

Empire City MC Open General Meeting, 6th November 2019 – Minutes

Meeting called to order at 20:00

Roll call: Full members present: Chaz A, Mark W, Erik R, Pledges: Jack D. Excused full members: Michael M (proxy to Chaz A), Aaron G (proxy to Chaz A), Scot L (proxy to Chaz A), Joe M (proxy to Aaron G), AWOL full members: Mario L

Guests: K.K.

A **MOTION** to accept the Secretary's minutes from October 2019 was made by MW, 2nd by ER.

Officer's Reports

President (Chaz A filling in for Aaron G)

Reminded everyone that at next month's meeting, nominations for officers will take place and at January's meeting, elections shall take place.

Reminded that January 2020's meeting will be on 8th January due to New Year's Day bank holiday.

Vice-President (Chaz A)

A run-down of recent events were discussed, including:

- EMMC 55th Anniversary Dinner
- Philadelphian MC 45th Anniversary Dinner

Upcoming events are:

- 8th-10th November – Harbour Masters' Sail-A-Way Weekend
- 30th November – Bucks MC 46th Annual Santa Saturday in Asbury Park, NJ
- 6th December – Excelsior MC's Trim-a-Tree at The Eagle, 10pm
- 7th December – Empire City MC's Holiday Party and Gift Drive

Road Captain (Chaz A filling in for Joe M)

A run-down of recently attended rides were discussed, including:

- Long Island Chicken Run (and classic bikes!)
- Rumble for Ronald
- Wiener Ride (Biketoberfest) at Dobbs DawgHouse [NO RSVPs, CANCELLED]
- High Point and Hawk's Nest
- 2nd November – Beat the Cold Twisty Adventure [NO RSVPs, CANCELLED]

There are no upcoming rides, but our pledge, Jack D still needs one Official Club Ride to meet his commitments for consideration for full membership and was encouraged to reach out to Joe and/or Chaz to arrange at least one more club ride before all our bikes are put to bed for the winter.

Secretary (Chaz A)

We received an anniversary card from The Ottawa Knights congratulating us on our 55th Anniversary.

Newsletter assignments:

- Erik R: An article 2-3 paragraphs about his big gay Atlantis cruise
- Jack D: An article about what convinced him to become a biker
- Mark W: An article about Rochester, NY – before and today (based on his recent return to the area)

Next newsletter is the November edition, to be published on 13th November. Please send any articles to Chaz on or before 10th November please for publication.

Treasurer (Chaz A, pro tempore Treasurer)

Scot L has resigned from the office of Treasurer citing personal and work-related pressures, effective 16th October 2019 in a meeting with the President and Vice-President at Aaron G's home.

Chaz A has performed a reconciliation of the books for 2019 and presented the first Treasurer's report in some time, which included all transactions for 2019, so it was a bit lengthy. Discussion of the Anniversary Dinner expense was held.

The existing ATM card with Michael M's name upon it has been cancelled and a replacement with the name of the Treasurer pro tempore is being delivered presently.

Questions from Chaz to the membership at large were addressed and it was discovered that the 100 back patches are in Michael M's possession and he will deliver them to Chaz A.

The coloured wristbands that Chaz A donated to the club last year are still missing, but it's inconsequential.

A **MOTION** to accept the officers' reports was made by ER, 2nd by MW.

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Committee Reports

AMCC Representative (Michael M?)

There has been no report from Michael M in respect to AMCC in months. Is Michael M still our active AMCC representative? If so, what's going on?

The last AMCC Meeting: 29th September 2019 at Knighthawks of VA's 25th Anniversary Weekend – was ECMC represented? If not did we have a proxy?

The next AMCC Meeting will be 7th December 2019 at Stonewall Inn. Who will be there representing ECMC?

ECMC Archive Project

The task of scanning documents is daunting and time-consuming. Chaz A indicated he could use some help (hint, hint pledge!)

Although photos of trophies/banners and awards have been taken, a website has yet to be developed to display them.

56th Annual Holiday Party & Gift Drive:

- 7th December 2019 date locked in and sanctioned with AMCC.
- The second floor of Stonewall Inn is booked for the event on 7th December.
- Chaz reached out to Rising Ground and told them that, as usual, they could bring five persons to the event for free. We also asked that they kindly invite their former employee, Deborah, to the event so we can say goodbye to her.
- Tickets are on sale for \$25 online presently, tickets will be \$30 at the door. Please encourage your friends to attend.
- Please send any door prize information to Chaz. All full members are asked to supply a door prize either from themselves, or from a business. Door prize list will be e-mailed (again) to all members with the meeting minutes.
- A presentation of three catering companies was made by K.K., and the theme discussed. Since 7th December is Pearl Harbour Day, we will have a Hawaiian theme, guests will get a plastic leis (traditional Hawaiian floral necklaces), full members will get live flower leis (to be shipped to Erik directly from

Hawaii). It's also noteworthy that it will be Lewis K's birthday!

- ECMC's infamous Ken Keiser cookies have not made an appearance at our Holiday Party for many years. We asked Mark W if he would ask Terry P if he could make 100 cookies for the party.
- K.K. will arrange a Holiday Cake for the party.
- Jack offered to make a sheet of brownies.
- Jack will work the crowd giving away extra Chinese Auction tickets, and Jack will once again host the door prize give-away performance.
- Aaron will provide an inventory to K.K. from ECMC property in his home which will be brought to the Holiday Party.

A **MOTION** was made by ER to select the Westside Market catering services bid for services for the Holiday Party. MW 2nd. Passed. K.K. will proceed with this company along the allotted total party budget of \$1,500.

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Old Business

A **MOTION** by Mark W to extend Jack D's application for full membership was made and 2nd by Erik R. Passed. This is the 2nd vote of 6 total votes, full membership cannot be granted until the 3rd voting cycle and Jack has completed his mandatory rides. So far, Jack has TWO of three required official club rides.

September 2019: Erik has mentioned Empire City to a New York Times Reporter for consideration of writing an article about ECMC. No news on this at this time.

New Business

Steve G has resigned as an Associate Member via text message to the entire club on 6th November and will return all club property to Aaron G.

It has been reported that Will P no longer has a motorcycle and his Associate membership needs to be investigated or revoked. He has also not met the required participation requirements for an Associate Member of Empire City MC and is no longer in "good standing" with the club.

Yahoo Groups has been shuttered for the purposes we were using it; therefore, we need to use our own personal distribution lists to communicate via e-mail.

Who has the 2nd Safety Deposit Box key? Chaz A has one of them, but who has the second?

Comments on the Record

Erik promoted Empire City MC to a gay motorcyclist who was on his Atlantis cruise.

Erik wore his colours to all leather events on his Atlantis cruise, thus promoting the club!

There will be NO conference call in November. The Secretary shall strike it from the club calendar.

We should get together as a small group, possibly over dinner, at some point (prior to nominations and elections) to discuss several hot topics:

- 1) Who can faithfully and responsibly serve in the roles of officers for the club in 2020.
- 2) How will we manage with a smaller full member footprint?
- 3) How can we encourage some former members to return to the club? (Brian V, Gary P and possibly Earl D might be interested)

4) How should we process the return of former members to make this go smoothly?

5) Since the NJ Eagles and the City Cruisers are apparently now defunct, should we go after their former members?

The next Open General Meeting will be at 20:00 on Wednesday, 4th December 2019 at The Centre.

Mark W was asked to take notes as Chaz A (Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer) will not be present at the December Open General Meeting.

A motion to close the meeting was made and the meeting was closed at 21:06.

Comments off the record

Not recorded.