



*Dedicated to Freedom of the Road.*

**A.B.A.T.E. of Oregon, Inc.**

P. O. Box 4504 Portland, Oregon 97208

**Planning Session  
State Board of Directors Meeting  
October 15-16, 2011  
Cottage Grove, Oregon**

**Planning Session**

**Saturday:** 9:04am 15 October 2011

Ted Tracy opened by thanking everyone for attending. He stated that he would like to utilize Roberts Rules of Order for the Planning Session to help get things started and keep them moving smoothly.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

Ted Tracy gave a brief explanation of the purpose of the Planning Session in that this is where ABATE works out problems and plans for the upcoming year of operation. He explained how we usually work with the break-out sessions and concluding the Planning Session tomorrow.

Ideas were discussed for making money and event tracking.

The group break-outs were settled on as: Financial – Chaired by Kay, Legislative – Chaired by Don, Education – Chaired by Geoff, Fossil – Chaired by Gene, Membership – Chaired by Linda, Media/PR – Chaired by Rot Path.

It was announced that training would be ongoing at the Board of Directors meetings as needed or desired by the Officer assigned to that area. Howie would be holding meetings, starting in November at 11 am.

Nic asked that every group please turn in a report and he will include that in the Planning Session report. He stated that it did not have to be fancy as he was going to put the main points down and not every word in order to keep it brief. But, if no report, he should be able to get enough out of his notes when they give their reports to the group as a whole.

**9:35 am -- Break-out Sessions** (anyone can take part in any of the sessions that they wish and even bounce around between different groups if they want to)

**11:30 am – Lunch**

**12:35pm – Back to Break-out Sessions**

**Break-out Session Committee Reports:** *(the complete report (if turned in) by committees is available upon request. The following is a short version of those reports)*

**Education:**

There was a discussion on STEAM and it will be held on February 25, 2012, at Chemeketa Community College. Geoff will be asking for a committee to help set up needed classes and agenda and will hold these meetings 1 hour prior to each BOD starting in November.

Discussion topics included: Possible Agenda format change for STEAM. Maybe fewer classes and opening session changes. Also discussed was on registration or even, pre-registration for STEAM. Various available media services were discussed to assist in promoting and coordinating registrations. Food at STEAM was discussed as a way to keep the lunch and breaks at Chemeketa without necessarily having to use their catering service, too expensive. Display booths for other groups such as BikePAC, Team Oregon, were discussed. Also rider training information on the various classes offered from Team Oregon was discussed. The need for a legislative session, headed by Don Mason, was discussed and decided that the class was needed.

**Fossil:**

There was discussion on the help that would be needed to build the permanent stage. There was also discussion on RV/Trailers at the Fossil Run and the possibility of some spaces being made available. The needs discussed included Chapter Donations for door prizes, people for working at the Event in Security, set-up, tear-down, clean-up, Gate help, manning the ABATE Booth.

**Membership:**

Linda announced that she would not be at the November Board of Directors meeting. There was a discussion on a Statewide Membership Drive to be reviewed at STEAM and to start in the Spring. Incentives and other items were discussed. Membership retention was also discussed and it came to light that the fun times seem to be concentrating on partying and getting away from family events and community events. Contacting expired or missing members is the responsibility of everyone in the Chapter and not just the Membership Secretary. Also discussed was the topic of families at meetings and alcohol consumption problems. Discussed was sending out renewal reminders 2 months in advance may help retention of members. Also, implementing a Chapter phone tree to help keep in touch.

Changes down the road. . Ideas that were discussed: Already in place is putting BikePAC membership applications in the new member packet. BikePAC is the legislative arm of ABATE. We also need to get the word out on the good we do (this ties in with Public Relations). Work on other organizations that are affected by the work we do. Such as; moped riders, Vespa riders, off-road riders, ATV groups. Maybe adding a line for “Referred by” or “Recruited by” or something else like that in the new tri-folds. Also the softening of our name to American Bikers Aimed Towards Education was again brought up and discussion became very heated. It was brought up that we are “A Brotherhood Against Totalitarian Enactments” for a reason and it is not to please people. It was grudgingly accepted that instead of changing our acronym, state what it is that we do for all motorcyclists when we are asked what “ABATE” stands for. Learn and quote the mission statement as who “ABATE” is.

