

Mason-Dixon Conference - Fall 2015

Meeting Minutes

September 6, 2015 09:42 am – 11:45 am

The meeting was called to order by Mike Pollinger (MDC Chairman). The meeting was taped and for brevity purposes, these minutes represent the highlights of the meeting¹.

Executive Board Roll-Call		
<i>Title</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Present at Meeting</i>
Chairman	Mike Pollinger (DE-I)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Vice Chairman	J.J. Lightner (NC-XVII)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Secretary	Keith Chase (VA-II)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Treasurer	Lonnie Loyal (VA-III)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
International Rep	John Bull (MD-III)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

State Representatives and Other Appointed Positions Roll-Call		
<i>Title</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Present at Meeting</i>
Delaware State Rep	Bert Littleton (DE-I)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Kentucky State Rep	Ruben Gardner (KY-II)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Maryland State Rep	Steve Smith (MD-I)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
North Carolina State Rep	Mike Brown (NC-XIII)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Tennessee State Rep	Vacant	<input type="checkbox"/>
Virginia State Rep	Mike Hart (VA-III)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
West Virginia State Rep	Marshal Parker (WV-II)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Chaplin	Mike Williams (MD-I)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Safety Officer	D.W. Conners (VA-V)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Sergeant-at-Arms	Keith Johnson (VA-XIII)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Webmaster	Rick Clark (NC-XVI)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Agenda Items

- Call to Order: (9:42 am)
 - Moment of Silence.
 - Opening Prayer – Mike Williams (MDC Chaplin).
 - Pledge of Allegiance – Recited by all in attendance.
 - Reading of Blue Knights Pledge – Chairman Pollinger.
- Chapter Roll-Call and Report: Keith Chase (MDC Secretary). Roll-Call was conducted and the below listed Chapters were represented at the meeting:

Delaware-I	Kentucky-II	Maryland-I	Maryland-III
North Carolina-II ¹	North Carolina-IV	North Carolina-VIII	North Carolina-X
North Carolina-XIII ²	North Carolina-XVI	North Carolina-IX	North Carolina-XXI
Tennessee-XII ³	Virginia-II	Virginia-III	Virginia-V ⁴
Virginia-XIII	Virginia-XVII	Virginia-XX	West Virginia-II
West Virginia-III			

- There are 71 Chapters in the conference and 21 Chapters were represented at the meeting for a percentage of 29.5% in attendance. 20 Chapters were eligible to vote. There were 82 members, spouses and guests in attendance at the meeting.

3. Recognized VIPs:

<u>INTERNATIONAL OFFICERS</u>	<u>OTHER CONFERENCE EXECUTIVES</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DJ Alvarez (TX-XXXI) – President 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None
<u>PAST INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENTS</u>	<u>OTHER CONFERENCE REPRESENTATIVES</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Frank Gennari (NY-I) • Ronnie Young (VA-V) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None
<u>BOG OFFICERS</u>	<u>OTHER STATE REPRESENTATIVES</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mike Ricards (NY-V) – Treasurer 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None

4. Host Chapter Remarks: President John Weinstein, (VA-II), thanked all for attending and thanked his chapter for their tireless efforts to put the conference together such a great event.
5. Chairman’s Remarks: Thanked VA-II for hosting and stated he had enjoyed himself and had enjoyed the hotel’s hospitality. The Chairman discussed recent threats against law enforcement and wanted to express to “be safe out there”. He wanted to ensure that all are being vigilant while out on the bikes and in generals.
6. Secretary’s Report (Keith Chase): The meeting minutes from the Spring Conference are available in recording only...a transcript was never completed due to a medical issue with the Secretary. Reminder that changes in Chapter Leadership needs to be reported to the Conference and the International.
7. Treasurer’s Report (Lonnie Loyall): Financial Report – As of 9/1/2015 – Checking Account Balance = **SEE THE CHAPTER PRESIDENT’S COPY FOR FINANCIAL DETAILS.**

¹ Bert Littleton produced a voting authorization letter from Leonard Arcure - Chapter President

² Michael Brown Sr. produced a voting authorization letter from Bobby Chapman - Chapter President

³ Rick Lubow produced a voting authorization letter from Steve Spano - Chapter President

⁴ Ronnie Young produced a voting authorization letter from Tom Siegler - Chapter President

A motion to accept the financial report, as provided, was made from the floor, seconded and voted unanimously to accept the report.

