

Onondaga County Traffic Safety Advisory Board

March 15, 2011

Meeting Minutes

Members Attending:

Warren Darby
Tom LeRoy*
Diana Graser
Casey Gray*
Michael Johnson*
Rob Keller
Jason Law*
Linda McKinnon
Dan Meyer
Glenn Murdock
Jeff Peckins
Steve Rotunno
Irene Scruton
Kay Staley-Smith
Shannon Trice
Jeffrey Tripp
Leo Williams
Patricia Wortley

Organization:

Onondaga County Sheriff's Office
Baldwinsville Police Department
NYS Department of Transportation
New York State Police
Branch's Driving School, Inc.
Nationwide
Town of DeWitt Police
OCTSAB
Meyer's Towing
ABC
Town of Manlius Police
Camillus Police Department
National Safety Council of C&WNY
OCTSAB
Syracuse Police Department
North Syracuse Police Department
Centro
SMTC

**Designee*

Stakeholders Attending:

Jim Carsten
Sharon Henderson
Trish Jubinville
Nick Macherone
Kathleen Miller Murphy
Greg Mueller
Mike Walsh

Organization

Onondaga County Sheriff's Office
GTSC
OCTSAB Traffic Safety Awareness Program
NYSACOP/GTSC
Crouse Hospital
NYS DMV
Centro

Excused: Steve Brustein, NYS DMV; Timothy Coley, Onondaga County Department of Transportation; Diana Dibble, AAA; Michael Lefancheck, Baldwinsville; William McAnelly, NYSMTA; William Mulroy, NYS Thruway Authority; Derek Osbeck, Solvay Police; Jeff Raub, New York State Police; and Barry Weiss, Onondaga County Stop DWI.

1. Welcome and Introductions

Capt. Trice, Chair, opened the meeting at 9:35 a.m. at the Nationwide Insurance Co's Conference Room, 110 Elwood Davis Road, North Syracuse. Following introductions, there were no changes to the day's agenda.

2. Acceptance of Minutes

Capt. Trice inquired if there were any changes or corrections to the January 31, 2011 or February 18, 2011 minutes. Hearing none, Mr. Keller moved and Ms. McKinnon seconded approval of the January 31

minutes. Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Keller moved and Officer Tripp seconded approval of the February 18 minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

3. **Communications and Reports**

A. Traffic Safety Program Update: Ms. Jubinville provided the program report for February. She stated that March has been extremely busy. She is working with Driver's Ed programs to be a guest speaker at their classes. She has also been doing bike helmet distribution.

B. New York State Association of Traffic Safety Boards Update: Ms. Scruton stated that the meeting was moved to March. Operation Safe Stop will take place on March 30. She noted that the Niagara Traffic Safety Fair is May 23 – 27 at the Air Force Base. She noted that there are two new Stop DWI films available and she is trying to get copies of them. She also stated that noted the Single Point Urban Interchange (SPUI) at exit 6 in Latham.

C. Committee Updates:

Aggressive Driving: Officer Tripp stated that the committee met and they put together the 2011 Traffic Enforcement Plan. They have received lots of press and have written many tickets.

Grants Committee: Ms. Staley-Smith stated that the committee would be meeting at 10:00 on April 28 at the SMTC. If necessary, a special meeting of the OCTSAB will be called.

Teen Driver Issues Committee: Ms. Scruton stated that there is talk about having a Fair.

Occupant Restraint Committee: Capt. Rotunno stated that they are looking into reaching out to SU this year.

4. **Old Business:**

A. 2011-2012 Traffic Safety Awareness Program Grant Discussion

Capt. Trice stated that he, Mr. Weiss, Ms. Scruton, and Onondaga County DOT Commissioner, Brian Donnelly, met with the Deputy County Executive regarding the Traffic Safety Awareness Program. The county agreed to take a look at taking the grant. The Deputy County Executive will take the matter to the County Executive. They got the ball rolling but are still waiting to hear back. Mr. Weiss drafted an e-mail/memo stating the process to date.

