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

# June 8, 2015

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

President Tom Santangelo called the meeting to order at 7:01pm. Dave Grimsley led the Pledge of Allegiance and, as tradition, members introduced themselves and proudly announced the year and model of their iconic American Chevrolet Corvettes.

A total of 12 members and four guests were in attendance.

**SECRETARY REPORT (Patrice Hopkins):**

Minutes from May were voted in favor by club members. Patrice H. drafted a blurb for last month’s social at The Pier, Solomon’s Island, MD.

* Action(s): Rick will update the website with current minutes.

**TREASURY REPORT (Don Byrne):** Don B. reported the club’s account with a balance of $4,650.00. He timely submitted the IRS Form 990-N to account for club income taxes.

**MEMBERSHIP CHAIR REPORT (Ben M.):** Ben M. reported 36 members.

* Action(s):
  + Ben M. is to provide the latest membership spreadsheet to Patrice H.
  + Tom S. will check the mail for membership dues.

**MERCHANDISE CHAIR REPORT (Jim Jacobs not in attendance):** No updates.

**EVENT CHAIR REPORT (Mike D. not in attendance)**

Mike D. emailed a list of upcoming events including the following:

**Upcoming events:**

* June 13th – Crab Feast at Fairgrounds and Ann Marie Garden’s event: Action(s): Bear will take the lead for those attending and send out an email to with meeting details.
* July 4th – St. John’s (’88 or older)

**Recent Participation:**

* Ben M. shared an account of the Veteran’s Cruise, which involved a more scenic route, included a mini car show and featured door prizes.
* There was a car show last weekend. Dave G. won Best of Class.
* Tom went to the Bowling Green Corvette Museum. The sink hole was filled; the museum may be reopened during the anniversary on Labor Day.

**WEBSITE (Rick Davis)**

Rick D. will update the website with the latest events and minutes.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

* **Business, Education, and Community Association (BECA) Scholarship donation:** 
  + Patrice H. thanked everyone for supporting the scholarship recipient Eudora Tak during the dinner at Cracker Barrel. She shared that Eudora Tak received enough funds from the Patuxent Partnership that it will cover her tuition for two years at College of Southern Maryland. Our contribution will assist her with other school expenses and fees, such as books. Additionally, Patrice gave a card to Richard Lord, on behalf of the club, recognizing his considerate contribution to the scholarship.
  + Tom S. attended the award ceremony with Patrice H. to honor our scholarship recipient.
* **Poker Run**: Ben M. has cancelled the event.

