

Studebaker Drivers Club Inc. (SDC) Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, September 23, 2026
Waxahachie Civic Center, Room D
62nd SDC International Meet in Waxahachie, Texas

Call to Order: President Donald Cox called the meeting to order at 9:15 AM CST and thanked all for attending. The secretary conducted roll call and confirmed that fifteen members were in attendance, including one non-voting member, Carl Thompson, establishing a quorum.

Attending in person: Donald Cox, President; Ernie Brown, Vice-President; Avi Prochazka, Treasurer; Cynthia Sale, Secretary; Carl Thomason, Parliamentarian; Peter Bishop, Northeast Zone Director; Tom Cantral, North Central Zone Director; Proxy for Clyde Furr, Southeast Zone Director, was Douglas Watts, Southeast Zone Coordinator; Phil Henderson, International Zone Director; Gary Sanders, Upper Mississippi Valley Zone Director; Ed Smith, Pacific Southwest Zone Director; Proxy for Harvey Snitzer, Crossroads Zone Director, Dave Hamblin, Crossroads Zone Coordinator; Jon Stalnaker, South Central Zone Director. **Attending online via Zoom:** Denny Foust, Past President; Bob Dudeck, Atlantic Zone Director. **Absent:** Jack Gregory, Pacific Can-AM Zone Director.

Approval of previous minutes: Minutes from August 23, 2026, Board Meeting were presented by email for review. Denny Foust moved to accept the minutes as written. Ed Smith seconded the motion. Motion passed with fourteen yes votes.

General Discussion: The board members introduced themselves to the audience.

Financial Report: Avi Prochazka, Treasurer, reported that 2026 income from events was steady with past years. Our costs have risen most notably in terms of postage and insurance. We have seen savings in printing Turning Wheels by implementing Don Jones' recommendation to change the paper used. We continue to watch costs closely and look for ways to reduce expenses. Don Cox, President, said one possibility is to combine some of our business costs, like insurance, with other classic car clubs to gain economies of scale without losing our independent identity. This opportunity is still in the research stage, and no action has been taken.

Studebaker National Museum: Patrick Slebonick, Executive Director, Studebaker National Museum, provided the board with their annual update. He reported Becky Bonham's passing on August 11, 2026. Becky served as the Executive Director of the Studebaker National Museum for over 15 years, raising millions of dollars to build the new museum and overseeing its construction. Becky is greatly missed, and her influence continues to steer the museum. The museum finished 2025 with just under 45,000 attendees, the most in the museum's history. The Muppet Car and over 4,000 children attending school field trips are credited with this increase. They launched two student summer camps focused on STEM learning and history education, and both were at full capacity. The museum was awarded the 2025 Leighton Award for Non-Profit Excellence, recognizing its extraordinary achievement, sound management, innovative programming, and vital role as a local cultural storyteller. The museum also

received the Corporate Education Award from the South Bend Education Alliance for outstanding contributions to public education, local revitalization, and community engagement. In 2026, the annual Concourse D'Elegance at Copshaholm was successful and included partnerships with Concourse D'Lemons and The Society of Automotive Historians. 2026 was the second year for "Touch a Truck," and over 20,000 people came through the museum that day. Thanks to a generous sponsor, access to the entire museum campus was free, and the parking lot was filled with classic and new trucks and heavy equipment of all kinds, including fire trucks, construction vehicles, and military vehicles.

Trademarks: Pat also reported that in August 2026 the Studebaker National Museum and the Studebaker Drivers Club entered into an agreement to manage the SDC trademarks. The museum does not charge the SDC for this service and will invoice renewal fees as the SDC trademarks are renewed. The Turning Wheels and the Studebaker Drivers Club wheel logo were successfully renewed under this agreement, and two more will come up for renewal after the first of the year. Don mentioned the museum is also managing the SDC's official PO Box in South Bend and promptly forwarding mail received there to the appropriate member.

Funding requests:

Restoration Fund: The museum has not submitted a 2026 funding request for the Restoration fund.

