

AI-Prepared Meeting Minutes and Action Items

AROC 2027 Convention Planning Meeting

31 August 2026

(Note: These minutes were prepared by an Artificial Intelligence (AI) agent. AIs are inherently stupid and do not understand everything we spoke about. Please use this document as a rough guide to our discussions. Do not take irrevocable action based on these minutes; first confirm with Chapter/ Convention leadership.)

Meeting summary

Quick recap

The meeting focused on planning the 2027 Capital Chapter AROC convention scheduled for July 25 to August 1, 2027, at the Westfields Marriott in Chantilly, Virginia. Peter provided an overview of the convention progress, noting that while challenges exist around budget, scheduling, and event costs, most issues are manageable. Brad and Jeff discussed the track and autocross events, highlighting insurance challenges with K&K Insurance as the most likely provider, and the need for reliable pricing from tracks to determine participation requirements. Gina presented tour options including pre-convention tours to Gettysburg and Monticello, Thursday tours to Luray Caverns and Uvar Hazy Air and Space Museum, and Friday evening DC bus tours. Peter outlined the Concorso plans at Sully Historic Site with approximately 20 judged cars and 70 people's choice vehicles, along with reception and banquet details for Saturday evening. The group discussed vendor arrangements, with Frank confirming several participants including Michelin and The Finish Line, while Mary continues working on publicity and advertising plans including submissions to Alpha Owner magazine. Peter announced plans for a new website through DRL Studios with a target launch date of October 1st, and the group discussed the upcoming Utah board meeting where they will present the 2027 convention plans.

Action Items

Brad

- [Complete discussions with Summit Point and obtain a sample contract from them for insurance purposes.](#)
- [Coordinate with Mike Miller to visit Dominion Raceway and assess feasibility for an autocross event.](#)

Frank

- [Follow up with vendors \(Michelin, Mr. Fiat, John Norman, Re-Originals\) to confirm participation and discuss details.](#)

Gina

- [Follow up with venues for Thursday's Luray Caverns tour and Friday's brewery/winery tour, and explore DC night tour for two nights.](#)

Jeff

- [Call Greg at Summit Point to obtain a sample contract and pricing information.](#)

Mike Hemsley

- [Contact Jay Leno's people to inquire about availability as a banquet speaker.](#)

Mike Miller

- [Look into logo design for shirts, hats, and other merchandise, and explore vendors for goodie bag items.](#)

Peter

- [Request an updated budget from the Utah convention team.](#)
- [Work with DRL Studios to finalize the website contract and have the site online by October 1st.](#)
- [Develop ad rates and sponsorship rates for the convention program, aiming to cover program costs with advertising.](#)
- [Schedule the next convention planning meeting for September 14th or 15th.](#)
- [Attend the Utah convention and present the 2027 convention plan at the board meeting and banquet.](#)

Peter B.

- [Send the budget template to Peter J by tomorrow.](#)

Brewster

- [Map out the route for the Gimmick Rally by the end of October.](#)

Summary

Vendor Confirmation and Updates Meeting

The meeting began with casual conversation about new computers, with Frank mentioning he replaced his old computer after two months of problems. Frank provided updates on vendor confirmations, reporting that The Finish Line with Hugh Rupken and Michelin have confirmed participation, though Michelin's setup appeared limited to a bib and literature table rather than a full vendor booth. The meeting included technical difficulties with multiple participants joining twice, including Mike Hemsley who experienced duplicate audio/video inputs, which were eventually resolved.

Convention Planning Progress Review

The meeting began with introductions, including welcoming Lance Dong from San Diego who is a convention advisor with AROC National. Brad announced the upcoming club picnic at his house in Vienna, Virginia on September 5th from 4-7 PM, with an invitation to be sent out that evening. The main focus was on reviewing the convention planning progress, with Peter highlighting the successful photo session that yielded over 800 high-quality photos from the hotel in mid-July. The meeting followed an agenda covering various convention committees including tours, events, concourse, vendors, and budget discussions, though Brewster was expected to join but had not yet checked in.

Convention Planning Progress Update

Peter provided an update on the convention planning, stating that while challenges exist, they are manageable. The main priorities identified were creating a detailed schedule and budget, with specific focus needed on finance, event costs, scheduling, and de-conflicting events like the track and autocross. The convention is scheduled for July 25th to August 1st, 2027, at the Westfields Marriott in Chantilly, Virginia, with a target of 350 member registrations and

400 at the banquet. Peter noted that while significant progress has been made in five months since receiving approval to start, the schedule and budget remain the most critical tasks for the next few weeks until mid-September.

