

Empire City MC Open General Meeting, 5th February 2020 – Minutes

Meeting called to order at 20:00

Roll call: Full members present: Mark W, Erik R, Chaz A, Scot L, Gary P. Excused full members: Mario L, Michael M. Pledges: Jack D. Associate members: Aaron G. Guests: K.K.

A **MOTION** to accept the Secretary's minutes from January 2020 was made by Scot L, 2nd by Gary P.

Officer's Reports

President (Mark W)

- Following a brief discussion, A **MOTION** was made by Chaz A to begin hosting our Open General Meetings via conference call again, as well as in person. Seconded by Gary P. Motion passed. Chaz A will investigate devices to make the conference call operate better (i.e. bluetooth speakerphone). Earl D, whom has expressed an interest in coming back to the club as a full member, suggested that Gary and he attend meetings together in Philadelphia, PA at each other's homes.
- Mark received an e-mail from the Sirens MC enquiring about a brackets pool tournament. This has been suggested again and again for some time; however, we never hear back from the Sirens MC to arrange it. It was decided that we should present a couple dates for them to choose. Sundays seemed to be the best days for our members, so we chose the first batch of dates to be 23rd February or 1st March. Erik R (as Vice President) will reach out to the Sirens to see if either date works. As for location, Chaz A suggested East Side Billiards, which is close to the (4),(5) and (6) trains on 86th St on the East Side.

Vice-President/Road Captain (Erik R)

- Aaron G was given the floor by Erik R to provide a recap of MAL in Washington, DC. Joe M and Aaron G represented ECMC as full members at MAL, attending many events with their colours on.
- Chaz A asked the Vice President/Road Captain permission to plan and coordinate the 9th Annual Motorcycle Weekend on Memorial Day Weekend once again. Permission was granted by Erik R.

Secretary/Treasurer (Chaz A)

- A fresh copy of the Constitution and Bylaws were provided for all attendees.
- A copy of our member roster was provided to all members present and it was asked that members validate their personal information so we can produce a new "pocket guide" next month for each member to facilitate communications within the club.
- The next newsletter will be published on 12th February. Please send any articles to Chaz on or before end of day 10th February.
- Aaron sent some photos and will write an article about MAL for February's newsletter.
- Presentation of the club's finances was made, following an audit of the deposits on club insignia, a few errors were detected and payments will be sent out.
- Some dues were collected.
- Some of Joe and Aaron's colours were returned, but not all of them. Return of deposit will be done when all items are returned.

Committee Reports

There were no committee reports at this meeting.

Old Business

Jack D's application for full membership remains on hold until the meeting in May as Jack still needs to complete one official ride of his qualifying rides.

Steve G and Will P have both returned their colours and will be or already have been refunded their deposits.

New Business

Mark W appointed Scot L as our 2020 Sergeant at Arms.

Mark W will confirm with Michael M that he is ready, willing and able to go to all AMCC meetings in 2020, if this is the case, Michael could continue to be our AMCC Representative; however, if not, Aaron G expressed interest, but Mark W needs to confirm with Paul Rose that an *associate member* can be according to the AMCC articles of agreement.

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Erik R was reached out to by Paul Myers, the executive producer of a new show called, "My Big Gay World," in which their host, Alex Ficquette, travels the U.S. immersing himself into LGBTQ communities around the nation. They expressed a strong interest in doing something with a motorcycle club. There was some discussion about this and it was suggested that we focus on our "Biker Weekend" in where the Bike Blessing, Biker Picnic and Folsom Street East take place, as this would incorporate a highly-concentrated weekend of ECMC events and some short-ish rides. Erik R will reach out to Paul Myers to investigate further and get back to the club.

Due to health issues, Michael M has opted to engage his constitutionally allowed "reserve membership" status. The initial request is automatically approved and means that Michael M is excused from Open General Meetings, Event and Ride requirements until July 2020 in where he can request additional time off by the executive board, if required.

A **MOTION** was made by Chaz A that K.K. be allowed a budget of up to \$75 to purchase confetti guns for the Pride Parade (as usual), the motion was seconded by Erik R and the motion passed.

A **MOTION** was made by Gary P that ECMC form a committee to investigate creating a logo-shirt. Chaz A seconded the motion and the motion passed. The committee presently contains Gary P, Chaz A and Aaron G. Erik R, by default as Vice President and per the Constitution and Bylaws, is automatically on any committee, but his attendance is optional.

Comments on the Record

Chaz A thanked the membership for their kind gifts and attendance at his mother's funeral. It was very much appreciated by Chaz and his family, who have been struggling with this sudden and unexpected loss.

The next teleconference will be 19th February at 20:00. The phone number and passcode are in the club calendar. If you do not see the information, please contact Chaz A to ensure you have proper Google Calendar privileges.

The next Open General Meeting will be at 20:00 on Wednesday, 4th March 2020 at The Centre.

A motion to close the meeting was made by Erik R and 2nd by Chaz A. The meeting was closed at 20:51.

Comments off the record

Not recorded.