### **Finance:**

There was much discussion on the importance of the monthly financial reports from the Chapters and how they needed to be on time with their reporting. Varying statement date conflicts were noted and ideas for accommodations were explored. Big issue of tracking events regarding money, attendance and other issues was discussed and a tracking report was decided at the most viable solution. This report is to be filled out and returned to the State Auditor, just like reports. All checks are to include the same report when submitted to the Treasurer. Changes to help compliance will be put in place and violators will be dealt with immediately in order to keep the Feds off of our back and getting our money. Auditor going to review ByLaws to verify and work with.

### **Media / Public Relations:**

Many issues were discussed and decreasing paper costs was a highlight. The printing/ mailing costs are very high each month. The possibility of membership opting out for electronic versions was discussed. It was noted that the Website could be the place for this. Methods for increasing our Web revenue were also discussed.

Social media seems to be a hot topic these days and ways to exploit this to our advantage were discussed. This included Facebook, MySpace, etc. Event flyer problems was discussed and means for dealing with that included printing before sanctioning with a “Sanctioning pending” overlay on the flyer. This may improve some people in their planning for events for their families. More attendance means more revenue. The idea of attending local events or putting up a booth at those events, such as Farmers markets.

### **Legislative:**

Issues discussed went beyond working the legislature during session to working the election process through BikePAC. Every Chapter should have a membership in BikePAC and work with them as they work for us. The use of social media, including Facebook and websites, was discussed as a way of moving forward. Also options for newspaper use, such as editorials. Communication was discussed as a tool that needed to go both ways. Responsibility of all Officers to pass on information, even when they don't agree with the issue. Another method was discussed on engaging organizations that are impacted by legislation we are working on. This tactic gets them on our side and makes our voice louder. Don stated that he would be visiting every Chapter at one of their meetings in order to really get things going.

**Closing Statements:**

Ted Tracy spoke on the wonderful work that was done today and how great it was to see everyone working together like that. He stated that unless there was a problem, the Board of Directors meeting would take place the next morning. All motions that needed to be considered are to be handed in at that time.

It was suggested that ABATE of Oregon, Inc. do away with the Indian Creek (Member at Large) designation and relabeling it "Member at Large" and do away with any Chapter designation. This is an issue for all Chapter Reps to bring to their Chapter for discussion.

It was also suggested that Duffy's Road List in the Newspaper is out of date and should be updated very soon. Each Chapter please check your area for accuracy and get the information back to Rot Path.

Adjourn for the day. 4:15 pm

**State Board of Directors Meeting  
October 16, 2011**

**Call to Order / Welcome:**

The meeting was called to order by Ted Tracy at 9:24 am with 11 of 12 chapters represented. All Chapters eligible to vote. .

**Not Present:** Lower Columba

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**(X) Coordinator's Comments:** Ted Tracy – Welcomed everyone and spoke on the work that all of the committees had done yesterday. A lot of good ideas and enthusiasm. We need to keep the Planning Minutes fresh and do let them go away without work being done or them getting lost.

Mentioned that all motions presented today will not be completed as they will have to go back to the Chapters for further review and vote later.

There will be a Membership committee meeting at the December 10<sup>th</sup> BOD at 11am.

There will be an Education committee meeting at the November 12<sup>th</sup> BOD at 11 am.

Ted said that there was no need for Officer reports, Board agreed, so we will go directly to New Business.

**New Business:**

Geoff White volunteered to remain as Education Director for 2012. Unanimous vote confirmed Geoff as the 2012 Education Director. Congratulations to Geoff White!