8. Comments from the International President (DJ Alvarez):
 - a. Weekend: Thanks to the MDC and VA-II for hosting a great event.
 - b. The “Booker Bourbon” bottle with the BK logo is due out in summer 2016.
9. International Representative’s Report (John Bull): We have had a lot to deal with over the past year from the Audit finally being completed to the International elections in Reno, NV. Shortly after the elections Frank Gennari notified the International that he intends to contest the election. As more information comes in I will pass it on.

If you were at the General Membership meeting in Reno you witnessed the issue with meeting notification brought up by Colorado-I. They claimed that they were never notified of the proposals to be ratified and therefore they could not be notified. After discussion it was determined to be in the best interest to pull all the proposals off the agenda and vote on them next year. As a result the proposals will first have to be brought back to the Board of Directors and then re-voted on by the Board. The issue with notification was that the By-Laws require each member to be notified and not just the chapters. In order to correct this problem I submitted a proposal on behalf of the MDC Board that will allow notification to be accomplished by posting the agenda on the International Website.

a. **Membership – As of September 1, 2015**

Total Members:	19,059	MDC Total:	2469
Chapters:	630	MDC Chapters:	71

b. **Old Business**

1. Founding Fathers: *Passed*

A motion was made and passed at the June BOD meeting to fly the Founding Fathers to Reno. The cost of the motion was \$1,600 for the Founding Fathers only. The cost of their wives was their responsibility. There is talk of making a motion so they would be at every International since there is only two remaining however that motion has not been made as of yet..

2. Audit Report:

Finally, the audit is done. We had a special meeting in July to discuss the audit report. The full reports are available on the International website. Please take the time to read them and the minutes from the special meeting. The auditor is going to put together a list of touchup items for the Board to work on. International is also going to hire a part-time bookkeeper to keep the books. The Board also voted to have the auditor do an audit for the 2014 books. They felt that once they did that they would be comfortable with all the figures.

One thing we learned is that all the documents from prior to 2012 was lost to a flood and a server failure. I brought up at the meeting about going to a scanning process for all documents with backup storage. We are looking into the cost of that now.

c. **New Business**

1. Proposal 2015 – 0010 (June Meeting) – Vote of “NO CONFIDENCE” in D.J. Alvarez and Jerry Bryan: Karl Hutchinson (WCC Chairman) - Failed

This proposal was derived from all the issues with the Australian Patches and the back and forth between the WCC and the Int’l Board. There was an initial vote to table the vote until Reno, however that vote failed. The Board wanted to settle the issue once and for all and move on. After discussion

the final vote on the motion for a vote of no confidence failed.

2. Proposal 2015 – 0011 (June Meeting) – To Amend the Constitution, Article 2, Section 01 “Membership Classification: – *Koen Hutse (European Conference Int’l Rep) - Failed*

This proposal was to add an additional special honorary membership for medical professionals. Under this proposal it would allow each chapter to have 1 medical professional (nurse/physician) as a special honorary member. The medical professional would have to have a minimum of a 4 year degree or higher in their licensed medical specialty. Any nurse, nurse practitioner, nurse anesthetist, physician assistant, general medicine, internal medicine, or emergency medicine physicians would only be considered

3. Proposal 2015 – 0012 (General Membership) – To Assist South Carolina with Starting Blue Knights Tags: – *Randy Goodwin (President SC III) – Failed*

This was a request from the South Carolina chapters for \$3,400 to cover the cost of Blue Knight tags. Over a period of time the money would be paid back to the International. After debate this proposal failed. One of the reasons was if we did this for one State then we would have to do it for all. If the tags failed to sell then the International would not be paid back.

4. Proposal 2015 – 0013 (July Meeting) – To Donate \$250 to Cystic Fibrosis Foundation of Maine: – *Serge Fournier (Northeast Conf.) – Passed*

NEC to use as part of their yearly \$1,000 per conference donation.

5. Proposal 2015 – 0014 (July Meeting) – To Donate \$250 to Nathan Hale Foundation: – *Serge Fournier (Northeast Conf.) – Passed*

NEC to use as part of their yearly \$1,000 per conference donation. This foundation helps disabled veterans with injuries and PTSD.

6. Proposal 2015 – 0015 (July Meeting) – To Donate \$166.66 to the MIRA Foundation – *Serge Fournier (Northeast Conf.) – Passed*

NEC to use as part of their yearly \$1,000 per conference donation. The foundation teams service dogs with adults with motor and visual disabilities as well as children with autism.

