

**Buick Club of America
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**

**Buick Motor Division World Headquarters
Flint, Michigan
May 16,1998**

1. Call to order:

The May 16th, 1998 meeting of the Board of Directors (hereinafter the Board) was called to order at 9:30 AM by President Eichelberger. Bill Schoening served as recorder.

Officers and Directors Present:

Al Eichelberger, President

Roberta Vasilow, Vice President

Bill Schoening, Secretary

Bill Anderson, Treasurer

Dick Bury, Director

Ron DeGroff, Director

Carol Derbin, Director

Terry Dunham, Director

Dick Schoppe, Director

A quorum was present.

President Eichelberger thanked Butch Beckman, from Buick Public Relations, for his help in facilitating this BCA Board meeting in the Buick World Headquarters Auditorium.

President Eichelberger introduced Larry Gustin, Assistant Director of Buick Public Relations and Communications. Larry introduced a new Buick History video, which traced the history of Buick with many film clips and sound inserts, including interviews with key leaders at Buick. The first half of the hour long video hour was shown before the Board meeting began. The conclusion was shown following lunch. Many audience

members later asked about the procedure for obtaining a copy. Larry explained that the video was still a work in progress. As such, the mechanism for distributing it had not yet been set up.

Judy Leets introduced Buicktown Chapter member Charlie Jones and Art McGee, UAW Local 599 President. A short video produced by UAW Local 599, emphasizing Buick's importance to the Flint economy, was shown.

President Fichelberger introduced the Board. All the members in attendance were asked to identify themselves and their chapters. A total of 46 members attended.

The following chapters had members in attendance in the audience:

Buicktown
Fireball
Central Indiana
Southeast Michigan
Buick Driving Enthusiasts Division of the BCA
Central Ohio
Chicagoland
Youngstown Buicks of Yesteryear
Finger Lakes

1. Call to audience:

Pam Bonk

She was concerned that there is only one ballot for voting for the Board members. This concern came about since she did not agree with her husband on the voting and felt that each spouse, when husband and wife both are listed as members on their membership cards. The logistics for doing this will be discussed for future elections. It is too late for this election.

2. Minutes corrections:

Motion: To accept the Minutes for the February meeting.

Motion by Dunham

Second by Vasilow

Derbin brought up concerns about the BCA mailing list. Since this had nothing to do with the minutes corrections, this was tabled until later. Derbin gave Schoening some minor corrections in the minutes, prior to the meeting.

Question called: Vote: Approved-7. Against-1

3. Treasurer's Report:

See appendix 1 for March 31, 1998.

Bill Anderson believes the budget will break even by the end of the year.

Mac Blair and Bill Anderson are working on judging pins for the car show judges. There will be one pin for judges with 1 to 10 credits (National judge), another for judges with 11 to 24 credits (Senior National Judge), and one for judges with 25 and more credits (Master National Judge). Pins have been ordered for National and Senior Judges and will be available for distribution in Boston.

An agreement has been negotiated with Buick Motor Division allowing the BCA to sell merchandise bearing Buick's logos through the BCA store.

The agreement for a BCA credit card to be offered by MBNA has been executed. Announcements will be mailed to all BCA members in August.

Questions were asked about the bank statements and where they are sent. Schoppe felt the statements should only go to the office and not to the treasurer. Anderson asked for the statements directly so Joel could complete the bookkeeping and he could send out the financial data to the Board as quickly as possible. There were discussions about asking the bank to send two statements, one to the office and one to the treasurer.

Motion: The treasurer will ask the bank to send out two statements, one to the office, and one to the treasurer.

Motion by: Vasilow

Second by: Dunham

Vote: Approved-8, Against-0

Motion: If the bank cannot send two statements, the statement will be sent to the BCA office and the BCA office manager will send a copy to the treasurer immediately.

Motion by Vasilow

Second by: Derbin

Vote: Approve-8, Against-0

Buick history books:

The book, *The Buick A Complete History*, is currently out of print and stock. Buick Motor division has some copies they will sell to us.

Motion: The BCA will purchase *The Buick A Complete History*, from Buick Motor Division for \$25.00 each, subject to availability. These books will be sold for \$40.00 each.

Motion by Bury

Second by Schoppe

Vote: Approve-8, Against-0

Motion: To approve the treasurer's report

Motion by Dunham

Second by DeGroff

Vote: Approve-8, Against-0

4. The BCA Foundation report was deferred until after lunch.

5. The Office report:

See appendix 2.

