

# Onondaga County Traffic Safety Advisory Board

## November 8, 2006

### Meeting Minutes

#### **Members Attending:**

Warren Darby  
Diana Dibble  
Paul Gottfried  
John Leo  
Laura Madelone  
Linda McKinnon  
Lloyd Perkins  
Jeff Raub  
Doug Robertson  
Steve Rotunno  
Shannon Trice  
Jeff Tripp  
Barry Weiss  
Leo Williams  
Patricia Wortley

#### **Organization:**

Onondaga County Sheriff's Office  
AAA  
Southern Wine & Spirit of Upstate New York  
Onondaga County Department of Transportation  
Syracuse University  
OCTSAB  
Skaneateles Police Department  
New York State Police  
East Syracuse Police Department  
Camillus Police Department  
Syracuse Police Department  
North Syracuse Police Department  
Onondaga County District Attorney's Office  
Centro  
SMTC

#### **Stakeholders Attending:**

Mark Cottet  
Curt Dailey  
Scott Hare  
Sharon Naftal  
Marty Nerber  
Jeff Peckins  
Darryl Perrigo  
Irene Scruton  
Rich Settembre

#### **Organization**

New York State Park Police  
Onondaga County Sheriff's Office  
DeWitt Police Department  
Onondaga County Sheriff's Office  
Clay Police Department  
Manlius Police Department  
Solvay Police Department  
Safety Council of CNY  
Sett Synergy

**Excused:** Steve Brustein, NYS DM; William Mulroy, NYS Thruway Authority; and Glenn Murdock, Brubacher Excavating;

#### **1. Welcome**

Ms. Madelone, Chair, opened the meeting at 9:35 a.m. at Village of East Syracuse Conference Room, 204 N. Center Street, East Syracuse, NY. Ms. Madelone thanked Chief Robertson for hosting the meeting. Following introductions, the meeting proceeded.

#### **2. Acceptance of Minutes**

Ms. Madelone stated that due to the fact we did not have a quorum in attendance at the September 14, 2006 meeting we were not able to approve the July 12, 2006 minutes. Hearing no comments, Mr. Gottfried moved and Capt. Trice seconded approval of the July 12, 2006 minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Madelone called for a motion to approve the September 14, 2006 minutes. Hearing no corrections, Officer Tripp moved and Undersheriff Darby seconded approval of the minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

### **3. Communications and Reports**

#### **A. Onondaga County Health Department Update:**

Ms. Madelone stated that copies of the Health Department's reports would be distributed around the table. Ms. Madelone stated that as of October 1, 2006, the Onondaga County Department of Transportation took over the management of the grant. Two candidates are being interviewed for the Traffic Safety Coordinator position. A Request for Proposals (RFP) is being issued and a decision will be made by January 1, 2007. Ms. Madelone stated that Ms. Kogut is has been reassigned in the Health Department.

#### **B. Committee Updates:**

**Aggressive Driving:** Lt. Rotunno stated that on September 29, 2006, there was an Aggressive Driving Campaign and that all the departments participated. He provided a break down of the tickets issued during the campaign. He noted that the Sheriff's and State Police had an exceptionally good effort.

Lt. Rotunno is looking to set up a committee meeting in December. Lt. Dailey will become a member of the committee.

**Awards:** Ms. McKinnon stated that the committee has been meeting regularly to review the nomination forms. We did not receive many nominations for the Coburn, Deitz and Mulroy awards. Ms. McKinnon asked for further nominations to be submitted within 24 hours so that the committee can finalize the recipients.

**By-Laws:** Ms. Madelone stated that this committee would be meeting to look at revising the current By-Laws. This committee will be addressing the issue of term limits for officers.

**Grants:** Ms. Madelone requested that final report copies be submitted to her.

**Nominating:** Ms. Madelone stated that Ms. McKinnon is the new chair of the committee. Ms. McKinnon stated that the committee would be meeting to discuss nominations.

**Occupant Restraint:** Ms. Madelone stated that Buckle Up New York (BUNY) will be beginning. Capt. Trice stated that the campaign runs from November 13 – November 26. He stated that each agency with grant money needs to do some type of effort. It was decided that the New York State Police would lead the BUNY effort in the County.

**Project Planning:** Ms. Wortley stated that the Lights On Committee has been meeting regularly and they met prior to this meeting. The Caravan will be on December 9<sup>th</sup> beginning at Centro and traveling to West Genesee High School. This year the Media Unit's WASTED skit will be performed during lunch. The Gone4Ever display will be set up in the library. Display tables will be in the hallway leading to the cafeteria and other events will be held in the gym. She encouraged all departments to participate in the event. Further information will be provided to the departments.

#### **Old Business**

**A. Operation Safe Stop Follow-Up**

Lt. Rotunno stated that the numbers were submitted.

**B. NYS Legislation – Boating While Intoxicated**

Chief Perkins stated that the legislation was passed.

**C. Website**

Ms. Madelone stated that with the position transition from the Health Department to the Department of Transportation, it would take a month or so to make the necessary changes.

**5. New Business**

**A. For Life Presentation**

Mr. Settembre gave a presentation regarding the For Life program designed to educate teens from the ages of 14-18. It is a four-year program that goes above and beyond any other driver's education course. He stated that it was a pilot program that would grow, but that it would take a significant effort to maintain it.