Capital Cost Fund: Pat Slebonick presented Bob Henning's request for \$10,000 for the Capital Cost budget. This amount will complete funding to buy a new car hauler to move museum vehicles to exhibits and car shows. The funds would be added to monies already received from donors for this purpose and fulfill the expected cost of a new vehicle. Don Cox made a motion to give \$10,000 to the Studebaker National Museum for the capital cost. Jon Stalnaker seconded the motion. Motion carried by thirteen votes.

Future International Meets:

South Bend, Indiana 2027: Pat Slebonick presented a preview of the 2027 International Meet in South Bend. The dates are Tuesday, June 1st through Saturday, June 5th, 2027. The Avanti Owners Association International and Antique Studebaker Owners Club will host their events in town that week in June. As with past years, the host hotel will be DoubleTree Downtown. The swap meet and car show will be held at the St. Joseph County Fairgrounds. Registration will move to the fairgrounds to make parking easier when picking up registration packets or registering on site. Activities will include a tour of South Bend Chocolate Company's new building, which is associated with the Indiana Dinosaur Museum. Two evening gatherings are planned; one at Mishawaka's Ironworks Plaza and the other joining Down Town South Bend's First Friday community event.

Loveland, Colorado 2028: Mark Harris of the Conestoga Chapter presented a proposal to host the 2028 SDC International Meet in Loveland, Colorado. The proposed dates are September 19th through 22nd, 2028. The proposed host hotel is the Embassy Suites Hotel and Conference Center,

which has over 260 guest rooms and enough indoor and outdoor space to accommodate the event in one place. Mark has been in contact with ASC and AOAI to host their annual meetings at the same time. The annual SDC banquet is proposed for Friday night. The public show day would be the local Cars & Coffee on Friday morning. No activities are scheduled on Saturday, allowing members and vendors an open day for sightseeing or heading home. Ed Smith made a motion to accept Conestoga Chapter's bid to host the International Meet in Loveland, Colorado, in 2028, with the intention of inviting the ASC and AOAI to join in a cooperative meet at the same location and dates, allowing them to contract facility date extensions if needed. Ernie Brown seconded the motion. Motion carried with fourteen votes.

Committee Reports: The 2025 Committee reports were presented in booklet form. Ed Smith suggested that future reports should include the names of the committee members and that list be provided to the SDC Board. Peter Bishop offered to contact the committee leaders to verify who is on the committees. Tom Cantral moved to accept the 2025 SDC Committee Reports as written. Peter Bishop seconded the motion. The motion was carried with fourteen votes.

Bylaws and Policy and Procedure Manual update: Carl Thomason reported the changes to the SDC bylaws and Policy and Procedure Manual are documented and were shared with the board via email. While reviewing the existing bylaws and PPM, many minor or housekeeping wording, syntax, or format changes were found. Any organization with bylaws may change format and wording without the organization's approval if the intent is not changed. Carl proposed tabling line 3 of the proposed changes document for further research and that the bylaws committee make the housekeeping edits, then provide the edited version with a list of proposed additions and changes to either document for the board's review and vote at an upcoming meeting. Denny Foust moved to approve Carl's proposal. Ernie Brown seconded the motion. Motion carried with fourteen votes.

Studebaker National Foundation: Carl Thomason reported on the Studebaker National Foundation's progress and activities. The Studebaker National Foundation is fulfilling its mission of preserving the past and supporting the future in many tangible ways. Each year, the foundation provides a paid internship at the Studebaker National Museum. They award scholarships to students pursuing careers in the automotive trade and technical schools. The SNF has arranged for Studebakers to be placed in automotive museums around the nation and covers the costs of shipping and insurance on these vehicles.

Meeting adjourned at 11:50 AM CST.

Respectfully submitted, October 5, 2026

Cynthia Sale, Studebaker Drivers Club Secretary

Next Meetings:

Executive Board

TBD

Board of Directors

Sunday, October 11, 2026, at 7 pm EST.

*Corrected Tom Cantral title to North Central Zone Director - CS