



Governor's Motorcycle Advisory Council
Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles – Room 702
February 10, 2009

MINUTES

Council Members Present:

Richard Becker	Melissa Franklin	Tom McGrath
Graeme Bisdee	Richard Holman	Rick Richardson (Council Chair)
Bruce Biondo (DMV Rep)	Pam Jewell	Patrick Sanders
Jim Cannon (Council Vice Chair)	Keith Lindgren	Brennan Shepard
Bob Crouch (Chair Emeritus)	John Mazza	Chuck Talley
Captain Richard Denney (VSP Rep)	Alex Daniel-for Sec. Pat Gottschalk	Judy Watkins (VTC Rep)
Charlie Finley	Ralph Davis (Dep. Sec. – Transportation) for Sec. Pierce Homer	Steve Witmer
		Shawn Walker (ABC Rep)

Council Members Absent:

Bernie Adams	John Marshall (Sec. of Public Safety)
Marquita Brooks	Joe Marshall
Dale Coyner	Delegate Sam Nixon
Sheriff Steve Draper (VA Sheriff's Rep)	Senator Phillip Puckett
Mark Hodges (VDOT Rep)	Jim Ramsey
Chief Jake Jacocks (Police Chief's Rep)	

Guests Present:

Roger & Glennadine Gouldman	John Saunders, DMV-VA Highway Safety Office
Wes Hurst, Carroll County Board of Supervisors	David Mosley, DMV-VA Highway Safety Office
Mike Sorenson, VA Commonwealth University	Diana Boxey, VA Hospitality & Travel Association
Ed Moreland, American Motorcyclist Association	Sandy Fox
Peter J. Hill, PE CSP – Senior Safety Engineer – Commandant Marine Corps, Safety Division	Pat Danielson
Keith McCrea, DOAV	Joe Schaffer
Ron Childs, Colonial Harley-Davidson	



Welcome Remarks, Introductions and Roll Call:

Chair Rick Richardson welcomed the group and conducted roll call. The chair declared that a quorum was present.

Public Comment:

Guests were asked to identify themselves and public comment was solicited. No public comment was received.

Review of Minutes:

Chair asked for additions/changes to the November 2008 Council Meeting Minutes that were distributed to members. Motion was made, seconded and carried to accept the Minutes as presented.

Committee Reports:

Finance: Chair Charlie Finley reported on current balance available in the Council. Steve Witmer gave a presentation covering the "Formation of Corporate Entity to Council." Council Chair, Finance Chair and Steve will remain after meeting to discuss and work on changes to proceed with applying for non-profit status for the group under the 509(a)(1) classification for publicly supported organizations. Total fees required to complete the process will amount to \$925.

Tourism: Chair Rich Holman deferred comments and passed out information on The Norton Electra, a project that combines old and modern technology on a motorcycle. Using pieces and parts bought mostly over the internet, Brian Richardson designed and built the first all electric, zero emissions motorcycle ever produced in the village of Blue Grass.

Economic Development: Chair Patrick Sanders indicated that there were no new prospects due to the falling economy. He mentioned the cutbacks of various dealers. (i.e., Harley – 20% and Honda 8%) Wes Hurst discussed the progress on the I-77 motorcycle rest area and mentioned the 75th Anniversary Plans for the Blue Ridge Parkway which is in 2010.

Bob Crouch suggested that the Council get involved with the celebration plans in an effort to show how important the parkway is to the motorcycling community. Chair Richardson asks Bob Crouch, Tom McGrath and Rich Holman to work together on this endeavor.

Safety: Chair Keith Lindgren touched on the decrease in motorcycle fatalities for 2008 and mentioned various motorcycle training opportunities that were available. Keith discussed HB1873 and how this bill incorporate concerns the military brought forth at the November meeting.

Marketing/Communications: Chair Joe Marshall absent. No report. Pam Jewell did note that she has the remainder of the Council t-shirts with her today (approximately 75 shirts). These will be taken to the VTC storage area for the time being.

Vice Chair's Comments: Vice Chair Jim Cannon reviewed motorcycling legislative that is currently in the General Assembly.



- HB1870; Del. Janis: Motorcycles riding two abreast – Passed committee 11-10. On the floor it was amended to make it a simple traffic infraction with a \$25.00 civil penalty. Passed the House 72-25 and is now assigned to the Senate transportation committee.
- HB1873; Del. Cosgrove: Licensing for Military personnel – passed committee 20-0, passed the House 97-0. Is now waiting on action in the Senate Transportation committee.
- HB1906; Del. Armstrong: Allows modulating brake lights on motorcycles – passed committee 22-0, passed the House 98-0. Is not waiting on action in the Senate Transportation committee.
- SB803; Sen. Miller: Prohibits operation of off-road motorcycles on the highways – passed committee 15-0 failed on third reading and has been reassigned to committee.
- SB933; Sen. Puller: Requires EPA stamped mufflers on motorcycles – defeated in committee 14-0.

Presentation #1: Grand Tour of Virginia

Melissa Franklin, Chair of the task force for the 2009 Motorcycle Grand Tour of Virginia provided the Council an overview of the tour timeline. A kick-off event is planned for April 4 at Kings Dominion; registrations for the tour will be accepted until September 1; tour concludes on October 15; all passports must be postmarked by November 1 and a closing event will be held November 15.

Melissa recognized the task force members and discussed sponsorship and partnership in the tour. To date, more than 50 sponsors have committed. Deadline for sponsorships is February 15.

Task force members will meet immediately following Council meeting to discuss date of next meeting. Chair Richardson asked for a motion to proceed with tour. Motion was made, seconded and carried to accept as presented to Council.

Presentation #2: American Motorcyclist Association (AMA)

Ed Moreland, Vice President of Government Relations for the American Motorcyclist Association gave a brief overview of the AMA, its function and motorcycle support efforts. Ed offered the assistance of AMA to send out on their national data base any news releases covering the Virginia tour or other related functions involving Virginia's motorcycling community.

Old Business:

Shawn Walker brought to the Council's attention that due to budget shortfall, printing services for State agencies have been strongly hit. The motorcycle bumper sticker supply needs refurbishing and Shawn is looking into alternative sources for printing. Bob Crouch recommended, if needed the Council could help support the printing of the bumper sticker. Motion was made, seconded and carried for the purchase of up to \$1,500 worth of stickers if the need arises.

New Business:

Chair Richardson mentioned that it was time to prepare to elect a Chair for the upcoming year. By-laws state that the Council will elect a Chair annually from among its members. The Chair may serve up to two one-year terms. Chair Richardson asked Bob Crouch to Chair committee with Chuck Tally and Brennan Sheppard serving as committee members for this process.



Bruce Biondo informed the Council that nominations were being accepted for the Governor's Transportation Safety Awards. Nomination form can be located on www.dmvnow.com.

Several upcoming events were mentioned such as the May 2, 2009 motorcycle event at the Pentagon. Pam Jewell indicated all notices be emailed to her and she would ensure they got placed on the www.motorcycleva.com website.

Next Meeting:

May 12, 2009 – 10:00 am-Noon – DMV Richmond, Room 702

Meeting adjourned.