Motion: As requested by Val Ingram, voice mail will be added to the office phone service. Cost to be \$10 to \$12 per month.

Motion by Vasilow

Second by Schoening

Vote: Approve-8, Against-0

6. The Editor's report:

A budget was submitted for the 1999 Roster and the *Buick Bugle*.

Derbin was concerned about the sales of the Benchmarking survey reports.

Anderson noted that all those who took part in the survey, received a copy free.

The sales are to those clubs who did not take part.

Motion: to accept the Editor's report.

Motion by: Dunham

Second by DeGroff

Vote: Approve-8, Against-0

Lunch break: Lunch provided by Buick Motor Division.

After lunch, BCA President Eichelberger and Buicktown President Judy Leets cut the cake for Buick's 95 birthday in the lobby of the Headquarters building. Members of the press attended the cake cutting and parts of the board meeting. Later, President Eichelberger was interviewed by local television news reporters. Portions of the taped interviews were shown on Michigan channels that evening. The second half of the Buick History video was shown immediately following lunch.

The meeting was reconvened at 1:45pm.

7. The Foundation report:

Terry Dunham, Chairman of the Board, thanked several people who have helped with saving much material from Buick for the archive at the Sloan Museum. Two of these are Don Paster, and Ken McCellan. He announced that the Foundation is a reality. Terry read the mission statement for the Foundation. See appendix 3.

Foundation President Bill Anderson reported that the Board is developing a fund-raising program. In the interim, donations will be gladly accepted. The application is being prepared for tax-exempt status and will be sent to the IRS.

8. The Regional Coordinator's report:

Ron gave a brief history of the regions and why there needs to be a change in the Golden West Region. A map was shown noting all the areas where the chapters and regions are. The Golden West region is too big and needs to be split up. Dorrn Smith has been a great help on the boundaries. One possible new region is the northwest. They are waiting for a response from the three chapters in that area. Since three chapters make a region, this may be a new region. Also there are now three chapters in Colorado, another area that could be a separate region. Not all the chapters have responded so the final boundaries will have to wait until they do.

Ron DeGross has formed a committee to help attract younger members to the club.

This committee is:

Judy Leets

Bob Beaton

Bill Schoening.

These people cover three regions of the country, East, South and West. The BCA faces similar problems that other clubs are facing. We need ideas and want to set policy and procedures for the BCA.

9. Chapter Coordinator's report:

Carol Derbin has submitted a SOP on the chapter coordinator's job.

Motion: Review the SOP on the Chapter Coordinators position, submit any revisions to Derbin with the revised verbiage to be given to the President for inclusion in the July agenda. Approval of the SOP will be considered at the July Board meeting.

Motion by Dunham

Second by Anderson

Vote: Approve-8. Against-0

Motion: To have Carol Derbin write an informational letter to be given to new chapters on how to get started and what is needed. This is to be completed by June for inclusion in the July agenda.

Motion by Dunham

Second by Vasilow

Vote: Approve-8. Against-0

DeGross noted he and Derbin were working on the way chapter data is published in *The Bugle*. The hope is to save space. This is still under way.

Chapter information: Empire State charter has been recended

The San Joaquin chapter withdrew their chapter request, there was not enough people to form a chapter.

A new chapter has asked to be approved in New Mexico in the Farmington area. They wanted their name to be approved. " The Roadrunner Buicks New Mexico Chapter of the BCA

Motion: To approve the formation of a new chapter called: The Roadrunner Buicks New Mexico Chapter of the BCA.

Motion by Derbin

Second by Dunham

Vote: Approve-8, Against-0

Motion; Accept the Regional Coordinator and Chapter Coordinator reports.

Motion by Dunham

Second by Schoening

Vote: Approve-8, Against-0

10. BCA insurance policy:

Motion: To accept the bid from Grundy Insurance agency as the BCA insurance company.

Motion by Anderson

Second by Schoening

In the discussion it was stated that this covers Commercial general liability, Commercial property, and commercial crime. There were concerns that the current insurance company may change their advertising in *The Buick Bugle* if the BCA changes its insurance company. Anderson noted that the current insurance policy expires at the end of June and if a change is to be made, the decision must be at this meeting.

The motion as adopted with the following amendments:

The following coverage is to be purchased from the Grundy Insurance Agency.

1. Purchase: General commercial liability will be done with the Grundy Agency

Approve-8. Against-0

2. Purchase: Commercial property.

Approve-1, Against- 7

3 Purchase: Commercial crime.

Approve-8, Against-0

3. Purchase: Commercial excess umbrella insurance

Approve-8, Against-0

4. Purchase: Directors and officers insurance

Approve-3, Against-5

11. Policy and procedures for National Meets Guidelines:

This will be done for the July Board meeting.

