

Wednesday, Dec 5, 2007, 7 pm – 9 pm
American Legion - Birch & Humphreys - Flagstaff

MINUTES

1. Welcome and Call to order – President Barkley Coggin (5 minutes)

“Housekeeping” items

New Website: HYPERLINK "http://www.flagstaffeaa.org" www.flagstaffeaa.org

Membership forms

2. Introductions - Please be sure to sign in also! (10 minutes)

Briefly provide: name, why you are here, if you are an EAA member, whether you own/ drive an EV

Members Present: Ward Davis, Dustin Donahue, Bill Schlanger, Coreen Clark, Jo Starr, Connor Boyle, Barkley Coggin, Jack Neville

Public Present: Nicholas Negrete, Larry Bean, Walt Howard, Ryan Holtz, Don Carter, Hunter, Paul Campbell

3. Revision and/or approval of minutes (5 minutes)

Voting Members (paid National EAA members)

Motion to Approve December Minutes as Written: Bill Schlanger

Motion Seconded: Connor Boyle

Approved unanimously

4. Chapter Business & Officers’ Reports - as needed (30 minutes)

President: Barkley called for suggestions for presentations at meetings. These presentations can be done by anyone, and if anyone has a suggestion or idea, please let him know. For the meetings when we do not have a formal presentation, we can just have an informal “free-for-all” question & answer session.

Vice-President: Bill said that the chapter’s website is up and running. We would like to put pictures of Members’ electric vehicles on the site. If you have pictures or an EV story you would like to see on our site, please submit them to Bill.

Secretary/Treasurer: Jo said that her life is so busy right now that she would like for someone else to take over the Treasurer position so she can focus more on the Secretary duties, and called for a volunteer who would be interested. Connor Boyle stepped up and said he could do it.

Motion to Elect Connor as Treasurer: Barkley Coggin

Motion Seconded: Bill Schlanger

Approved unanimously.

Jo passed on the Treasurer information and money envelope to Connor.

Barkley suggested that the Chapter Officers should get together for a brief meeting for Chapter business. He will send out an email to solicit good times to get together. Bill needs to talk to our webmaster and have them add another email address for the Treasurer: Treasurer@flagstaffeaa.org

5. Proposal to hold meeting on a weekend (possibly Sunday?) evening

Jack noted that if we wanted to continue meeting at the American Legion, we would have to check their calendar and see what the availability is. Dustin noted that since he has been attending, he has seen a lot of different people at the various meetings, and that consistent attendance by the members/people interested, is key to our success. To help make consistent attendance easier, perhaps a weekend might be better, because the majority of people are off work on the weekends. A quick check of attendees' preferences seemed to indicate that overall the general consensus is that weekends might be a little better. Bill will check availability for the American Legion and we will address this issue at the January meeting.

Jo mentioned that the January meeting would fall on January 2. Since this is immediately after the New Year holiday, would it be better to change the meeting to the following Wednesday, January 9?

Motion to hold the January Meeting on January 9: Jo Starr

Motion Seconded: Ward Davis

Approved unanimously

6. Presentation: The EV Conversion Process followed by Question and Answer Session—(65 minutes)

Bill Schlanger gave a presentation, complete with photos, on the process of converting a car to electric, focusing on his LandRover. He chose the LandRover first because it is a very lightweight vehicle, weighing about 2900 pounds, and second (and equally important), it is a car that his wife Andi always wanted to own. The LandRover has an aluminum body and is a 4-wheel-drive. Because it is an older vehicle, the components are simpler and easier to get to than today's cars. They have gotten the car body cosmetically completed and are now starting on the interior. Bill is working on developing an electric instrument panel to monitor battery level, etc. One of the trickiest parts of converting a vehicle is that there can be no misalignment between the motor and the transmission. A DC motor is generally used because the electronics are simpler than an AC motor. The AC motor is smaller and more efficient and weighs less, so it is a tradeoff. Bill also talked about the Geo Metro he converted. It cost about \$7,000-10,000 and uses Lead-Acid batteries. Lead-Acid batteries are more cost-efficient than Nickle-Metal-Hydride, and last from 3 to 5 years depending on the amount of discharge you put them through. The batteries can be upgraded to new technologies as they become more available and affordable. Questions came up about Plug-In Hybrids. Plug-In Hybrids may be a good option for people who are not sure about converting to all-electric, for whatever reason. A Plug-In Hybrid gives you a lot more range than current all-electric technology.

In a nutshell, the conversion process is as follows:

1 – Find the right car – you want a car that is lightweight and in good condition, one that you will enjoy driving.

2 – Remove the gas (ICE) components: engine, gas tank, exhaust, radiator

3 – Hook up your motor to the transmission. Conversion kits are available for a number of popular cars. The motor mount must provide a solid and stable connection.

4 – Determine where to locate your batteries and how many you have room for.

Generally you can put some under the hood and others in the rear. Hatchbacks and pickups have good battery areas.

5 – Expect to put in 40-60 hours or so working on your vehicle.

Other things to consider: You will want to have easy access to your batteries because you will need to periodically clean the battery terminals. Sealed batteries are basically maintenance-free, and flooded batteries will have some leakage so you have to be sure they are topped off. When it is very cold outside, batteries lose a lot of efficiency, so you want to have some type of battery heater. Bill has devised a heater that consists simply of a 60-watt heating pad and a thermostat to monitor the temperature.

8. Next Meeting January 9, 2008, 7-9 PM at the American Legion

Barkley said that he would like to see attendees carpool to the meetings, and if anyone is interested in doing this, please let him know.

9. Adjourn

Electric Auto Association Flagstaff Chapter

Flagstaff Chapter Officers

President: Barkley Coggin - president@flagstaffeaa.org

Vice-President: Bill Schlanger - vp@flagstaffeaa.org

Secretary/Treasurer: Jo Starr - secretary@flagstaffeaa.org

Electric Auto Association

www.eaaev.org

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