**NEW BUSINESS**

* Changing Charities: Ben proposed to change the club’s charity from BECA to the Veteran’s Cruise to increase exposure of the club and serve a good cause to support the Charlotte Hall Veteran’s Home. The veteran’s home has a major sponsor who contributes $300; Ben is willing to put up half ($150) to show community support. Tom S. opened the floor for discussion; there were mixed comments in favor of potentially doing both the BECA and Veteran’s cruise. Jeff Flescher stated that maybe the club could do both.
  + Ben M. made a motion officially to change charities to support the Veteran’s cruise for major contributor. Dave seconded. The club voted in favor, and the motion was carried. .
    - Ben reminded that a fundraiser must be done. Don B. informed the club that if we wanted to support both BECA and Veteran’s cruise, our budget would support it ($650, including $500 for BECA and $150 to the Veteran’s cruise).
    - BECA discussion is tabled to be addressed by the new board.
* Next Year’s Officers/Change of Roles: Chris LaQuay would like to stay as vice president. Ben M. volunteered to step forward in a dual role as president and membership chair. Don B. would like to remain as treasurer. Patrice H. will be fulfilling her term as secretary, but will not return to the board in October. Ben M. proposed the vice president takes minutes. In the event, the vice president has to lead a meeting, the club will step up and stay minutes. No one would have to stay committed.
  + Patrice H. recommended to shorten the length of the officer term (currently two years per officer). Also, she and others shared their opinion about meeting every month.
* Trifolds – Dennis Lyons inquired about the club trifolds. Copies can be made at Staples (Ben M. volunteered). Chris L. keeps copies to pass out to future/potential members.
* Future of the club: Past presidents shared their experiences of the club changing from social to more community/charity driven focus.
  + Tom S. is all for doing more events, but the club still has business to conduct. what holds club back: membership not standing up; apathy.
  + Jeff F. shared his experience and reminded the club that in order to remain a 501c organization, the club must keep a structure – otherwise, the club cannot be affiliate with National Council of Corvette Clubs (NCCC).
  + Don B. recommended a balance of both social and formal business meetings: We could continue the social events while members could meet quarterly, board members can meet regularly. Chris L. reminded everyone that they can attend the board meetings if they would like. Ben proposed that those board meetings do not have to take place in the regular meeting spot.
  + Ben M. and Patrice H. reminded the club about how successful the bylaws voting via email worked.
  + One of the guests from St. Louis Corvette Club shared the club’s experience with getting the local Chevy dealer to sponsor. In three years, the club grew from 46 to 88 and did all kinds of cruises. The NCCC affiliation grew the organization. The club sold sanctions and received $400 for each sanction sold. The sponsor started having car shows and offering free club membership with the purchase of new Corvettes.
  + Ben M. shared that the club have no monthly meetings.
  + Richard L. would like an opportunity to socialize after the meetings and offered up his house to host a meeting and social.
  + Walt advised the club that we should decide what the focus is – there are too many suggestions offered. Keep goals within reach; it would be easier to have a working group to take all of the ideas and develop it into a charter with a purpose or goal. Keep it small enough to deal with it as a club and let the charter guide the club.
  + Dave G. shared the history of the club’s transition from social to more community- driven. There was a riff in the club because of that.
  + Jeff F. agreed with Dave G., having served in each role and spent six years on the board. It was difficult to have a lot of meetings. When the club did social things, they got the best turnouts. He stated that the board should be empowered to make decisions to go make a change.
  + Steve Lyle asked how people could find the club, and was informed that we have a club website and Facebook page. Susie M. reminded the club that there used to be events posted on Southern Maryland Online.
  + Action(s):
    - Have a meeting to change the bylaws, as recommended by Jeff F. Tom agreed to appoint a committee (Focus Group – Dave G. (Bear), Jeff F., Jeff L., Tom S.) which will convene afterwards to discuss meeting time. Ben recommended a new member be a part of the group.

**TECH NEWS & CAR MEMBER UPDATES**

* Jeff F. advised visiting to the Corvette Forum as a good reference.
* Tom S. read updates from Chevy website regarding updates on the two-tone interior options. Stingray on center console now.
* Richard L. shared that he has had two recalls on his C7, including an oil leak problem. Winegardener overfilled it.
* Car Member news:
* Richard reminded the club that he is the chairman of the Blessing of the Fleet. He suggested the club decide where they would like to meet; he has the power to reserve the meeting spot.
  + Action: Richard taking the lead and will send out the information and provide the information to Mike Doncevic to distribute to the club.
* Patrice H. asked what could be the issue with her Dad’s Vette cutting off when changing gears to reverse. Ben M. stated that she has a vacuum leak.
* Oh by the ways:
  + Freedom Fest is June 27th.
* September 12th is the 50th anniversary for Tri-county Action Committee. Steny Hoyer will be the speaker.
* 1st weekend in October 3rd & 4th - Bowles Farm

**UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS**

* Patrice H. announced the May and June birthdays, and club members cheered:

May 2nd – Art Gilling

May 14th – Bill Gilligan

May 18th– Eileen Santangelo

June 10th – Tom Santangelo

June 13th – Mary Anne Naef

June 15th – Carolyn Williamson

June 15th – Dennis Hayes

June 18th – Dennis Lyons

June 19th – Jim Huber

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mike Ussery moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:24pm. Dave G. seconded it. The club voted in favor, and the motion was carried.

**REMINDERS**

* **No meeting next month. Instead, on Saturday, July 11th, at 6:00pm, club members will cruise to Ruddy Duck on St. George’s Island for dinner and social. Ben M. will contact members with details.**

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