

**Mid Atlantic Barbecue Association Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, March 4, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. via Google Meet**

I. Confirmation of Quorum

Board Member	Present	Absent
Joe Rouse - President	X	
Lee Evans - Vice President	X	
Samantha Adams - Treasurer		X
Ron Vasold- - Secretary	X	
Bill DeHoff		X
Stephen Hypes	X	
John Shirey	X	
Jacob Artz		X
Richard Rybak	X	

II. Call to Order - Meeting called to order at 7:00PM

III. Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes - (Stephen/Ron) Motion to accept the minutes from the meeting on February 18, 2026. 6 in favor/0 opposed. Motion Carries.

IV. New Business

A. Bylaw Review

- a. (Rich/Joe) Motion to enter closed session at 7:05. 6 in favor/0 opposed. Motion carries.
- b. High level review of current bylaws to identify areas that need review.
- c. Directors to continue to review and note necessary changes for future discussion to update bylaws.
- d. (Rich/Lee) Motion to return to open session at 7:52. 6 in favor/0 opposed. Motion carries.

B. Mail Chimp - Joe sent a season opening welcome message to 220 members/prior members as limited by Mailchimp. Message had a 43% open rate.

C. Newsletter/Podcast - Discussed creating and publishing an e-newsletter on a regular frequency to contain articles, advertisements, contest information, etc. Ron will pull together a proposal

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for review at the next meeting.

- D. Bonfire
 - a. *Stephen tested ordering from Bonfire. Shirt delivered 9 days from order.*
 - b. *Bonfire account profile was updated.*
- E. Communication
 - a. *Joe has been responding to incoming messages to MABA and welcoming new members to the organization.*
 - b. *Joe has been communicating to all RToY applicants.*
- F. New Committees - Records & Sponsorship
 - a. *Records - Discussed the need for a records committee to organize and maintain all association records. Need to identify the records (paper and electronic) that currently exist and identify their location. A decision to create a committee was tabled for future discussion.*
 - b. *Sponsorship - (Rich/Ron) Motion to create Sponsorship Committee housed under the Strategic Planning Committee. 6 in favor/0 opposed. Motion Carries.*

V. Unfinished Business

- A. Banking Issue
 - a. *Sam and Ron went to Wells Fargo and got the account transferred to them and had Lisa removed from the account.*
 - b. *Joe went to Wells Fargo and was not successfully added to the account.*
 - c. *Directors will evaluate other financial institutions to see if we can find an association friendly account.*
- B. Trophy Update
 - a. *All replacement trophies and missing trophies were received and the (3) 16" trophies were damaged in shipping.*
 - b. *Ron contacted A-1 Awards and the trophies will be replaced for free on an expedited order.*
- C. ToY - *Joe provided all information to Mark for tracking.*

VI. Committee Reports and Action Item Discussion

- A. Sponsorship Committee
 - a. *Fat Kids BBQ to provide a 10% discount to members.*
 - b. *Spitjack - Considering providing contest prizes and/or discounts to members.*
 - c. *In discussion with multiple rub suppliers for sponsorship or discounts.*
- B. Membership Committee
 - a. *Membership Stats Update*
 - i. *171 current members*
 - ii. *Reviewed membership trends*
 - b. *Review Bailout BBQ RToY - new team*
- C. Publications Committee - *Ron to provide draft of newsletter proposal (see New Business)*
- D. Website/Technology Committee
 - a. *Joe commended Rich for the uptick in social media activity.*
 - b. *Engagement and views on Facebook and Instagram have substantially increased.*
 - c. *Need to update RToY, discounts, MABA Cup, and add 2026 State Cup Contests.*
- E. Finance Committee - *No report*
- F. Banquet Committee - *No report*

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- G. Bylaws Committee - *Review held in closed session. Continue mark-ups for discussion.*
- H. Strategic Planning - *Lee to send breakout of plan to associated committee chairs.*
- I. Nominations Committee - *discussed timing for upcoming nominations.*
- J. Social Committee
 - a. *Discussed past activities that were successful.*
 - b. *Pulling together a plan for upcoming contests.*

VII. Adjournment - *(Lee/Rich) motion to adjourn. 6 in favor/0 opposed. Motion Carries. Meeting was adjourned at 8:26PM.*

Respectfully submitted by Ron Vasold - Secretary, Mid-Atlantic Barbecue Association