount in the account. He reminded the club that we did not do a car show this year because we are in the process of building up the club. It takes a lot effort to do a car show. Members need to think of ideas to raise funds because the club dues are not enough.
  + Mike Doncevic raised a concern that if we raise a certain amount of funds, how it would affect our non-profit status. Don Byrne mentioned that there is a $25,000 income limit before we are considered a profit organization.
  + Ideas:
    - 1. Bingo (Brenda Ridgell)
         * Tom stated it was a good idea and reminded us of the following tasks required:

A license would need to be obtained from the sheriff department ($5)

You must make sure you are not in conflict with other Bingo events.

You must determine when to have the event.

* + - 1. Supporting Restaurants (Brenda R.)
         * The local firefighters would show up to certain restaurants and receive a portion of the proceeds with little effort.
      2. Comic Show (Brenda R.)
         * She was responsible for the fundraising last year and hosted it at the Knights of Columbus Hall.
      3. Car race (Patrice H.)
         * Like the process for providing donations to the various walks to raise donations, a car race could be done the same way – asking people to donate to the participants. Susie M. added that there is a night at the Budd’s Creek race track.
      4. Auctions (Susie M.)
         * BECA raises their own funds for scholarships by doing auctions and getting donated items and entertainment.

Tom S. reminded the club that work would need to be done. Whoever raises the ideas need to be prepared to work the idea. We must have an event that is fun, benefits us and benefits others. Tom S. requested everyone provide ideas to be discussed at the next meeting.

* + **Actions:**
    - 1. **Members are to provide ideas for raising funds to contribute ideas on how the club can raise the money.**
* **Chair vacancies**
  + - * + Bylaws Chair and Committee:Jim J. volunteered his wife as the chair.

Vernis Jones recommended there should be a committee for the bylaws.

The following members graciously volunteered to be on the committee: Vernis J., Mike D., and Chris L.

Tom S. reminded the members that the bylaws should be a loose structure, particularly for legal reasons; we must do things correctly, but also have fun.

* + Merchandise Chair (as noted previously, Jim J. volunteered for this position)
  + **Action(s):** 
    - 1. **Jim J. will confirm with his wife on being the chair.**
      2. **Tom S. requested the Bylaws Committee to provide a report by the February 10th meeting.**
* **Business cards and plaques**
  + **Action(s): Ben M. will work these actions by next week.**
* **Trifold draft**
  + Chris L. sent the draft trifold out for review; waiting on comments back.
  + **Action(s): Executive Board needs to review the trifold for comments.**
* **Insurance**
  + Tom S. received email feedback about the coverage. He met with a State Farm representative who recommended our club keeps the current coverage. We are still liable if we attend another car show as a representative of the club (Verdis Jones stated this is called several liability).
  + In late spring, Tom S. would like to convene a committee that will review the insurance policy. He wants the review to be completed by August 2014. Right now, the executive board is covered under the insurance. Don B. stated that the fee for our club is reasonable compared to another club of which he is a member.
  + **Action(s): Assemble a committee to review the insurance policy next year.**
* **Discounts**
  + Tom S. talked with Winegardener’s owner, Kirk Winegardener, who confirmed our club discount would be honored. Members only need to show their club membership cards to qualify for the discount.
* **Sponsors**
  + Chris L. and Mike D. commented that Bayside service has been excellent.
  + **Action(s):** 
    - **Tom S. plans to pursue Bayside as an additional sponsor.**
    - **Tom S., Chris L., Rick D., Verdis J. would like to visit Waldorf Chevrolet as well.**
* **Tech Center**
  + **Action(s): Ben M. plans to make contact in the spring when student return.**

**MISCELLANEOUS QUESTIONS AND/OR COMMENTS:**

* Mike D. asked who used to submit our club’s information to the newspaper. Tom S. reminded the club that we used to have a publicity chair and would need to have a volunteer. Mike D. emphasized we should be publicizing the club and also send pictures of events to the webmaster.
* Additionally, Mike D. asked why the pantry funds were not mailed and not presented to the pantry. Susie M. stated it is not recommended to provide the funds in person. Additionally, the pantry was opened during limited hours of the day. Jim J. recommended the club to invite the food pantry point of contact to attend the meeting; we could take pictures with him/her. Linda S. mentioned that she hand-delivered a check to the pantry; a picture would have brought publicity to the club.
* Verdis J. asked Rick D. about the website administrative rights that would allow members to upload pictures to the website. Rick D. stated that he would have to provide Verdis J. with the logon information in order to make administrative changes to the website.
* Verdis J. mentioned he has a license to purchase vehicles for auctions and has business cards available to provide members.

**CORVETTE TECH NEWS & TIPS** (Tom S.)

* Tom S. reminded the club that the convertibles are out now. There have not been major reviews on the Corvette Forum yet.
* Tom S. and Chris L. shared that Chevrolet announced the reveal of the 2015 Z06 Vette (LT4). The unveiling will take place on January 12, 2014; the reveal to the public will occur on January 13, 2014. The Vette will be supercharged.
* Chris L. mentioned that he gets emails from the Corvette National Museum all the time and encouraged members to sign up for the emails. Across the street from the museum, a new race track is being built. Chris L. also mentioned that the museum conducts raffles. Tom S. reminded the club that we should do a caravan to the museum next year.

BIRTHDAYS

* Susie M. announced that there was one birthday - December 30th – Lowell Naef!

**REMINDERS**

* **Items for Discussion at the Next Club Meeting:**
  + Fundraisers
* **Next Meeting: Monday, January 13, 20145 at 7:00pm at normal meeting place (41660 Courthouse Drive, Leonardtown, MD 20650).**

Ben M. made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Everyone seconded, and the motion was carried. Meeting was adjourned at 8:32pm.

**\*Minutes Recorded by: Patrice Hopkins, 2013-2015 SMCC Corvette Club Secretary\***