- 1) Motion made by Gordon from Washington County, seconded by Randy of SE Portland Chapter: "State to acquire Administrative access to A.B.A.T.E. of Oregon, Facebook page." Discussion on social media importance ensued. Voting took place. Motion passed unanimously.
- 2) Motion made by Gordon from Washington County, seconded by Karen of Josephine County: "Move to require all Chapters to use 2011 Quicken Accounting Software by Jan 1<sup>st</sup>, 2012. State to assist those Chapters that request help to purchase software." Discussion on everyone being "on the same page" and that this software would be good for many years to come and is very easy to use. Voting took place. Motion passed (10 yes, 1 abstain)
- 3) Motion made by Karen Tolle of Josephine County, seconded by Rick of Jackson County: "Beginning January 1, 2012, a new form "the Event Reconciliation Report" is to be completed by each Chapter for every Chapter Event organized under the ABATE logo. This form is to be reviewed at the 2012 and 2013 Planning Sessions. The report is to be sent to the State Treasurer with the 10% check (if applicable) and is due 60 days following the event." There was much discussion regarding need, insurance, accountability. Voting took place. Motion passed (10 yes, 1 abstain)
- 4) Motion made by Karen of Josephine County, seconded by Rick of Jackson County: "I move that a committee be formed to review event waiver statements used by all Chapters. The scope of the committee should include (a)review of the policy of using on sheet with multiple signatures vs. using a single sheet for each signature. (b)Consult with our insurance company to get their recommendation for the wording since they would get involved with any lawsuits. And (c)to create a policy covering storage of signed waivers after the event including length of time and who or where they should be stored." Explanation then voting. Voting took place. Motion passed (10 yes, 1 abstain)
- 5) Withdrawn
- 6) Motion made by Randy of SE Portland, seconded by Bob of Douglas County: "That ABATE modify the title of Indian Creek and add member at large to the previous designation." This issue was discussed and decided that the Chapters need to discuss this. Motion Tabled.
- 7) Motion made by Karen of Josephine County, seconded by Millie of Lincoln County: "Members be given the option to opt out of receiving ABATE newsmagazine by mail and get their copy from the website." Discussion ensued with cost savings being the big issue discussed. Voting took place. Motion passed unanimously.
- 8) Motion made by Nic of Hub City Chapter, seconded by Richard of Salem Chapter: "Any Chapter that gives up or loses their Charter must turn over all assets, debts, bank accounts to ABATE of Oregon, Inc, due to all Chapter assets belong to the State to begin with but are held "in toto" by the Chapter. No funds or other assets are to be "given away" or transferred to another organization or Chapter without the ABATE Board of Directors approval before hand." Discussion ensued. Nic explained that "in toto" is Latin for "altogether" and used in

this instance similar to legal use meaning “part of the whole”. This motion closes a loophole that had been abused in the past. This also stops any unauthorized “mergers” as that term does not work within our organization. Any Charter loss makes the Chapter die and assets revert to the State for redistribution as needed. Nic asked that this motion be tabled to go to the Chapters for discussion.  
Motion Tabled.

Ted Tracy thanked everyone and appreciated all the help. We got a lot done and a great job done by all. Again, Ted said thanks to everyone for their work.

**Announcements:**

**Next State Board of Directors Meeting: November 12, 2011, at Ciddici’s Pizza, Albany, Oregon.**

**Upcoming events:**

- 11 Nov. 2011            Veteran’s Day Parade Raffle. For more info [www.smmroregon.com](http://www.smmroregon.com).
- 03 Dec. 2011            Shriner Toy Run/SE Portland. Portland. For more info 503-255-5415
- 06 Dec. 2011            Rick Colclasure’s 70<sup>th</sup> B-Day party at the Railroad Park
- 01 Feb. 2012            First Annual Session of the Oregon State Legislature. Attendance by as many as possible is needed at the State Capitol Building at about 10 am for opening ceremonies and to make a statement as to our resolve in protecting and fighting for the rights of all motorcyclists in Oregon.
- 29 Apr. 2012            Spring Swap Meet/ABATE State. Portland Armory, 10000 NE 33rd Dr, Portland

**Adjourned at 10:25 am (or 1025 for you military time keepers)**