7. Proposal 2015 – 0016 (July Meeting) – To Donate \$166.66 to the Bosquests Albert Hudon Camp: – *Serge Fournier (Northeast Conf.) – Passed*

NEC to use as part of their yearly \$1,000 per conference donation. The camp is located on the Richelieu River in Quebec. They help children with development disorders.

8. Proposal 2015 – 0017 (July Meeting) – To Donate \$166.66 to the Vigil: – *Serge Fournier (Northeast Conf.) – Passed*

NEC to use as part of their yearly \$1,000 per conference donation. The Vigil helps men and women in uniform with issues like alcohol and drug addiction for free.

d. Upcoming BOD Meeting Proposals

1. Proposal 2015-0020 – To Amend the By-Laws, Article 5 Section 03 “Conference Officers”: – *Serge Fournier (Northeast Conf.)*

This proposal would allow for the addition of two or more Conference Vice Chairman. At the moment 3 of the 11 conferences have two Vice Chairman. These positions are actually against the current By-Laws. This proposal was made to accommodate conferences that have more than one country. The President at the meeting felt that a conference could add Country Rep's similar to State Rep's to handle the situation. If we allow this what happens in Europe if a conference has say seven countries, do we have seven Vice Chairman? Where does it stop? After debate the President's voted not to support this proposal as written.

2. Proposal 2015-0021 – To Amend the By-Laws, Article 2 Section 09 “Notice of Annual Meeting”:
John Bull (Mason Dixon Conf.)

This proposal would add the ability to post notice of the Annual General Membership Meeting on the International website. The Presidents at the meeting voted for this proposal.

3. Proposal 2015-0022 – To Amend the By-Laws, Article 5 Section 03A “International Representatives”:
DJ Alvarez (Int'l President)

This proposal separates out the position of Int'l Rep and Chairman. Currently, the By-Laws allow for the Int'l Rep and Chairman to be the same person. At present only 2 of the 11 conference do it this way. This proposal would make it two separate positions, which would allow for more involvement of members. The Presidents at the meeting voted for this proposal.

e. Proposals by MDC

1. Proposal – To Donate \$1000.00 to the American Cancer Society: –

As part of MDC's yearly \$1,000 per conference donation, a motion was made, seconded and voted unanimously to donate the money to the American Cancer Society. The International Rep will prepare the proposal for the next International Board Meeting.

NOTE FROM REP: *Please remember that my report is a synopsis of board activity. Read the full minutes which are currently on the International website and currently emailed to each Chapter President.*

10. Vice Chairman's Report (J.J. Lightner):

- a. This is a great turn out for the business meeting and I appreciate everyone being here.
- b. Membership – MDC has **71** Chapters with **2469** Members (*as of 1 Sep*)
- c. Recruitment – Passed out the top 10 reasons to be a Blue Knight
- d. Thoughts – Why did you become a Blue Knight? We should do some stories on the web and have it in the magazine. There was discussion about even doing videos.
- e. New Potential Members – Starting in Kentucky, each state can bring one (1) potential new member to the Conference Meeting and if they join then the MDC will pay the registration fee and the first years International dues. Notify the State Rep if you have a candidate and they are responsible to make the decision for the State.

Representatives Reports

(See the MDC website calendar for events)

This will be a summary of topics presented by each reporting member... Check the MDC website for events

1. Delaware State Representative – Albert Littleton (DE-I):
 - a. Delaware has 1 Chapter with 74 members.
2. Kentucky State Representative – Ruben Gardner (KY-II):
 - a. Kentucky has 12 Chapters.
3. Maryland State Representative – Steve Smith (MD-I):
 - a. Maryland has 7 Chapters.
4. North Carolina State Representative – Mike Brown (NC-XIII):
 - a. North Carolina has 20 Chapters.
 - b. NC-X is the newest Chapter.
5. Tennessee State Representative – No Current Rep (:):*No Report*:
 - a. T.C. Hicks resigned as the State Rep...we will be looking to appoint a replacement.
 - b. Tennessee has 11 Chapters.
6. Virginia State Representative – John Weinstein (VA-II):
 - a. John has recently been appointed as the New State Rep.
 - b. Virginia has 16 Chapters.
7. West Virginia State Representative – Marshal Parker (WV-II):
 - a. West Virginia has 4 Chapters.

