

COMBAT VETERANS MOTORCYCLE ASSOCIATION©
of Vermont, Inc.
Chapter 26-1
Meeting Agenda for 2/14/2021
ZOOM MEETING

Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance: SAA Meeting opened at 10:15. In attendance: Bear, White Wolf, Gambler, Omen, ODAAT, Spirit, Packmule, Hoss, Fireball and Furbie, Intimidator, and Ken Troumbley

Opening Prayer: ODAAT gave the opening prayer

Welcome from Chapter Commander: Welcome to all and to any guests – and to 26-4

Report of Officers: (Chapter Executive Board)

Chapter Commander:

- **Chapter report** We're going to keep the Zoom platform for chapter meetings, even after Covid is gone, so members have more options for staying involved.
- **Spring Meal?** We'll have a spring ride, instead, with a picnic-style meal involved. We voted unanimously to cancel the Spring Dinner for 2021.
- **We decided to NOT give to the yearly Charitable Donation after Paws and Boots was turned down.** Due to difficulties with the nomination process, we'll make another effort next year.
- **BOD needs to be aware that the National By Laws are currently being re-written and up for review. Any input needs to be in NLT February 19th.**
- **Do we want to Support the By Law allowing State Reps to be reimbursed for reasonable expenses?** Ensuing discussion revealed that we didn't have enough information to make a decision on this, but nobody was in favor of it. See more in the State Rep's section.

XO: New Business Our XO didn't grace us with his presence this month.

Secretary report:

- **Vote to accept past month's minutes:** Minutes were accepted unanimously.
- **New business**
- **Continue to work with Kenneth Troumbley and Chris Haggett on their memberships**

Treasurer's Report:

- **Monthly Report/Vote on past month's report:** Treasurer's Report was accepted unanimously.

- **Fund raiser ideas, if applicable: Another pistol raffle? Rifle?** No decision was made today, except that we would definitely hold another raffle. This remains our main fund-raising activity until the Champlain Valley Fair re-opens.
- **Was the donation made to the National Auxiliary Scholarship Fund?** This was paid as voted by the chapter, with \$100.00 from the chapter funds and the other \$100.00 paid by Supporter member Bohemian. Thanks again, Bo!

SAA:

- **Sign-in sheets; Must be legible – record members attending ZOOM meeting**
- **Patch collection – who is left?** Omen has several letters out and phone calls made toward this end. State Rep said to make sure to use registered letters, so there's a paper trail. Should the matter get kicked up to the State Rep and go to small claims court, the chapter will pay the court costs and get them reimbursed by the former patch holder as a condition of the court proceedings.
- **What did we find out about transferred members?** State Rep confirmed that members keep their patches when they transfer to other chapters.

PR:

Webmaster website update, if applicable: Was the check from Vincent Chiorgono received? No, nothing received yet, as of yesterday's mail. Gambler will follow up with an email to Mr. Chiorgono. Also a reminder that we do have a website and can make better use of it. Check it out!

Road Captain: Discuss any information regarding riding or upcoming rides. I have one ride planned so far. My job is to help members plan and carry out rides, so your ideas are not only welcome, but necessary! Looking into making a phone list for last-minute rides, since that's how we did a lot of our group rides last year. We will also be posting planned rides on our website.

Old Business: How did Omen make out with the Line Literary review and what was involved with that? Hasn't happened yet – there has been no contact made.

New Business:

We need to keep in close contact with Slammer and what he needs. Part of being a chapter of brother and sister vets is that we look out for each other, like any other family. Please, if you know of any vets – whether chapter members or not – who need help, let your BOD know about it, so the chapter can provide whatever help is needed. Helping other vets is why we exist, and we can't help people if we don't know they need help.

Continue to work with Big Whiskey who wants to rejoin the Chapter. He can keep the patch he was already issued; just has to re-apply. Patch agreement will be marked accordingly.

Continue to work with new members applying

Pistol Raffle: winner of the pistol: Tonia Zinn (D-Man's wife)! We want to express our thanks to 26-4, as well, for their efforts at selling a large number of raffle tickets!

Tabled Items: No tabled items this month.

ST Rep: To the subject of the re-writing of the National Bylaws: the motion that State and Regional Reps may be funded by the chapters they represent: key word is "may", meaning that, should the motion pass, chapters will still have the ability to deny funding requests made by the SR or RR. The re-write is still in draft form. As a side note, none of the State Reps like this motion, either. The feeling among them is that they took on the job knowing it would cost money out of pocket, so this motion is unnecessary. If it passes, it will need to be added to the bylaws.

One member questioned if the re-write will eliminate the Executive Officer position. This was because that position was left out of the listing of CEB members necessary for chapters to function. This is to correct wording for legal purposes.

Another member asked about the timing of the re-write, that it seemed like someone is trying to pull a fast one, because it was sprung on us out of the blue and we were given a week to review it. Kurt said the time limit was not set by the CVMA, but by the government. The changes are being made to fix 20 years of situations caused by poorly worded language in the existing bylaws. He gave a reminder that the emails in question weren't meant for the general membership, but only for CEB members and up. We will still use the BLCP process for proposing any changes, per established protocol.

Kurt volunteered that the actual annual expenses for the State Rep position are very small, mostly printing costs and stamps, etc.

Discussion: Open to Membership:

ODAAAT took a few minutes to express thanks to the CEB and the State Rep for all the work they all do behind the scenes to keep things running smoothly for the chapter, including fostering fellowship between all the Vermont chapters.

Angel took several minutes to make a statement about survivor benefits: when a veteran dies, the widow or widower is left with nothing. State Rep encouraged her and anyone else to contact our members of congress and local state government. Ken said that the veteran's pension will stay with the widow(er) until they die, but disability payments would indeed stop.

Scott said he will approach Doc from 5-5, who works at the VA and has lots of knowledge on the subject, and see if he would do a presentation at one of our chapter meetings.

Announcements: Open to membership: No announcements were made today.

Closing Prayer: ODAAT gave the closing prayer

Adjournment: CC Meeting adjourned at 11:40.