

San Francisco Region of the Sports Car club of America

Regular monthly Meeting Minutes

Roundtable Pizza, 46600 Mission Blvd., Fremont CA

December 17, 2014

Meeting called to order at 6:30

Present:

RE Gary Pitts

Treasurer Mike Smith

Secretary Blake Tatum

Board Members, Barbara McClellan, Anthony Tabacco, Clint De Witt

Absent Board Member Rod Simmons

### Liaison Reports

#### Anthony Tabacco

**Solo Report:** No Slush series this year, they could not secure a site. Solo banquet will be January 28<sup>th</sup>. The program made a profit for the year of about \$5,000 even though they replaced all of their equipment. Long time SCCA participant Pilar Miranda will be taking over the American Autocross series.

**Membership Report:** they are in the process of rewriting the membership pamphlet.

**Paddock Marshall Report:** concern was raised as what to do when a competitor refused to follow the direction of the paddock Marshall. Since the general conduct of all competitors falls under the jurisdiction of the GCR the paddock Marshall has the right to refer any non-cooperative participants to the Chief Steward, who has the authority to take several actions including disallowing the participants entry.

#### Mike Smith

**Timing and Scoring:** In the process of purchasing a two new lap tops to replace ones that have failed.

### New Business

#### E46

Brian Ghidinelli inquired about the possibility of adding E46 as a regional only class. Spec E46 is a road racing class based on BMW's E46 chassis that emphasizes high performance, vehicle consistency, reasonable cost, and ease of entry in order to provide a highly competitive on-track racing experience between a large field of cars. The class is already accepted in NASA and there is a number of cars currently under construction. In order to properly promote the class within or region it was felt that there needed to be a class director who was the driving force behind getting the class going. Several names were mentioned but at this point the region is going to allow the class and find a director later. The region will adopt the rules provided by Brian

Ghidinelli, and Board Member Clint De Witt will be in charge of assisting in getting the class going.

Gary Pitts motioned to accept the class and Barbara McClellan seconded the motion. Passed unanimously.

### **Drivers School**

Drivers School is set for February 20-22, 2015. Kevin Rogers and Jon Becker will be the co chiefs. Entry fee will remain the same as last year and there will be no change in the format.

### **Sears XRRC**

Eric Prill from the national office has been in conversation with Gary about working with us to hold a year end runoffs type event at Sonoma Raceway. He sent Gary a proposal and unfortunately there was nothing in the proposal that seemed to be mutually beneficial. Gary told Eric that the lines of communication are still open but at this time it does not appear that anything will be worked out.

### **Formula Ford Tires**

Neil Porter called Gary Pitts and asked him to bring to the board a proposal for a spec tire in Formula Ford. The tire in question was the Toyo 888 and is currently being run in other parts of the country. Mike Smith mentioned that we tried at one point to get a tire rule in formula ford. Even though a lot of work was put into the issue from the board we were never able to satisfy the group. Because of the previous history it was suggested that FF follow the GCR and not have a spec tire.

Mike Smith motioned to have FF abide by the GCR, it was seconded by Barbara McClellan. Motion carried.

### **Meeting Schedule and Venue**

Because of the change in board members, it was decided to look into a new meeting location that better suits the needs of the majority of the board. It was decided that the next meeting will be held at 11:00 at a place to be determined in Pleasanton.

### **Track Records**

Jim Devenport inquired as to why he did not get recognition for his qualifying record at a Thunderhill event. It turns out that because of the timing a scoring software race records are easily recorded however qualifying records are not. Mike Smith reports that in order to accurately keep track of qualifying records we need to spend some money on some software that will capture the data. After discussion it was determined most qualifying and race records are as a result of a rule change or a better tire. Because of the cost it was decided that we will keep the current system and only update track records that occur during a race.

### **Matters Arising**

Schedule, Mike Smith trying to work out schedule conflict with the September Sonoma Raceway event.

## Old Business

### Tow Trucks

RFP going out in January for new tow trucks. Both need replacing. Mike Smith and Mike Short both working on the proposal.

January 14, 2015 via e-mail

From Mike Smith,

Proposal on the tow trucks:

Purchase 2 New Ford F450s gas tow trucks, with the equipment specs adjusted slightly to keep it in the "off the self" bucket which saves us money.

Cost of each truck negotiated from \$84,500 to \$72,300 (truck \$65,900+tax \$5,000+lic \$1400).

Dealer will give us \$5,000 for our old truck

Reasons to buy both trucks and pay cash.

- We could lease but why pay interest to someone else instead of ourselves.
- If the club needs cash down the road there are other alternatives
- The leasing companies are going to assume a more typical use for the truck so the lease length will not match our lower use rate in terms of time.
- Two trucks instead of one because - the current truck is a gamble on what's going to go wrong next.
- If we spend even another \$3-\$4K to fix or rent something else it would have been cheaper to use our cash to buy a new truck.

Mike Smith motion: We purchase for cash, 2 tow trucks as outlined above. Motion seconded by Tabacco. Motion carried.

(This was done outside the regular board meeting via e-mail in order to meet the region's tow truck needs beginning with the current racing season.)

### Financials

Mike Smith presented the current finances for the 2014 year. Club will be in the black for the first time in several years.

Adjourn at 9:30 P.M.