Track Event Insurance Challenges

The team discussed challenges with organizing track and autocross events, primarily focusing on insurance issues. Brad explained that their club insurance no longer covers track events, requiring them to seek coverage from an event insurance provider like K&K Insurance, which insures Summit Point. Due to insurance complications and uncertainty about 2027 track fees, Brad noted it's difficult to create a definitive budget for the October events. The team is considering either holding all events at Summit Point on the same day or potentially splitting them between Summit Point and Dominion Raceway, with the autocross potentially moving to Friday if needed.

Automotive Event Planning Discussion

Jeff presented an itinerary for an automotive event at Summit Point, proposing open lapping, time trials, instructed driving sessions, and parade laps to attract a broader audience beyond hot lap enthusiasts. Brad discussed potential plans to visit Dominion Raceway with Mike Miller to assess its suitability for autocross events, though this would depend on completing ongoing discussions with Summit Point and resolving insurance issues. Frank shared insights about insurance challenges from a previous 1993 convention at Summit Point, noting that AROC's insurance coverage was inadequate then and remains a concern now, with tracks requiring higher liability coverage. Peter mentioned that pricing challenges are affecting multiple event categories, with hotel rooms secured but catering and track pricing still pending, suggesting they will increment current pricing by 10-15% as a cushion.

Gimmick Rally Planning Meeting

Brewster presented plans for organizing a Gimmick Rally, aiming for a 90-minute event starting and ending at the hotel, with a mapped route by end of October and estimated costs of \$15-30 per car. Gina discussed pre-event tour options for Tuesday and Wednesday, including potential visits to Gettysburg and Monticello, though neither venue has confirmed bookings for 2027 yet. For Thursday morning, Gina proposed visiting Luray Caverns, which would cost \$26 per adult and take about an hour to tour.

Tour and Event Planning Discussion

Gina presented plans for various tour options including a bus tour from Chantilly Hotel for \$4,100 for 30 people, timed ticket entries for the Udvar-Hazy Air and Space Museum, and brewery and winery visits on Friday. Peter noted that track and autocross events might affect attendance numbers for Thursday's activities. The team also discussed plans for a Concorso event at Sully Historic Site with approximately 20 judged cars and a people's choice category, estimated to attract around 200 attendees, though food and amenities still need to be determined.

Sully Historic Site Concorso Plans

Peter updated the group on plans for the Concorso at Sully Historic Site, including a proposed layout and parking areas, with an application submitted to Fairfax County Parks Authority pending formal approval. Phil questioned the 20-judged car number, and Peter confirmed this came from Arno Leskinen, with room to accommodate more if needed. Peter Biche' discussed the budget template, which will be shared in sections with relevant committee heads for input, and he committed to sending an initial version the following day despite ongoing power issues. Frank

reported that Michelin's Vintage Tire branch confirmed participation in the event, though specific details about their involvement were not discussed.

Convention Planning and Sponsorships

The team discussed convention planning, including sponsorship opportunities and vendor arrangements. Frank reported on potential sponsors, including Matt who is hesitant due to concerns about business impact when away from his Texas shop. Peter shared that they received ad rates from Elise Barrett and are developing sponsorship rates, with the goal of making the program free through advertiser support. The group agreed to keep the vendor room open in the evenings to maximize sales opportunities, and discussed plans for a new website with DRL Studios to be launched by October 1st, which will include a secure document repository for important chapter materials.

Convention Planning and Registration Strategy

Peter outlined plans for the upcoming convention, confirming the use of Club Express for registration while maintaining a standalone website with additional event details. The group discussed pricing strategy, aiming to keep costs within 10% of Utah's pricing, and established a January-February registration timeline with a dedicated registration desk open daily during the event. Lance suggested potentially partnering with other car clubs for track events and emphasized the importance of clarifying with insurance companies that the event is a time trial rather than door-to-door racing. Phil raised a question about moving the first reception from Wednesday to Thursday to better accommodate late-arriving attendees and facilitate networking.

2027 Convention Planning Discussion

The group discussed plans for the 2027 convention, including evening receptions, a board meeting presentation, and potential speakers. Peter confirmed he would present the convention bid at both the board meeting and Saturday's banquet, with Brad offering to attend the board meeting. The team discussed logo options for merchandise and promotional materials, with Mike Miller agreeing to research vendors and merchandise ideas for the next meeting. regarding the track events, Brad and Jeff noted they need to determine minimum participation numbers and obtain reliable pricing from tracks to ensure financial viability.

Attendees: Peter Jones (Organizer), Mike Hemsley (External), Robert Lubran (External), Zoom user (External), Will Brewster Thackeray (External), Jeff Mohan (External), Peter Biche' (External), Phil Schleider (External), Mike Miller (External), Harlan Schufeldt (External), Trish (External), Mike Hemsley (External), Mike Hemsley (External), thine (External), Lance Dong (External), larry (External), Gina Uricoli (External), Brad Mellor (External), Frank Salemi (External)