

British Car Club of Southwest Florida (BCCSWF)
Minutes of Meeting, July 11, 2017

The July meeting of the BCCSWF was held at the usual location of Famous Dave's in Fort Myers, Florida with 26 members attending. Several guests/new members and the cars they own were quickly introduced. Tom and Martha Lambert, owners of 1953 MG were first introduced and Tom spoke about already ordering parts for a car he has owned for only two weeks. Rick and Chris Green who drive an MGA were also introduced. Bob Field and Bonnie Bauer, members who joined several months ago, but were attending their first meeting, were introduced and Bob spoke about his 2007 Jaguar XKR and also quietly mentioned his German Mercedes.

Rollie Welch once again mentioned that articles for the British Marque are welcome and encouraged members to submit any content relevant to British cars. Rollie thanked Lin Dworkin for her fine article about the Arcadia Memorial Service. Also acknowledged was Bill Newman's upcoming article about vintage racing at Sebring. The January Shell Point display event was mentioned with 19 vehicles agreeing to participate. More details will follow as the January 6, 2018 draws closer.

Lauren Welch summarized the treasurer's report. Membership now stands at 93 with more memberships yet to be renewed.

The meeting paused to sing Happy Birthday to Gary Dworkin and Tom Brewsaugh who were enjoying their birthday months in July.

Webmaster Gary Eidson thanked everyone for their efforts on the web page and how easy the transition to Mary Newman worked. Mary will be the webmaster for the upcoming year. Gary pointed out how much improved the web page is with quite of bit of relevant information for club members. Club members gave Gary a round of applause for his web work.

Bill Newman spoke about how the club needs to remain active through the peaks and valleys of attendance throughout the year. Our snowbird members cannot attend summer events, but it is important to have activities planned for the winter months.

Activities coordinator Gary Dworkin spoke about the monthly breakfast get-togethers at Mimi's on the last Saturday of each month. Gary expressed in detail his desire for the club to change venues this month on July 29 to the Garden Café in Bonita Springs, about eight miles south of Mimi's. Gary listed the menu items and price points while expressing the setting which in his opinion has more privacy for conversation about cars and such.

Several members asked if moving the location without contacting the full membership was too rushed of a decision. Much discussion ensued with several motions for membership surveys to be submitted. Members voiced concern about alienating a percentage of the membership by a location that may be less centrally located. Other suggestions were to alternate locations. Gary felt that the Garden Café would offer better service performance but that concept seemed to not be a motivating factor for other members. A motion was made and seconded to send out via email a simple survey to gauge which members would be in favor of a venue change.

Bill Newman mentioned the SCCA event at Sebring coming July 12. Bill also reminded everyone of the big event of the Safety Harbor show on October 21 which promises to be a huge gathering of British vehicles.

Bill mentioned the need to “polish up” the club’s by-laws concerning monetary concerns along with more precise procedures for club policy. Cecil Carter and Bill Newman will review the by-laws and propose recommendations within the next few months.

Kenny Taylor motioned that monthly meetings at Famous Dave’s begin a half hour earlier at 6:30. The motion was seconded and passed with a majority. Thus, the August 8 meeting will begin at 6:30.

Gary Dworkin will conduct the next meeting as Bill and Mary will be vacationing in Nova Scotia.

Mike Wheeler won the 50-50 raffle of \$32. Congrats!

The next meeting will be on August 8, with a starting time of 6:30.