

BMW Riders of Southern Maine
Board of Directors Meeting 12/11/2004

Our Board Meeting was held at Don Lockhart's house, and the following members were in attendance:

James Nice, President
Jim Salisbury, Vice President
Paul Medeiros, Secretary
Mike Cocks, Director, Webmaster and Membership Chair
Don Lockhart, Director, Ride Boss
Bob Collin, Director
Eric Davis, Director
Shawn Blair, Director
John Reimann, Rally Chair

Treasury and Fund Allocations:

The treasury currently has \$7,837.51. We expect this to increase once all members have paid their annual dues for 2005.

We discussed options regarding what to do with our treasury funds. Since one of the missions of the BMW Riders of Southern Maine is to promote rider safety, the board decided to give back to the membership in the following manner.

Mike Cocks made a motion to allocate \$1200 of club funds to rider safety. This motion was seconded by John Reimann and carried unanimously by a show of hands.

As part of this rider safety mission, Don Lockhart made a motion, seconded by Bob Collin, and carried unanimously for the following:

The BMWRSM will reimburse up to 15 club members on a first come/first served basis for the cost of an MSF Experienced RiderCourse held in the state of Maine in 2005. Members must first pay the MSF up front, and then upon successful completion of the course, submit a receipt within 30 days to the Treasurer for reimbursement. Shawn Blair later proposed that club members may only qualify for this reimbursement once every three years. His motion was seconded by Eric Davis, and carried unanimously.

Also, Jim Salisbury has been recently promoting the safety aspect of wearing a high visibility vest. He has done some research and has found a supplier that offers high quality hi-vis safety vests in the range of \$40 to \$45. Bob Collin made a motion, seconded by John Reimann and carried unanimously as follows:

The BMWRSM will subsidize the cost of a high visibility vest by paying \$20 towards the cost of a vest. These must be the same vests that are sourced by the club via Jim Salisbury, and there is a limit of two per household. Also, in 2005, this funding will be limited to a maximum of 50 vests on a first come/first served basis.

The board also agreed to the following regarding the club treasury. As a non-profit entity, the club should not operate with a limited bank account. In order to have the flexibility to deal with normal and abnormal expenses outside of the specific budget, we decided that it made sound fiscal sense to maintain a minimum operating balance of \$5000 in the treasury at all times. This will allow us to address any unforeseen expenses, as well as be able to offer some added value to the club such as a picnic event in the summer.

In past board meetings and general club meetings, it was established that the club will give back to the general community via charitable donations. The Board will meet in the latter part of the year to review the treasury and budget, and if our financial status is sound, we will accept nominations for charitable donations not to exceed a total of \$2000.

The Board of Directors will revisit these funding issues yearly to decide if they need to be amended.

DownEast Rally costs:

At the last club meeting on December 4th, John Reimann reported that Hermit's Island is increasing the daily camping fee by \$2 and the fee for the Kelp Shed by \$100. This would result in a cost increase of \$5 per person for the rally.

As a result, John proposed we raise the rally registration fees. After much discussion on the floor at the last club meeting, it was decided to have the Board offer options to the club to be voted on at the January meeting.

The options to be offered to the membership at the January 8, 2005 meeting will be as follows:

1. Keep the rally registration fees the same as last year. No increase.
2. Increase the fees by \$5 per ticket to cover the additional camping cost.
(Option two is recommended by the Board. See below.)

After discussing the matter, it is the opinion of the Rally Chair and the Board that the DownEast Rally should be a financially self-sufficient event. James Nice put forth a motion to raise the rally fees by \$5. This was seconded by Mike Cocks. The Board voted, and the results were 7 "for" and 1 "against".

Therefore it is the Board's recommendation to raise the rally fee \$5 to cover the additional camping costs. It should be noted that in our discussions, we have

separated the cost of camping at Hermit's Island from the cost of food. If we removed the cost of lobsters from the price, the rally fee would only be \$40 which would include two nights of beach front camping and use of the Kelp Shed. The optional cost of food is an additional amount based on individual preference. While we recognize that lobster costs are volatile, we have proposed to keep the lobster cost steady at \$10 each. If food costs are higher than expected, the club treasury will use the minimum operating balance to absorb the loss.

While this will be put to a vote at the January meeting, the Board's recommendation is that the camping portion of the rally fee increase to \$40, and the cost of lobsters remain the same at \$10 each.

New Director position:

Since the DownEast Rally is our big annual event and requires a lot of work and planning on the part of the Rally Chair, it was discussed that the Rally Chair should also be a formal voting member of the Board. A motion was made by Jim Salisbury, seconded by Bob Collin, and carried unanimously to make the Rally Chair a Director of the club.

2005 Officers:

Although we have not yet confirmed with all present officers, the majority are willing to continue in 2005. Therefore, at the Holiday Party, the Board of Directors will be recommending that the current list of officers continue in 2005.

If you are interested in volunteering for a position, please let me know and I will inform the Board. We will be voting on this at the January 30, 2005 Holiday Party.

Next Board Meeting:

We have tentatively scheduled our next Board of Directors meeting for Saturday, March 26. Bob Collin has offered to host at his house.

Submitted by:

Paul Medeiros
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December 12, 2004