



Renegade Miata Club

Annual Election of Directors & Planning Meeting - February 9, 2019

Minutes

- **Attendees:**
Ernest & Karen Grasso, Rob MacAlpine, Matt & Karen Nieman, Derek White, Carl Williams, Steve & Amanda Twaddle, Chris Welbon and Tom Fedorka
- **Location:**
The Grasso Residence in Chelmsford MA.

The meeting was called to order at approximately 12:55 by Tom Fedorka.

Autocross Discussion

Timing Equipment: The 2018 Season went well and are looking forward to a Great 2019 Season. We utilized the wireless **Farmtek Timing Equipment** purchased two seasons ago with out problems. The equipment works very well, with very little fuss or muss. Mid season we changed all the batteries, primarily as a precaution and it all worked with nary an issue. We will purchase fresh alkaline batteries and zip lock bags for weather protection for the upcoming season.

Tech Inspections: Having the Instructors Tech cars starting at 8am worked well. We will continue that practice for 2019. We will again request the Instructors to arrive early enough to prep their cars and be ready to begin Teching cars shortly after 8am.

Discussion on the importance of checking lug nut torque. Every event we typically found at least one car with loose lug nuts. Our club policy is to have a minimum of 2 lugs checked on each wheel of the car. (other clubs only verify 1 lug nut.)

Storage Container: The AutoX committee obtained a storage container for On-site storage of Cones, corner buckets, and other AutoX materials in Winter or 2017. This has worked out very well and last winter the two Porsche clubs jointly purchased a 40'container as well. In Spring, 2018 the AutoX Committee organized and labeled all shelves in the container to make it easier for volunteers. The AutoX committee will get together in March/April to go through and inspect all the equipment, radios, tents, timing equipment etc. to make sure everything is in good working order.

Costs: The 2019 Deven's contract cost has fortunately risen only slightly over the last couple of years. Costs were discussed and everyone agreed there was no need to change the fee structure for 2019.

Rule Changes: No changes expected for the 2019 season.

We have tentative dates for the 2019 Season. These will be CONFIRMED over the next couple of weeks, once we receive and sign the contract with DEVENS.

- **Renegade Events for 2019**

Autocross dates (As of 2/9/2019):

1. Saturday, April 6th (School)
2. Saturday, May 4th
3. Saturday, May 25th
4. Saturday, June 22th
5. Saturday, July 20th
6. Saturday, August 17th
7. Saturday, September 7th
8. Saturday, October 5st
9. Saturday, October 19th

NCR Autocross Events (As of 2/9/2019)

1. Sunday, April 27th
2. Saturday, May 19th
3. Saturday, June 15st
4. Saturday, August 3rd
5. Zone 1 September 14 & 15th (Porsches only)
6. Sunday September 28th

Board of Directors/Officer Election:

Tom Fedorka announced the Election of Directors and briefly discussed Officer Responsibilities for each position. He then asked members if there were any volunteers or discussion.

Discussion on nominees for Officers. There were no additional nominees and all existing Officers were willing to serve for another year. The discussion then moved to the 2019 Annual Elections.

- **President – Tom Fedorka**
 - Nominated by Derek White, Seconded by Amanda Twaddle - Unanimous
- **Vice President – Derek White**
 - Nominated by Ernest Grasso, Seconded by Chris Welbon– Unanimous
- **Treasurer & Membership – Chris Welbon**
 - Nominated by Derek White, Seconded by Matt Nieman- Unanimous
- **Minister of Minutes – Ernest Grasso**
 - Nominated by Tom Fedorka, Seconded Rob McAlpine – Unanimous.

Non Elected Club Positions, were discussed and will stay the same for 2019:

- **AutoX Committee:**
 - **Rob MacAlpine - Chairman**
 - Sheryl MacAlpine
 - Ernest Grasso
- **Director of Philanthropy – Athena DeGangi**
- **AutoX Set UP Coordinator – Carl Williams**
- **Social Media Coordinator – Derek White**
- **Sponsorship – Tom Fedorka**
- **Financial Update**
 - 2/9/19 - \$29,658
 - 2/3/18 - \$30,531
 - 1/28/17 - \$32,913
 - 1/24/2016 - \$30,768 (Before Insurance & Devens is paid)
 - 2/22/2015 - \$23,895 (after Insurance Is Paid & Devens)

- 12/2013 - \$24,862
- 12/2012 \$20,000 (est after insurance paid)
- 12/2011 \$20,103 (est)
- 12/2010 \$22,579
- 12/2009 \$16,300
- 12/2008 \$9,251

Club Taxpayer ID #04-3782115

EXPENSES:

2019

- \$7425 will be sent to Devens today for the season.
- Web hosting - \$163 to Derek Website Source
- Website Domain was renewed in 2018 for 10 years.
- Tax Filing fees for State & Federal Club Tax Returns

2019 Expenses Outlook – at this point the club officers do not see any major expenses, other than the contracts costs noted above with Devens. The AutoX committee will continue to monitor the radio situation. The radios are holding up, but they are now about 20 years old. The challenge is finding a source for replacement batteries that will last more than a charge cycle or two. If a problem occurs, we'll deal with it at that time, but none is foreseen.

