

Onondaga County Traffic Safety Advisory Board

May 14, 2002

Revised Meeting Minutes

Members Attending:

Donald Barrett
Mike Davison
Diana Dibble
John Hayes
Debbie Kogut
Bill McAnelly
Christopher Navetta
Mike Orso
Lloyd Perkins
Mary Rowlands
Kay Staley-Smith

Organization:

Avid
Think First
AAA
P&C (Penn Traffic)
Onondaga County Health Department
Syracuse Supply
Byrne Dairy
Nick Orso's Service Center
Camillus Police Department
SMTC
DMV

Stakeholder:

Ann Barnett
Wendell Boehne
Ted Botsford
Warren Darby
Gerry Deitz, Sr.
Lyman Gray
Jack Hayes
Tim Hunt
Charlie Jones
William Loucks
Linda McKinnon
John Muldoon
Bill Mulroy
Glenn Murdock
Phil Politano
Irene Scruton
Pat Wortley

Organization

Onondaga County Health Department
P.E.A.C.E.
Onondaga County Sheriff's Department
Onondaga County Sheriff's Department
CNYRTA
Syracuse Fire Department
Syracuse Police Department
I'm Smart CNY
New York State Police
West Genesee Central School District
Ross Limousine
Liverpool Central Schools - Transportation
New York State Thruway Authority
Syracuse Utilities
Rural Metro Medical Services
Safety Council of CNY
SMTC

Excused:

John Leo, Onondaga County DOT, and Liz Morgan, Onondaga County Stop DWI.

1. Welcome

Chairperson Kay Staley-Smith opened the meeting at 9:33 a.m. in the conference room of the Syracuse Metropolitan Transportation Council.

2. Acceptance of Minutes

Kay Staley-Smith asked if there were any changes/corrections to the minutes of March 12, 2002. It was noted that Bill Loucks was in attendance at the March 12, 2002 meeting. The minutes will be corrected. A Motion to accept the minutes as made by Ted Botsford and seconded by Diana Dibble. The motion carried.

3. Committee Updates

Ms. Staley-Smith passed out two handouts relative to Onondaga County Statistics and the County Health Department Mid-Year Report. She requested that any member interested in receiving copies of the reports sign the cover sheet and copies will be provided to them.

Ms. Staley-Smith stated that Camillus, Geddes and Onondaga County needed to revise their impaired driver deterrence applications to remove the words roadblocks or check points.

Grants: In Liz Morgan's absence, Ms. Staley-Smith reported that the Grant Committee met and reviewed the grant applications followed by the Board Members voting via e-mail. Further, relative to the position of Account Clerk, the Committee felt that some of the funding provided for the position through this Board should be cut as the position is not doing as much work for the Board at this time.

Legislative: Diana Dibble stated that letters were sent to all legislators regarding the Board's support of graduated licensing and the lowering of the BAC level. To date, three legislators have responded and copies of their correspondence were provided to those present. Ms. Dibble noted that not much is going on legislative wise due to the fact the State is trying to pass a budget. However, it is expected that the Governor will sign Shawn's Law into effect which is a zero tolerance law allowing judges to suspend a minor's license until their court appearance in alcohol-related cases. Inquiry was made as to whether or not the Board had written letters in support of the Booster Seat Law. Ms. Staley-Smith stated that letters were not sent relative to that law, as she did not know how the Board felt about the issue. Following discussion, it was determined that Ms. Staley-Smith would draft a letter in support of the legislation.

By-Laws: Gerry Deitz thanked the By-Laws Committee for their work. The draft By-Laws are currently being reviewed by the County legal department. The new By-Laws will be voted on at the next meeting. A reminder was issued that a quorum needs to be present in order to vote.

Youth: Jack Hayes, on behalf of Shannon Trice, stated that the City has received several complaints regarding speeding on Erie Blvd. Channel 3 recently completed a two-part interview with drivers and the department. Phil Politano mentioned that he has the first segment taped if anyone is interested in viewing it. Ms. Staley-Smith asked Board Members view the piece and, perhaps, as a Board we should contact Channel 3 if the

segments cast the police department in a negative way. The Syracuse Police are looking to set up a joint detail with the Onondaga County Sheriff's Department and the State Police relative to the problem on Erie Blvd. All agencies expressed an interest.

