

Onondaga County Traffic Safety Advisory Board

May 20, 2008

Meeting Minutes

Members Attending:

Warren Darby
Damon Gagnier*
Casey Gray*
Robert Keller
John Leo
Linda McKinnon
Dan Meyer
William Mulroy
Glenn Murdock
Steve Rotunno
Irene Scruton
Shannon Trice
Jeff Tripp
Leo Williams
Patricia Wortley

**Designee*

Organization:

Onondaga County Sheriff's Office
DeWitt Police Department
New York State Police
Nationwide Insurance
Onondaga County Department of Transportation
OCTSAB
Meyer's Towing
NYS Thruway Authority
Burns Bros.
Camillus Police Department
Safety Council of Central & Western NY
Syracuse Police Department
North Syracuse Police Department
Centro
SMTC

Stakeholders Attending:

Curt Dailey
Stan Goettel
Diane Graser
James Harrer
Marty Nerber
Dominick Macherone
Paul Overbaugh
John Patane
Jeff Peckins
Mark Schiano

Organization

Onondaga County Sheriff's Office
NAVAC
NYS Department of Transportation
NYS Park Police
Clay Police Department
NYS Association of Chiefs/GTSC Liaison
GTSC
Onondaga County Department of Transportation
Manlius Police Department
Clay Police Department

Also attending: Mary Jo Heitkamp-France

Excused: Steve Brustein, NYS DMV; Gene Conway, DeWitt Police Department; Diana Dibble, AAA; Paul Gottfried, Southern Wine & Spirit of Upstate New York; Bill McAnelly, NYS Motor Truck Association; Andrew Scherer, Cicero Police Department; Kay Staley-Smith, NYS DMV; and Jeff Wright, City of Syracuse DPW

1. Welcome

Ms. Wortley, Chair, opened the meeting at 9:40 a.m. at Conference Room of the Nationwide Insurance office, Elwood Davis Road, North Syracuse, NY.

2. Acceptance of Minutes

Ms. Wortley inquired if there were any changes or corrections to the March 18, 2008 minutes.

Ms. Wortley asked for a motion to approve the March 18, 2008 minutes. Mr. Murdock moved and Undersheriff Darby seconded approval of the minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

3 Communications and Reports

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

Mr. Patane, Onondaga County Traffic Safety Coordinator, provided copies of his report and highlighted the following items:

1. Recognition to Stan Goettel (NAVAC) for the huge effort on the Traffic Safety Fair.
2. Six-month report has been prepared and submitted to GTSC.
3. Variable message sign currently being utilized for BUNY. Following that campaign the sign shall be used for the Aggressive Driving Campaign.

Traffic Safety Fair: Discussion regarding the Fair included the following comments and suggestions.

1. Invitation to area schools for the Fair.
2. Relocate Fair to a mall.
3. Change the date of the Fair.
4. Combine the Fair with another market-car show.
5. Recognize what the target market is.
6. Incentive coupons for teens in a mall location.
7. This year's Fair was unsuccessful.

B. Committee Updates:

Aggressive Driving: Capt. Rotunno stated that the cell phone initiative resulted in an increase from the February initiative. A total of 692 tickets were issued. There will be one more initiative over the summer.

Operation Eagle Eyes set for June 9th: There will be a meeting on May 29 regarding the upcoming Syracuse Nationals.

By-Laws: Ms. Wortley provided copies of the revised By-Laws for review.

Grants: Capt. Trice reported that the grants package had been transmitted to the GTSC.

Lights On: Ms. Wortley stated that the committee would be meeting in June to begin planning for the December event.

Occupant Restraint: Officer Tripp stated that a Buckle Up New York press conference was held on May 19 at Alliance Bank Stadium.

Teen Driver: Ms. Scruton reported that Albany has a Youth Driver Mission that she will be learning more about.

4. Old Business

A. June Picnic Meeting:

Ms. Wortley stated that we had discussed moving our summer meeting to June before people started going on vacation in the hope that we would have better attendance. Various site and food items have been discussed at previous meetings. A date and site need to be determined.

Following discussion, the picnic will be held on June 18. Lt. Nerber stated he would secure a location in the town of Clay.

5. New Business

A. Proposed Tiffany's Law:

Ms. Heitkamp-France gave a presentation on the proposed New York State law relative to boating while intoxicated. It was suggested after the presentation that the Board draft a petition letter supporting the proposed Tiffany's Law, and forward to our Assemblymen.

B. Roundtable Discussions:

Mr. Macherone, representing the NYS of Chiefs of Police, stated that the GTSC conference was held in Lake George - 320 people attended. The Town of Camillus Police Department was a winner.

Additionally:

Fall Conference is scheduled for October- State Challenge.

BUNY Mobilization: Kicked off in Albany during the week of May 12 and in NYC the week of May 19.

STOP DWI Nights promoting Alcohol Awareness are being held at Speedways.

Riverhead - June 21

Oswego - July 12

Lancaster – September 6

Tri-City - August 2 (Free Fireworks)

Mr. Williams stated that the web site needs updating. Mr. Patane stated that he is working on it.

Officer Tripp would like participation for Safety Checks one night during Harborfest. He requested that each agency pick an off ramp to conduct check points at. See him for further details.

Mr. Keller is seeking help from the Board to get driver education back in the school system. The 5-hour program isn't enough. It was suggested that the problem is a budget issue. The Alive@ 25 program is successful due to sponsors. It was suggested to research the grant formats to see if any funds would be available.

Ms. Wortley stated that there is press conference on May 21, to announce the statistics relative to the plate reader on the city school bus. The press conference is at 11:00 a.m. at the City School District Transportation Department.

Ms. Wortley stated that an Effective Traffic Safety Strategies with Diverse Communities conference would be held in Albany on June 12. She provided details about the registration.

Ms. Wortley stated that nominations are being sought for the GHSA Highway Safety Awards being held in Scottsdale, AZ in September. Anyone wishing to make a nomination should contact Ms. Wortley for further information.

Ms. Wortley stated that according to a recent newspaper article the Manlius Pebble Hill School is involved with a pilot program to boost traffic safety through the County Health Department. Discussion followed regarding what the program was. Mr. Patane will check into the program and report back.

Ms. Wortley stated that she has received notice that the GTSC is seeking articles and pictures for their Traffic Safety newsletter.

Ms. McKinnon stated that she is collecting contributions in memory of Mr. Rotunno to the Alzheimer's Association.

6. Public Comment

None.

7. Adjournment

They're being no further business to come before the Committee; the meeting was adjourned at 10:45 a.m.