

ECMC Open General Meeting Minutes – 1ST August 2018

	Officers	Members/Pledges	Guests
Present:	Aaron G – President Joe M – Vice President Mike M – Treasurer	Scot L Eddie M Darryl S Mark W Chaz A Ed C Earl D Erik R – Pledge	K.K. John P
Absent:	Brian V – Road Captain Steve G – Secretary	Geno K – Reserve Mario L	

Meeting called to order at 20:00 by President, Aaron G

Aaron G asked Chaz A to record minutes of this meeting in absence of Secretary, Steve G.

Motion to accept the minutes from the 11th July 2018 Open General Meeting: Mark W, 2nd Darryl S

Officer's Reports:

President's Report:

- President Aaron G reminds everyone to watch their 2018 club participation minimums.

Vice President's Report:

- The Vision Zero Run and protest was cancelled at the last moment, in its place, Senator Leroy Comrie has expressed an interest to helping bikers and will be speaking to his chief adviser. He mentioned possible legislation to help with the discriminatory checkpoints and as well as hosting a meeting in Albany with representatives from MCs and other bikers. He will call Jes to let her know about setting up a meeting. He asked that Jes compile a list of Motorcycle Clubs who want to be involved with this. Presidents/Vice-Presidents or Road Captains from clubs wanting to be involved need to call Jes at 347-618-0881 ASAP.
- The "CLAWS Sordid Summer Blow-Out, Pigs in the Pool" has been removed from our calendar. Chaz A could not find reasonable airfare to the event in Augusta, GA and Michael M, who was going to go, has changed his mind. It's just as well, as rumours say that only one member from the host club is going?
- October 2018: No news was presented about our 54th Anniversary dinner plans.
- 19th January 2019 - ECMC Barnight during M.A.L. weekend in Washington DC: No contact has been made with the DC Eagle yet.

Road Captain's Report:

- 3rd-5th August: Chaz A, Joe M, Scot L and Brian V are going to the Arktos of Ohio (bear club) run. Route planned and sent. Chaz A will verify if linens are provided in bunkhouse and will contact attendees.
- New dates of 18 August, 25 August and 1 September were all proposed for the Rising Ground (Leake & Watts) Buddy Ride by the staff at Rising Ground – unfortunately, none of the dates worked for us, so we rebutted with 8th or 9th September. If neither of those dates work, there was chat of doing it in 2019.
- 16th-20th August: Chaz A, Joe M and Darryl S will be going to Montréal for gay pride. As with prior years, people will go up independently and we'll use WhatsApp or SMS to coordinate meeting up for meals and events. K.K. will be meeting us up there on Friday.
- If you have any suggestions for rides, please contact Brian, the Road Captain.

Secretary's Report:

- Steve G was absent for this meeting, there was no report.
- The next newsletter will be distributed 8th August 2018, please send any articles, photos or stories for inclusion to Chaz A by Monday, 6th August.

Treasurer's Report:

- Michael M presented verbal reports for club finances for both July and August.
- Account balances as of 1st August 2018 were: Chequing \$9,998.36, Accident Fund \$2,759.59

Motion to accept the Officer's Reports made by Chaz A, 2nd by Mark W

Committee Reports:

AMCC Representative:

- Eddie M reported that the next AMCC will take place during the upcoming COMMAND MC — Mr. Maryland Leather Weekend, 2nd-5th November 2018.
- A vote was passed to made to approve changes in AMCC's bylaws as read by the AMCC President.

ECMC Archive Committee:

- Only one folder remains for sorting, then the scanning can commence. There has been no rush to complete this as it needs to be performed piecemeal after-hours by Chaz A.
- Mark W asked about the club property at his house. He was reminded that the LA&M had told previously us that they no longer accept trophies due to space constrictions. Chaz A suggested that rather than throwing them in the bin, we ask Mel & Jose if they wanted them for their collection in their garage. **Tabled**. We'll re-address this in September 2018's meeting.