Ms. Madelone inquired as to what Mr. Settembre was looking for from the OCTSAB. Mr. Settembre is seeking feedback from the OCTSAB regarding the program. Chief Perkins inquired as to what venue Mr. Settembre was looking to offer the training in. Mr. Settembre said that it would be outside of the schools probably. He is looking for the best venue to present it in. He would like to create a pilot program in NYS. Ms. McKinnon stated that Mr. Settembre has had a vision about this program for a while. She stated that anyone interested in this program should let Ms. Wortley or herself know. She believes there are validity and value to the program. Mr. Settembre is looking for new ideas.

Undersheriff Darby stated that the parents that get involved are not the one's we need to reach. He stated that the program developed by Sheriff Walsh had very low turnout. He does not know the way to get people involved. Mr. Settembre agreed and stated that he wants to work with a team that wants to be successful. There is a need for diligent parents. Capt. Raub stated that he was trying to get the context about Mr. Settembre's involvement. Mr. Settembre stated that this may be a commercial venture or it may be grant-based, or a public venture. Capt. Raub inquired if the program was a theory at this point. Mr. Settembre stated that it was a long-term program. Chief Perkins inquired if this was something that could be kicked-off at Welch Allyn. Then show it works in the community. Mr. Settembre stated that a possible venue is the Auto Mall.

Anyone interested in the program should contact Mr. Settembre at 569-9974.

**B. NYS Police Traffic Safety Plan**

Capt. Raub presented an overview of the NYS Police Traffic Safety Plan. They are currently working on developing a new plan for January. The overall plan has been in place for 15-20 years. The main focus is to reduce accidents, specifically fatalities. He stated that most agencies have some type of plan.

The three main areas are: 1. Aggressive Driving/Speeding; 2. Alcohol/Impaired; and 3. Unbuckled occupants/drivers.

Capt. Raub stated that each State Police zone has established a listing of high accident areas. Capt. Raub's zone covers Onondaga County only. They are working on a multi-agency focus – do everything with multi-agencies. All departments are working on the TraCS system.

Capt. Raub stated that he queried the TraCS statistics for the highest number of crashes on the interstates. There were 28 crashes on Rt. 81 in Cicero and 15 crashes on Rt. 81 in Salina. There were 20 crashed on Rt. 481 in Cicero. Countywide, there were six accidents on Lamson Road, another six on Hamilton Road and eight on Jordan Road.

The NYS Police will be looking at long-range goals and how to achieve them. He stated that the NYS Department of Transportation surveys the average speed on Rt. 81. Additionally, they take into account citizen complaints.

In a review of the tickets issued, 1,000+ tickets were issued on Rt. 81 in Cicero, while 757 speeding tickets were issued on Rt. 481 in Clay. Capt. Raub noted that accidents have been reduced through the police efforts.

They will be establishing long-range goals in order to address the number of crashes on Rt. 81. There were 14 aggressive driving details conducted in conjunction with other agencies. The short-range goal is to not have any accidents or fatalities. The goal is to reduce crashes through enforcement and media. Capt. Raub stated that Onondaga County is doing well in terms of reducing crashes.

Capt. Raub stated that the Buckle Up New York (BUNY) wave was starting its 20<sup>th</sup> enforcement effort. He stated that the number of tickets issued is down because drivers are belted.

Undersheriff Darby stated that the TraCS data is a new horizon for targeting problem areas. He also stated that as the departments get license plate readers (LPR) that data is being created. The LPRs are serving as a good investigation tool.

Ms. Madelone noted that we are recognized as a county that does a lot of multi-agency efforts.

### **C. Roundtable Discussions:**

Ms. Wortley stated that the Syracuse Metropolitan Transportation Council (SMTC) sent out their Unified Planning Work Program call letters to all area municipalities on November 7<sup>th</sup>. She noted that the SMTC has funding each year to conduct transportation related studies. If anyone has a proposal, they should contact their mayor or supervisor relative to submitting a proposal. The deadline for proposals is December 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Undersheriff Darby stated that the Sheriff's Office received a grant for Project Lifesaver. The funding will provide equipment used in finding dementia patients. He noted that this is a national program. The person will wear a wrist band containing a transmitter. If the person is missing, the agency will be able to search by helicopter for the person. This will be in service beginning in 2007. Sgt. Hare noted that DeWitt has a Take Me Home database already. The Undersheriff stated that the two systems should be tied together.

Ms. Madelone stated that the Safe and Sober Awards would be presented next week. Several area agencies, including the Syracuse Police and the Camillus Police will be receiving department awards. East Syracuse's Pete Vasiloff and Liverpool's Todd Creller will be receiving Top Cop honors. Joanne Michaels will be receiving a special recognition award.

Ms. Madelone noted that she received a letter regarding Child Passenger Safety Technician Training. She stated that two regional trainings are offered and that we may be asked to be a host site.

Ms. Madelone stated that the 2007 Highway Safety Conference would be held in Lake Placid. Anyone with ideas for sessions should submit them by March 1, 2007. The 2008 Conference will be held at the Sheraton University Inn.

Relative to BUNY, Ms. Madelone stated that you should call if you have not gotten your letters. She requested that agencies use the new report to document their numbers.

Ms. Madelone stated that the NYS Association of Traffic Safety Boards is again sponsoring "Save Your Friend's Life". They are looking for PSA applicants. Visit [www.nysatsb.com](http://www.nysatsb.com) for more information. The deadline for applications is April 6, 2007.

## **6. Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Committee, Undersheriff Darby moved and Ms. McKinnon seconded adjournment of the meeting at 10:55 a.m. The motion carried unanimously.