Devens Contract for 9 dates in 2019 - \$7,425 (Includes site, porta potties & dumpster fees (due March 1st) These costs are the same as last season, therefore there is no pressing need to increase the fees. So there should be no issue this year.

Insurance

- Insurance through the same company we used before Northwest Insurance Center of Mercer Island WA. Chris has been in touch with the Insurance broker and is waiting for final rates, however he doesn't expect large increases.
- **No Cost Changes at this time for 2019.** No changes in fees – we made a little money last year. Basically, utilizing the fees we cover our expenses and end up a little ahead. There are no significant changes for 2019 for either Insurance or Devens as things stand now.

- \$25 membership (No changes needed at this time)

- Renegade AutoX

- Members: \$30 pre-registered, \$40 the day of the event
- Non-Renegade Members: \$35 pre-registered, \$45 the day of the event

Memberships

- **Current membership:**
 - 2019 – 105 Active members as of 2/9/19
 - 2018 – 95 Active members as of 2/3/18
 - 2016 – 120 active members as of 1/28/17
 - 2015 – 125 active members as of 12/31/2015
 - 2014 – 107 active members
 - 2013 - 120+/- members
 - 2012 - 100+ members
 - 2011 - 89 members
 - 2010 - 89 members
 - 2009 - 85 members

2008 - 73 members

Club Status as Non-Profit:

E. Grasso will file the Annual Report required to maintain this status for the next year (2019). (Annual Filing Completed & Mailed on 2-10-19).

During the Summer of 2015, E. Grasso & D. Bustin worked to file the necessary paperwork and pay the associated fees to Re-establish our Non Profit Status. In September 2015, the Club was reinstated as Non-Profit Organization in Massachusetts and the filing have been done the last 4 years to maintain our Non-Profit status..

Taxes:

Tom made contact with SCCA's Accounting firm. Kevin Van (Partner (Dufault, Vann & Carella) & Roger Bernier (Non Profit Accountant) are folks who will help us get back on track. Tom will reach out to them to set up a meeting in Springfield in the next few weeks. They are requesting a face to face meeting to review the data and then handle everything through email.

Paperwork that may be needed include the Annual Non-Profit Status filings, past tax returns, Bylaws, meeting minutes and banking Info.

Derek, Ernie & Chris will try to meet with the Accounting firm next Saturday, Feburary 16th at 10am.

Dufault, Vann & Carella

819 Worcester Street
Springfield, MA, 01151
info@dufaultvanncarella.com
Phone: (413)543-6177
Fax: (413)543-4040

Kevin B. Vann

KVann@DufaultVannCarella.com
x310

Roger Bernier

RBernier@DufaultVannCarella.com
x328

Meetings & Events:

March 2th, 2019 – (Sunday) Beer Tasting & Pot Luck at Rob & Sheryl MacAlpine

March 23rd or 24th – Wine Tasting Trip Carl Williams & Athena DeGangie_

March 30th (Sunday - Rain or Shine) – Club Meeting - Photo Scavenger Hunt & 1st Quarterly Meeting – Rob & Sheryl MacAlpine – Meet at Home Depot Marlboro @ 10am

April 13th – Main Street Tech Event – at their shop in Clinton MA.

June 8th – (Saturday) Quarterly and BBQ Meeting. (BYOB & BYOG) Ernest & Karen Grasso – Chelmsford – Miata Mistress Tour Tom Fedorka – Prior to the BBQ.

June 26th (rain date July 10th)

July 13th or 14th – Quarterly Meeting & BBQ @ Matt & Karen Nieman's Newfields, NH.

September 20-22nd – 3 Day Maine Lighthouse Tour & Quarterly Meeting – Rockland ME – Grasso's

November 10th – AutoX Banquet @ The Establishment in Chelmsford Or Marlboro Country Club TBD.

- **Sponsorships**

Amount: \$200 - Same benefits? Yes this will stay the same for 2019.

Some requests have come through Tom but they were requesting that Members go to them for a 10% discount on goods and services. Thoughts of the members present is that if they are interested, the business should pay the \$200. Tom will reach out to Flat Out Motor Sports, Main Street Garage, Fast Track Alignments, Mazda and others.

- Main Street Garage has committed to sponsoring the club for 2019.
- Mazda will likely sponsor us again with various merchandise as they have the past couple of years.
- Mazda also Sponsored Tom Fedorka at the Chicago Auto Show.
- No word yet on Flat Out Motorsports
- Accurate Automotive in Burlington – has expressed interest but as of today still awaiting contact/commitment.

- **Website**

Suggestions for changes or improvements? This has been working well between Tom and Derek posting things and keeping the site up and running. No changes expected.

- **Other Business**

- **Social Media Coordinator** - Derek White has taken over the administration of the Renegade Miata Facebook Page. It has been working well over the past 5 years – Thanks!

Giving Back to the Community - Philanthropy Director – Athena Degangi – has agreed to run continue in this capacity for 2019. The proceeds will be donated to the Loaves & Fishes Food Pantry in Ayer. For the last several years (2011-2018) Renegade Miata has collected and donated between \$1100 and \$1400. For 2018 we focused on raising money using the AutoX Registration. We will continue that for the 2019 season. Athena will again conduct a 50/50 raffle at the 2019 AutoX Banquet.

Meeting Adjourned at approx. 2:36 p.m.