Business & Industry: Ms. Staley-Smith stated that she had heard there were funds available for a working luncheon for Business & Industry people in the fall. Irene Scruton stated that she would be contacting Business & Industry leaders looking for sponsorship for items like parade floats, etc. Ms. Staley-Smith stated that she has found out that we cannot use grant funding for the wrapping of a bus. Mr. Deitz stated that the cost of wrapping a Centro bus is \$20,000.

Ann Barnett thanked Mike Orso for his recent advertisements mentioning the OCTSAB.

Project Planning: Mary Rowlands stated that the committee had not met as of yet due to scheduling conflicts. After discussion, it was determined that the committee would meet on Thursday, May 30th at 10:00 a.m. at the SMTC.

Nominating: Mr. Deitz stated that Ann Barnett has resigned due to conflicts with Grant Article 173. Phil Politano was recommended to the County Executive as the appointee to fill the vacant spot.

Awards: Linda McKinnon stated that she would be contacting committee members in August relative to setting up a September meeting to discuss the Awards Breakfast.

Lights On: Donald Barrett stated that this year it would be a City School. The event is held the first Saturday of December.

4. Presentations

Ms. Staley-Smith gave a summation of the Board in relationship to the New York State Police and introduced Sgt. Charles Jones. Sgt. Jones gave an overview of the State Police coverage area. Sgt. Jones stated that currently the biggest concern is terrorism and that the officers are being deployed outside the county based on those needs.

Sgt. Jones offered the following 2001 Onondaga County accident statistics: 2,079 accidents of which 1,613 had property damage, 454 had personal injuries and 12 resulted in fatalities for a total of 634 injuries and 14 deaths.

Further, Sgt. Jones stated that 25,108 traffic tickets were issued which included 7,209 for speeding, 341 DWI's, 4,350 seatbelts, 137 child restraint and 13,071 other tickets.

Sgt. Jones stated that the Seat Belt Campaign was coming up soon. He stated that last year in Onondaga County more tickets were written than in any other county in the state. Sgt. Jones further noted that there is an 86% seat belt compliance rate in Onondaga County.

Discussion followed on topics such as the use of law enforcement officers' use of hand held phones, law enforcement presence at construction sites, and seat belt technicians.

5. Round Table

P.O. Hayes noted that the Syracuse Police have a Step Grant for the City.

Debbie Kogut and Ann Barnett did not have a written report ready for distribution to the Board. It will be distributed with the next Board mailing. Additionally, they spoke regarding some of the upcoming events and distributed a flyer regarding helmet sales.

Glenn Murdock will be getting together with Ms. Scruton regarding the Business & Industry luncheon. He also will be meeting with Ms. Staley-Smith regarding developing some type of orientation for new Board Members.

Ms. Rowlands handed out Designee sign up sheets. She requested that Board Members name two designees and return the sheet to her.

Ms. Rowlands noted the recent number of accidents involving pedestrians and vehicles. She noted that the SMTC is currently in the second year of a two-year Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan. Ms. Rowlands inquired if Members would be interested in putting together some type of Public Service Announcement (PSA) relative to bicycle safety. At this time she has not checked into the cost of a PSA. Those present expressed an interest in doing some type of a PSA.

Additionally, Ms. Rowlands suggested that the OCTSAB have some type of website to inform others of what is going on and to create a site for others to tap in to. Currently the Onondaga County Health Department does not have a website to help in promoting their activities. Mr. Politano noted that Syracuse.com has a section where you can create your own announcement. Mr. Politano, Ms. Scruton and Mr. Barrett expressed interest in helping Ms. Rowlands with the establishment of a website. Anyone else interested should let Ms. Rowlands know.

Ms. Staley-Smith noted that Mr. Barrett was recently honored by the DA's office for outstanding service. Mr. Barrett commended Capt. Botsford for his comments in today's newspaper relative to the teenage drinking incident in DeWitt over the past weekend. Mr. Barrett highlighted some of Avid's activities. Mr. Barrett noted that he would be asking Board Members for help with stopping underage drinking.

6. New Business

Ms. Staley-Smith inquired if anyone had any item under New Business. Warren Darby stated that the new state slogan would be "Click It or Ticket". The kickoff event will be May 24th at Clinton Square.

7. Closing

Capt. Botsford moved and Undersheriff Darby seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:50 a.m. Motion carried.

Next Meeting:
PICNIC
Tuesday, July 9, 2002