

Onondaga County Traffic Safety Advisory Board

March 21, 2007

Meeting Minutes

Members Attending:

Warren Darby
Diana Dibble
Joel Cordone*
Rob Kidder*
John Leo
Laura Madelone
Linda McKinnon
William Mulroy
Steve Rotunno
Jeff Tripp
Leo Williams
Patricia Wortley

Organization:

Onondaga County Sheriff's Office
AAA
Syracuse Police Department
New York State Police
Onondaga County Department of Transportation
Syracuse University
OCTSAB
NYS Thruway Authority
Camillus Police Department
North Syracuse Police Department
Centro
SMTC

**Designee*

Stakeholders Attending:

Deraux Branch
Jeff Callahan
Diana Graser
Scott Hare
Edward Lipinski
Marty Nerber
John Patane
Irene Scruton

Organization

Branch's Driving School, Inc.
Syracuse Police Department
NYS Department of Transportation
DeWitt Police Department
NYS Thruway Authority
Clay Police Department
Onondaga County Department of Transportation
Safety Council of CNY

Also Attending:

Karen Brogan

Excused: Paul Gottfried, Southern Wine & Spirit of Upstate New York; Bill McAnelly, NYS Motor Truck; Glenn Murdock, Brubacher Excavating; and Shannon Trice, Syracuse Police.

1. Welcome

Ms. Madelone, Chair, opened the meeting at 9:34 a.m. at Town of Camillus Meeting Room, 4600 W. Genesee Street, Syracuse, NY. Ms. Madelone thanked the Camillus Police for hosting the meeting.

2. Acceptance of Minutes

Ms. Madelone inquired if there were any comments or corrections to the January 17, 2007 minutes. Hearing no comments, Undersheriff Darby moved and Ms. McKinnon seconded approval of the January 17, 2007 minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

3. **Communications and Reports**

A. Onondaga County Department of Transportation – Traffic Safety Program Update

Mr. Leo introduced Mr. Patane, Onondaga County Traffic Safety Coordinator. Mr. Patane gave an overview of what he has been working on. Relative to the web site, he has contacted the County IT person and he is looking to make the changes to the site. Mr. Patane would like to create a sub-committee to address the web site. Mr. Patane noted that there would be an Operation Safe Stop/Spring Into Pedestrian Safety press conference on March 26th. On March 27th, Operation Safe Stop will take place across the state.

Mr. Patane stated that he attended a NHTSA training recently. He will also be attending the Walkable Communities training in April. He is working on transitioning the program from the Health Department to the Department of Transportation. He will be working with Ms. Kogut to get the six month report out.

Mr. Patane has begun working on the Traffic Safety Expo. He requested that a sub-committee be formed to assist him. He is currently looking at the feasibility of holding the Expo this year. He has spoken to Driver's Village. Mr. Patane has met with the Aggressive Driving Committee. There is a desire to get a NASCAR driver. Senior Investigator Brustein inquired if there was a date for the Expo. At this time, there is not, but Mr. Patane is looking at mid-August.

B. Committee Updates:

Aggressive Driving: Capt. Rotunno stated that the committee met on March 6th and finalized Eagle Eyes dates and discussed the Syracuse Nationals. There has been discussion about closing down Onondaga Lake Parkway to allow the cars to go up and down.

Grants: Ms. Madelone stated that the committee will be meeting after today's meeting. She believes that the grant information will be coming out next week. Grants will be due to the State on May 15th. It will be a challenge for the committee to get the grants reviewed prior to submittal. She stated that there is more money available this year.

Nominating: Ms. McKinnon requested that committee members speak with her after the meeting to determine a meeting date. She stated that she just heard back from the County Executive's Office regarding new members. Mr. Pirro would like to see more Board Members from the private sector.

4. **Old Business**

None.

5. **New Business**

A. 2007 Committee Structure Discussion

Ms. Madelone stated that the Executive Committee had met to discuss the direction of the Board. It was determined that a group discussion should take place regarding the Committee structure.

- **Aggressive Driving:** Capt. Rotunno stated that the Clay and DeWitt departments want to be on the committee. He is also looking at bringing in Lt. Lefancheck from Baldwinsville. He stated that the rest of the committee would remain the same.
- **Nominating:** This committee will remain.

- Project Planning: Two new sub-committees will be formed – Web Site and Traffic Safety Expo. Mr. Mulroy, Mr. Leo, and Ms. Wortley will assist Mr. Patane with the web site committee.
- Awards: This committee will remain and Mr. Gottfried will be added.
- By-Laws: This committee will remain.
- Business & Industry: This committee will be put on hold for the time being.
- Legislative: After much discussion it was decided that the Chair would forward any legislative updates to the membership.
- Media Relations: Eliminated at this time because individual committees handle their press. Capt. Rotunno suggested that some news article be drafted regarding Mr. Patane's new position. Ms. Wortley will contact Ms. Clark at *The Post-Standard*.
- Occupant Restraint/Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety: It was decided that these two committees would be combined with Officer Tripp as Chair.
- Underage Drinking: Sgt. Cordone will check into the viability of keeping this committee.

Ms. Wortley will send out an e-mail requesting that people sign up for committee membership.

B. By-Laws

Ms. Wortley stated that there has been some discussion about reviewing and revising the By-Laws to better meet the needs of the OCTSAB. Copies of the By-Laws were provided. Mr. Leo requested that any suggestions for revisions be sent to him prior to the May meeting. Undersheriff Darby stated that we need to review the law that created the OCTSAB.

C. Electronic Communications

Ms. Madelone stated that when the Executive Committee met they discussed the possibility of distributing meeting information electronically via e-mail. Following discussion, it was determined that all future meeting information will be sent via e-mail.

D. Roundtable Discussions:

Ms. Madelone stated that she has the nomination form for the Saved by the Helmet Award.

Ms. Madelone stated that the call for presentations for the Fall Conference has been extended to March 29th. She noted that the 2008 conference will be held at the Syracuse University Sheraton.

Ms. Madelone stated that Chief Robertson has resigned from the Board due to his retirement from East Syracuse.

Ms. Madelone stated that she too was resigning from the Board and as Chairperson. She has accepted a new position at Syracuse University and will not have the time to devote to the Board. She will remain involved as a stakeholder.

Ms. Madelone noted that Ms. Scruton was awarded a Woman of Distinction Award from the Girl Scout Council.

Capt. Rotunno stated that a Traffic Safety Officer Association is being started. Central New York is taking the lead. They are looking for members. Sgt. Cordone will be getting back to Capt. Rotunno with further information.

Mr. Williams stated that Centro will be adding hybrid buses to their fleet. A press conference is being held on March 22nd. The next OCTSAB meeting will be held at Centro in May.

Mr. Branch introduced himself to those present and stated that he wanted to contribute to the Board.

6. Public Comment

Ms. Brogan stated that she is a Camillus resident and that she had a concern with pedestrian safety in the West Genesee St. corridor. She believes there are issues that have been overlooked. Ms. Madelone referred her to Capt. Rotunno.

7. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Committee, Mr. Mulroy moved and Officer Tripp seconded adjournment of the meeting at 10:30 a.m. The motion carried unanimously.