12. Dick Bury introduced a draft of a SOP covering procedures to be followed by a chapter hosting a meeting of the Board of Directors. It was agreed that the Board members would examine this draft and it would be acted upon at the July meeting.

13. The Internet report:

Users of the web, have made requests for changes in the discussion page. These are under way. A new search engine to help find data is under study. At the present time Board members are answering questions from the web page. Some discussion was done about how much data should we give out and should it be charged for with the funds going to the treasury. The general feeling is no charge at this time.

14 Chief Judge's Report

MacBlair reported that new judging forms are being designed. Perhaps three forms may be needed. The break points need to be determined, perhaps 1941 and 1961 then cars with no frames. One suggestion is 1932 and 1960. The 1970s and 80s will be a problem due to all the electronics. There was some feeling this may be too many forms to keep track of. Bob Newman of the Reatta division gave a summary of what they are doing to develop a judging system in the Reatta division.

Judging service pins have been ordered. Dorrان Smith is keeping the records of judges to help identify those who would get judging service pins.

A problem was noted in the Senior Awards. A member had not received his/her senior award after it was mailed out. It was recommended that future Senior Awards be sent by insured mail, with signature required. The lost award is to be replaced.

Motion: The head judge of the meet will use the senior report forms to determine that a car is a senior car.

Motion by Dunham

Second by DeGroff

Vote: Approve-8, Against-0

Motion: To mail out all senior awards at a cost effective way with a return receipt requested.

Motion by Anderson

Second by Schoppe

Vote: Approve-8, Against-0

Motion; If a car is misrepresented as a Senior car and is not, it will be barred from competing in the show.

Motion by Schoening

Second by Schoppe

Vote; Approve-8, Against-0

Mac showed the design of a pin that could be given to a person who has a senior car. These are estimated to cost 4 to 5 dollars each.

Motion; Approve the Senior Award Pin in concept and refer the project back to Chief Judge Blair for further development.

Motion by Dunham

Second by Derbin

Vote; Approve-8, Against-0

14. Technical Advisors for the BCA

Schoening gave a presentation of a proposed program for setting up a technical advisor listing for the club. See appendix 4 **Appendix 1**

Motion: To set up a technical advisor program as outlined in the plan presented at the meeting, starting as soon as possible.

Motion by Dunham

Second by Vasilow

Vote: Approve-8, Against-0

In order to guarantee that items submitted by BCA Chapters were resolved, discussion of the proposed 1998-99 Budget was deferred to the end of the meeting.

15 Correspondence:

Motion: To approve the Metro Chapter logo

Motion by Dunham

Second by DeGroff

Vote: Approve-8, Against-0

Motion: To approve the Mid-America Chapter logo

Motion by Anderson

Second by Dunham

Vote: Approve-8, Against-0

Motion: To approve the Gulf Coast logo

Motion by Dunham

Second by DeGroff

Vote: Approve-8, Against-0

Motion: To approve the Southern Arizona Chapter logo

Motion by Schoppe

Second by Derbin

Board members wished to see this logo in color and requested that the words Buick Club of America be added.

Vote: Approve-2, Against-6

All other correspondence was for information only.

16 Addenda:

The Northern Virginia Chapter submitted a bid to host the National Meet in 2000. The bid was reviewed and discussed by the board.

Motion: To accept the Northern Virginia Chapter Bid for the 2000 National meet.

Motion by Schoppe

Second by Bury

Vote: Approve-7, Against-0, Abstain-1

In the discussions, we are asking Phil Strassner to see if the fees for the tours can be reduced. DeGroff has volunteered to act as a liaison between the board and the Northern Virginia Chapter.

17. The new Budget:

Motion; Defer the discussion of the 1998-99 budget to July meeting until the new Board is seated.

Motion by Dunham

Second by Anderson

Vote: Approve-3, Against-5

Motion: To have the old Board approve the new budget for the year 1998-99.

Motion by Schoppe

Second by Derbin

Vote: Approve-6, Against-2

Derbin asked that a discussion of the Mailing list be placed on the agenda for the July 12 meeting and agreed to submit a written proposal on this matter for inclusion with the agenda packet. In addition, Derbin requested that the SOP on hosting road Board meetings be revised in the interim with a written proposal to be submitted for inclusion in the July 12 agenda packet.

Adjourned at 4:30PM Respectfully submitted Bill Schoening