55th Anniversary Committee:

- A very successful video meeting was held Monday, 16th July, we will continue this format at this time.
- At the meeting, our primary focus was on the week-long ride which we do every five years. There were three candidates for the ride at this time: Florida, Montréal and Provincetown, MA.
- Chaz A reached out to the manager of Crew's Quarters, an all-male gay hotel in P-Town and reported back to the membership at large via e-mail. We are awaiting a response from them with proposed dates to host our event as well as price-points for renting the entire hotel.
- There will be another video meeting this month, to be announced soon.

54th Anniversary Dinner:

- Not discussed at this meeting

55th Annual Holiday Party:

- Not discussed at this meeting

Old Business:

- Control of club insignia (colours/cheesegraters): It was mentioned in July's meeting that we should brainstorm ideas on how we can maintain better control of our club insignia from members who leave the organisation. There were three primary suggestions about how to do this: 1) Increase the amount of the deposit on insignia in the bylaws to increase the pain-point of not returning them. 2) Litigation through small claims court or perhaps civilly using "stolen valour" laws (United States Stolen Valour Act of 2005). 3) Pursue reclamation of property utilising the credit reporting agencies (i.e. having a dollar-amount strike listed in the former member's credit report until they return the property). This subject was **tabled** until September 2018's meeting while members mull over these suggestions – motion to increase deposits might take place at the meeting.
- **Closed Portion** – In July's meeting, it was discussed that the bylaws in respect to applying for membership (specifically: Associate Membership) might be unclear and/or be burdensome for someone applying from great distances, but whom have met most club members at club events and have shown a strong interest in becoming a member. **Tabled**. Aaron G, as the last editor of Constitution and Bylaws, will review the bylaws and have suggestions to clarify this in September 2018's meeting.

- **Closed Portion** – An application for Associate Membership for Lewis K (full member of the AMCC club “Three Rivers MC”) was presented at July’s meeting. Due to concerns about applicant’s presence at the time of application for requesting membership, determination of bylaws was discussed by the Executive Board following July’s meeting whether they would accept or reject the application as presented. Due to concerns of wording of bylaws and in due consideration of applicant’s prior activities with ECMC and membership in an AMCC club, it was agreed to suspend the rules and allow his application to be voted upon in August 2018’s meeting. **A MOTION** to accept Lewis K as an Associate Members was made by Chaz A and 2nd by Michael M and a vote was held, but due to member absences and lack of proxies, the application for Associate Membership could not be approved at this meeting and will be **tabled** until September 2018’s meeting. Chaz A asked the Executive Board to reach out to Lewis K to explain the two-month delay in approving/denying his application.
- **Closed Portion** – **A MOTION** to extend Erik R’s pledge period was made by Chaz A and 2nd by Ed C. Following brief discussion, the members voted and the motion passed. This begins Erik R’s 2nd month of 3 as a pledge. The choices in September are to extend or reject. Erik R will be eligible for a full membership vote in October 2018’s meeting.

New Business:

- Earl D submitted his resignation of membership with Empire City MC and returned his club insignia. He made a speech about his reasons for leaving to the general membership. He presented his resignation letter to the Executive Board and was discharged as a member in good standing. Treasurer, Michael M was instructed to send a cheque to Earl D at his home address with his deposits paid refunded.

Comments on the Record:

- Erik R has traded in his H-D Sportster and now has an H-D Softail Heritage!
- Michael M was at the South East Leather Contest and upon mentioning that Empire City MC would be turning 55 years old in 2019 got a resounding row of applause.
- The next ECMC conference call scheduled for Wednesday, 15th August 2018 at 20:00. The phone number and passcode to use are in the official ECMC calendar at <http://calendar.EmpireCityMC.com>
- The next ECMC Open General Meeting will be held on Wednesday, 5th September 2018 at 20:00 at The Centre located at 208 W 13th St, New York, NY.

Comments off the Record:

- Not recorded.

Adjournment of Open General Meeting:

- **A MOTION** to close the 1st August 2018 Open General Meeting was made at 21:09 by Chaz A, 2nd by Michael M.