

ABATE OF FLORIDA, INC.
Delegates Meeting, Ocala. Dec. 9th, 2023

PRESIDENTS REPORT: Griz- Visitors today. Kirk “Hardtail” Willard from MRF. Dawn from Quest. Dawn will be able to answer questions concerning the safety money later in the meeting. Sexual Offender: Motion to remove from membership. Motion made by Freedom, 2nd by SE. All in favor. He will be removed from the membership. Gun Drawing will be today in “Good to the Order”. Talked about all the items for auction. Thank you to all that donated. Just a reminder about nominations for elections in June. February – Tallahassee Ride.

Dawn (Quest): 1. Building foundation, making a Brand “Motorcycle Safety program. (building a website, branding educational items) After building a brand, we can get these items. Logos are being built. Tate: another mass meeting? Yes, virtual meeting in January. Rich – we are Program administrators. The application was a total of 55 pages. Lots of work Russ: how many have a MSAP banner? Does that go away because of this new program? Dawn: No, this new program to work with your existing program. A big thanks to Dawn and Quest for helping us make this happen. Logos will be presented this week. The program administrator will be approving the logo. John Melin: How did Rich find you? Dawn: I knew no one in Abate. I was hired because of Quest reputation. Bridget Pace: How much are you being paid? Dawn: We work on an hourly wage. As of right now, we haven’t even been paid yet. We are still working on the invoices. It will be transparent. Also, Quest will be purchasing the safety items and sent to the Board (with approval of the program administrator). Rich: because of the demand of the State with how the money and reporting is handled, you must use a company that is able to handle this. Bridget discussed how the Logo should be. Dawn: I will take this back. There is no brand yet. Johnny Rose: will some of this info be in Spanish. Dawn: Yes.

2. Awareness to other organizations is a key factor. 3. Safety for motorcyclist is a #1. Martha suggested that Dawn help us start a chapter in Tallahassee. Dawn also stressed that any and all communication goes through the Program Administrator – Lana, Brandy, Griz.

Griz: with their help we should be able to make this work.

Hardtail: All riders, and shops fund the MRF. Explains where all the money goes to support this organization. No board member or officers make any money. What are we doing? Profiling – 535 to 0 voted that profiling isn’t right. A resolution was made. It now goes back to the States. Hold NITSA accountable on spending money on Profiling. Working on Autonomous vehicles. They don’t recognize motorcycles. Working on Advisory council to be reestablished. Right to repair and modify. Definition of a Motorcycle. Funding, training it needs to be for motorcyclist. Fuel availability. Needs to be E10 or better. End of life directives. In Europe, they are already starting. MRF in Europe is fighting this every day. Choice in retail sale ACT. We are tired of EPA telling us what we can drive or ride. Right now, Ford cannot sell a diesel truck in California. This is being passed in several states. The State of Florida is almost 8% of the registered riders in the States. Explained the Call to Action. We need Florida to start taking part of the Call to Action.

VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT: Steve – Bikers on the Beltway, May 20th. There will be a flyer on the website. Bills do not have numbers yet. The House bill has been written and drafted but not numbered. Senate has not been completed.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Lynn – Motion to accept the minutes. Motion by SE, 2nd by Polk. Discussion concerning the Traveling Trophy and what qualifies. After clarity, all in favor.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Brandy– We have no credit card debt. Brandy explained how the safety money comes in and then it's paid to Quest to use the money accordingly. There are many checks and balances in place. Question was asked about 501c3. We did not pursue this because we just reorganized our existing accounts. Our status is still 501c4. Martin from SE clarified to the delegates.

STATE OFFICE REPORT: Brandy – American Income Life will now be hand delivering the insurance benefit to the beneficiaries. This is a new rule by them. Also, if you send back the postcard from AIL, you will get a call from them. Send your beneficiary list to the State Office instead.

SGT-AT-ARMS REPORT: Charlie – All inventories are to be in by today. Griz reminded the delegates we need to start organizing the Road Guards now for Tallahassee.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT: Tara - Thank you for letting me know if you are going to be late. September Most New Members: Forest/Gulfcoast. Largest Percentage: Central Florida
October Most New Members: Lagoon. Largest Percentage: Central Florida

MASTERLINK: Tara – The newsletter went out this month. If you didn't get it, please let me know. I do know of the issue with the links. I am working on this. There is an update on the new website. Still a work in progress. John from Forest – can we have it in the flip method? Hopefully when Quest takes it over it will be like that. Right now, my program doesn't do it.