Ms. Miller Murphy requested a copy of the grant. Ms. Scruton will send her a copy. Ms. McKinnon inquired if other venues were discussed. Capt. Trice stated that only Crouse was discussed. Ms. Jubinville stated that Upstate had expressed an interest. They are planning a large number of traffic safety programs in order to get their certification. She stated that they were interested in learning more about the program. Capt. Trice suggested inviting them to our meetings.

Ms. Staley-Smith stated that we need to push because the deadline for grant submittal will arrive and no one will have applied. She stated that the Grants Committee needs to review all submittals. She noted that we will reach out to the interested parties. Mr. Keller inquired if we should form an advocate committee. Ms. Staley-Smith stated that the Grants Committee would handle it.

Undersheriff Darby stated he has spoken to the Sheriff and he would be willing to house the person. He noted that it was a toss up between the County DOT and the Sheriff's Office. He

stated that he has not heard anything since the meeting, but that they are willing to house the person.

5. New Business:

A. Round Table Discussions:

Mr. Meyer inquired about the Move Over Law and if anything had happened. Capt. Trice stated that he has not written the letter on behalf of the OCTSAB yet. Mr. Meyer stated that he believes there is a problem with non-municipal plow driver and their misuse of amber lights. He would like to see enforcement. Capt. Trice stated that law enforcement could do more enforcement. Capt. Rotunno stated that we could put in an educational component.

Ms. Staley-Smith noted that Officer Tripp's efforts have been phenomenal. Capt. Trice noted that it puts a new spin on it.

Mr. Williams stated that Centro is participating in Big Rig Day at Burnet Park on May, 14, from 11:00 – 3:00. He has space available on the bus if anyone would like to display information. Ms. Wortley will send an e-mail to the members regarding the event.

Mr. Macherone reminded those present of the St. Patrick's Day crackdown. He also provided DWI crack down date postcards. ESLETS will be held in Syracuse, April 26-27. Operation Safe Stop will take place on March 30. There will be a motorcycle enforcement vendor show on May 26 in Albany.

Ms. Henderson stated that letters went out regarding the 2012 grant applications. The deadline for submittal is May 15. The GTSC will be looking at the grants as soon as they come in. Discussion occurred over the possible funding for the upcoming year. Ms. Staley-Smith stated that applicants should limit their amounts to 10% over what they received last year. Mr. Macherone stated that the grants are very competitive and performance based. He stated that submittals should be reasonable. Capt. Trice stated that there are high standards in Onondaga County and he inquired if we were penalized for that. Discussion ensued regarding night time enforcement and training seminars.

Mr. Keller inquired if there was a step up in distracted driving – cell phone enforcement. Mr. Macherone stated that it was just like BUNY, noting that it might become the next Buckle Up. Officer Tripp stated that it is getting better, noting there are less violations when the City does enforcement. Mr. Macherone stated that the pilot project here may produce a whole other funding stream down the road. Mr. Keller stated that he hands out 'Turn off the phone' stickers. Mr. Macherone stated that Stewart's shops have nozzle talkers rolling out. There is a Younger Drive web site. Ms. Miller Murphy stated that a local pediatrician has kids sign a contract for no texting.

There was an inquiry if we were using social media to reach the younger population. Ms. Wortley stated that the OCTSAB has a Facebook page. Capt. Trice stated that we need to do a better job. Mr. Johnson will link Branch's site with the OCTSAB site.

Ms. Staley-Smith stated that the Grants Committee will be meeting on April 28 at the SMTC. All applications must be submitted prior to that.

The Undersheriff stated that they are seeing a lot less effort because of budget difficulties. They are down 8% and they cannot hire. Their main responsibility is to answer calls. Air One is down

pilots and mechanics. He noted that money from traffic work does not go back to the county, it goes to the municipality.

6. Public Comment

No comments.

7. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Committee; the meeting was adjourned at 10:31 a.m. by a motion from Officer Tripp and seconded by Undersheriff Darby.