Website

1. Rick Clark – Webmaster:
 - a. On the Chapter contacts page we are now using the official email address for each Chapter.
 - b. I have added the Heaven-I page to the website.
 - c. Send your flyers for your events and rides to Rick at webmaster@bkmdc.org
 - d. There is a MDC Facebook page.
 - e. President's page has the contact listing. Chapter Presidents have a password. Contact Rick for issues.
 - f. Corporate Email System: As everyone should be aware by now, the International is switching to an in-house email system. If your chapter has not switched or set-up your account; now is the time. You need to occasionally purge the files, as there is a limited amount of space.

Quartermaster

1. Ordering Sales Items: The coins, pins and patches are up on the Virginia-II website or can be ordered directly through the Conference Secretary (Keith Chase). We take cash, checks or credit cards or we can invoice directly using square payment.

Safety

1. D.W. Conners – Safety Officer:
 - a. We continue to have safety round-tables. This is an open discussion on safety issues.
 - b. I am still doing the ride workshops. These drills are not MSF but of my own design. I am also

helping other conferences.

- c. I am working on a “trike course”.
- d. I am available to do “On-Road” workshops. Day 1 will be classroom and the second day would be on the road. This is at no cost...I just need a place to lay my head.
- e. Emergency Cards...if you need one, please don’t hesitate to ask.
- f. I have fliers for bike checks, etc.
- g. If there is something from a safety perspective that you need, please let me know.
- h. Chapter Safety Officers...please send their info to me.
- i. Email Address: BKMDC@frontier.com

Old Business

1. Chapter Changes: Please ensure you email the MDC Secretary, MDC Chairman and the International of any Chapter changes (E-Board officers, website, and contact info).
2. Corporate Emails: Get your accounts set up. Contact Rick Clark if you need assistance.
3. Spring 2016 Conference Update: Ruben Gardner provided an update on KY-II’s hosting of the Spring Conference in Lexington, KY over Memorial Day Weekend (27-29 May 2016). The flyer info is posted on the MDC website.

New Business

1. International Election Results:

<u>INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT</u>	<u>INTERNATIONAL VICE PRESIDENT</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DJ Alvarez - (RGC, TX-XXXI) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jerry Bryan - (MWRC, OK-II)
<u>INTERNATIONAL SECRETARY</u>	<u>INTERNATIONAL TREASURER</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Karen Borza - (TSC, PA-XXIV) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • John Gordon - (GLRC, OH-XVIII)

2. Bids for 2016 MDC Winter Meeting:
 - a. Virginia-XIII (Danville, VA) submitted a bid for the Winter meeting. There were no competing bids.

Good of the Order

1. Future Conference Meeting Bids: Because we have had some difficulty in filling conference meeting bids, I would like to see Chapters send bids to the Secretary 60 days in advance of the meeting where the vote will take place so we can help get info out to ensure we have at least one bid for the meeting. There was also some discussion of potential changing dates and even possibly only having two conference meetings per year.
2. One-Piece Back Patch: It is available for ANYONE to wear.
3. BK Special Fund: Mike Ricard provided an account update...see the International website for details.
4. International Convention Update: PA-V provided an update of the 2016 Convention and discussed different events planned.

Announcement of Mason-Dixon Conference Meetings

1. Winter Conference Meeting - 2016:

- Hosted By: Virginia-XIII
- Location: Danville, VA
- Dates: 13-15 February 2016
- Information: See the MDC website for the Flyer

2. Spring Conference Meeting - 2016:

- Hosted By: Kentucky-II
- Location: Lexington, KY
- Dates: 27-29 May 2016
- Information: See the MDC website for the Flyer

3. Fall Conference Meeting - 2016:

- Hosted By: Virginia-II
- Location: Culpeper, VA
- Dates: 1-5 September 2016
- Information: www.bkva-ii.org

Announcement of International Conventions

1. 2016 Convention:

- Hosted By: Pennsylvania-V
- Location: Harrisburg, PA
- Dates: 17-24 June 2016
- Info: <http://www.2016bkiconvention.com/index.html>

Adjournment – 11:21 am. Next meeting 09:30 am / 14 February 2016 at the 2016 Winter Conference

Contact Information	Website: www.bkmdc.org	<i>Secretary's Contact</i> Email: secretary@bkmdc.org Phone: 703-893-1823 Fax: 571-748-4240
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ⁱ File size is 170MB in MP3 format.