PR/COMMUNICATIONS REPORT: Bill – Tally flyer is out to newsletters and websites. January issue from Sophisticated Biker will have our info on our Tally Run. Proclamation is already in for May. The main person in Tallahassee usually edits what I submit. The Tally flyer has been sent to LAMA and American Legion Riders. Request was made to have news media and newspapers in that area also get the flyer.

SAFETY TRUSTEE: Russ – Reports on MSAP activities. But first it's very important that if ANY booth presentations performed, we need all of the information. This is important to keep our Safety money status. But don't let that deter anyone. Let's just keep up booth presentation.

Lake County – 5 events. 1 Booth Presentation, 1 Classroom Presentation, 3 MSAP Certification. Forest – 4 events. 2 Booth Presentation, 1 Classroom Presentation, 1 MSAP Certification. Polk County 4 events. 1 Booth Presentation (went on for 4 days). Abate State – 3 events, Lana and others were in Ormond Beach during Biketoberfest for 3 days. Daytona Beach 3 events – Booth Presentation during Biketoberfest assisted by Forest/ Lake chapter (3 days). Gulf Coast – 2 Booth Presentations. Peace River – 1 event. Booth Presentation. We will probably be working with LAMA and ALR on events. I believe there were more events, but chapters aren't sending the paperwork. Please keep up with your paperwork. That way will be in compliance with the State. This info will be put in the Newsletter. Called out the new people receiving their instructor certification.

PRODUCTS TRUSTEE REPORT: Shayne (Velcro) – We have new products. Come back and get your Christmas gifts for others.

LOBBYIST FIRM: Continental Strategies (Rich) – Steve Kliemsch is our contact for the Lobbyist firm – Continental Strategies. This process will take time. Please be patient. We have a group of wonderful people that are in place to make sure things happen. I asked Hardtail how others do things like Wisconsin. Numbers. It takes numbers to build the organization. We need to work with our other “friend” groups such as LAMA, and American Legion Riders. It will take all of us. Bridget asked about the wording for Vulnerable Road User Bill. We now have a lobbyist firm that are working on the bill. It is written according to how the firm sees the bill should pass. We will continue to gain momentum under Griz leadership, and we will continue to advance. Steve – as soon as bills are numbered, we will get the information out to the Presidents.

LEGISLATIVE REPORT: Bob – no show

LEGAL COUNSEL: Rich – All Good

BYLAW COMMITTEE: Steve – Explained the voting for State Elections. Clarification was made. Discussion about time frame for Board meeting notice. After everyone spoke, it was determined that it will remain the same wording. Vote was made and passed with majority. Only 1 chapter voted against. Bylaws are now in place.

SAFETY COMMITTEE: Lana (read by Melanie) – 1. Biketoberfest October 18th thur 21st

2. October 25 first Zoom meeting with Quest

3. November 7th and 8th CUTR meeting

4. Please keep those Safety Reports and pictures sent back into Russ, Safety Director and Brandy State Office. These are much needed to stay in compliance.

5. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

Brandy – a big thank you to Melanie for all of her hard work. Brandy discussed how the money is dispersed. It’s coming in but gradually. Lots more paperwork will be required. Each event has to have all the paperwork done.

SPONSORSHIP COMMITTEE : Steve - Discuss the importance of the Sponsorship program.

NCOM UPDATE: Griz – After finding out that someone other than Griz was listed as the spokesperson for Abate, a phone call was made to correct this issue. Next convention in June.

MRF: Steve – previously discussed

AMA: Steve – AMA doesn’t have a corporate sponsorship. I will become a member so we can keep up with them.

TALLAHASSEE 2024: Ride will be Monday, February 12th, Delegate Meeting Sunday, February 11th.

STATE PARTY: nothing new

OLD BUSINESS: We already discussed the traveling Trophy.

NEW BUSINESS: Seminars. Steve has agreed to work on Vero Beach as a training location. Overall feeling was positive about having Seminars again. Will update at next meeting. Tate – asked that we all be unified with the same Abate logo. Discussion took place. Motion was made to replace “the parrot patch” and replaced with the original, a vote was taken, and the original logo was voted to be the official logo. Brandy - we need to update our flag. Griz – Do it!

GOOD TO THE ORDER: Hillsborough talked about a special ride and asked for Sponsorship. Discussion took place. Motion to sponsor this trip. Motion by Lake, 2nd by Freedom. Vote was taken. Motion passed. Happy Birthday to Griz. Lake County will be doing the Campground in April. Forest talked about Chili-cook off. Freedom – Nature Coast Bikefest in March. Asked about Doc and his health. 50/50 drawn. Gun Drawing – winner Brian Frost (941).