This Meeting for: Kansas Operation Lifesaver, Board of Directors and Committee Meeting
Date: Thursday, May 9, 2019 - - From 10:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M.
Emporia Public Library
110 East Sixth Avenue
Emporia, Kansas 66801

Present: Aaron Mays (State Coordinator), Jessica Mays (Assistant State Coordinator) Volunteer); Norbert Angell (Volunteer, Coach); Adrian Hertog (Volunteer, Coach) Mitch Sothers(KDOT & Volunteer); Mike Foster (Topeka Rescue Mission); Matt Vogt (President, Volunteer, Coach) Ross Boelling (Volunteer) Tony Stewart (KHP, Volunteer)

Guests: Deb Romine, Guest
(Todd Walters, UPRR, via dial-in conference line)

1. Meeting was called to order by Matt Vogt at 10:05 A.M. Members signified their attendance on the KS OL sign-in-sheet.

2. Matt Vogt and others talked us through the safety briefing because of their familiarity with the surroundings.

3. Introductions around the room were made. Congratulations and

4. Happy Birthday wishes to Mike Foster, who, provided delicious treats, cookies!!!

5. Motion was made by Mike Foster to approve the minutes of the March 20, 2019 Board meeting, (COPIES PROVIDED). Ross Boelling seconded the Motion. The vote was unanimous for acceptance.

Motion was made by Adrian Hertog to approve the minutes of the Committee meeting of March 20, 2019 (COPIES PROVIDED) Mitch Sothers seconded the Motion. The vote was unanimous for acceptance.

6. State Coordinators report: Aaron Mays led the discussion and provided conversation regarding focus area, (slide presentation) Bank issues are resolved. UMB wants to advise on reinvestment of CD.

We have a number of people who are ready for a Face-to-Face and become OLAV’s. Two people in Pittsburg, one has a connection with National HQ. One in Phillipsburg and Matt will attempt to handle and one in Topeka. We are unable to handle the Atchison RR days. We are still having difficulty with the number of Volunteers since labor organizations on UP will not allow their constituents to participate in volunteer activities. We discussed targeting company near crossings in order to eliminate events. (Slide presentation of year-over-year stats, fatalities, incidents, deaths, trespassers,) Adrian asked “What can we do?” Deb Romine suggested Officer on the Train being stepped up. Jessica Mays had a few ideas of market saturation. Matt Vogt suggested to go back to the old days of Blitzes. Matt thinks we will certainly have to muster our resources to saturate the Southwest where it appears
to be a place of greater concern. We discussed the Near-Miss program and Todd Walters stated that it was a viable program with individual rewards to those who participate in the program (traincrews).

7. Adrian presented the 2019 (see 2 attachments) treasurer’s report. Adrian Hertog provided a thorough explanation and provide all interested parties with a current reporting and analysis of our fiduciary responsibilities. Again, the capabilities are much more advanced and enhanced over the antiquated system we were using in the past. Adrian stated that we were doing an outstanding job of staying “on-track” with our expenses and well within our budget. We discussed the amount of money we were carrying in the checking account and it was agreed that we should consider doing something with the funds in order to avoid scrutiny from our Investors. Deb Romine and Matt Vogt both stated that we are in much better shape, fiscally, than we have ever been. Thanks to our past leadership and our present-day oversight. Adrian Hertog, once again, applauded Jessica Mays for her diligence and hard work in support of our financial affairs. Matt Vogt made a Motion to accept the Budget, Tony Stewart, Seconded, a vote was unanimous to Accept.

8. Old Business: Jessica inquired about contacting KARSP, retired school teachers & administrators. Adrian had not but stated that it was certainly an excellent source of volunteers. Matt Vogt suggested that it could also aid us in getting our foot in the door to a number of schools. Jessica and Aaron Mays stated they would reach out. Adrian noted that a convention (gathering) in Hutchinson of the retirees this summer. Matt Vogt stated that he took every opportunity to reach out to LEO’s and their fraternal organizations to recruit them.

Jessica stated that SONIC is a dead issue. They had gone to the “app” and would no longer be providing coupons for free limeades. Jessica has not given up on the idea that someone out there would be willing to participate in a program similarly to SONIC in the past. Matt Vogt said we would have to use keychains, zipper pulls, and our pamphlets to advise the public.

Tony Stewart brought up the point that we need to have greater insight into the events surrounding grade crossing, trespassers, etc. He would like for us to be able to drill down the “root cause” so we can better address a remedy. A general discussion surrounding the (trooper on the train) events in the past and their effectiveness. Tony Stewart discussed the PE lanes and the troops desire to participate. Tony and Jessica lead the discussion on photographers and trespassing. Ross Boelling suggested that we send a letter to the Class Sponsors at the various schools. Deb Romine suggested that we also approach the yearbook editors of the appropriate schools. Matt Vogt asked that we all solicit our driver education classes to not allow themselves to be photographed on or near railroad tracks. Aaron Mays suggested a social media blitz targeting this demographic. Mike Foster agreed, as well as the majority present. Asked about cost? We have the money to spend.

Jessica Mays said rather than backtrack, we would double-up on the incentive program for this year. It would save a good deal of time and effort.
9. New Business: Adrian brought up the UPRR crash car and trailer. It was discussed whether UPRR would be willing to donate the item to KSOLI? That will be one approach. Todd Walters agreed to continue to work with UPRR Officer Wasko who is presently attempting to get the trailer licensed.

Aaron spoke about the CD and how we would/should reinvest. Research will continue.

Jessica reported on Grants.

It has been determined that we need to concentrate on Sedgwick county and the surrounding areas because of the higher incident rate. A general discussion on the feasibility of a radio blitz targeting the 35-55 demographic which appears to be the group having an increase in numbers. Tony Stewart again wanted to attempt to determine root causes rather than just paying out money for a radio blitz! Jessica explained that the 35-55 group had the higher number of incidents. She has attempted to determine the root causes and had yet to be successful. Tony & Mitch asked if an analysis of the “near miss” reports could be beneficial for determining the root causes. Tony explained the 3 exposures that would be beneficial to determine root cause. (slides) Matt asked that we do additional research into a digital approach and attempt to get it done for July, a month of higher incidents.

10. Adjournment-Mike Foster made a Motion to adjourn. Ross Boelling seconded the Motion. It was voted on and carried, unanimously at 11:41A.M........

A recess of 9 minutes followed..................................................

1. Committee Call to Order-Matt Vogt called the Committee to order at 11:50 A. M..

2. A. Statistics (PowerPoint provided)
   Aaron Mays provided a slide which depicted KSOL presentation statistics YTD. Jessica also provided information on quarterly trends. Aaron suggested that presentations were down. Jessica could confirm which direction we were trending as of late.

   B. Activity Records, Presentations, Audience, Special Events. (slide)

   C. KS OL Sunflower Signal Quarterly Newsletter (provided in packet) Jessica is aiming to provide more information and less in the way of photos. “Simple, but relative”.....

   D. KS OL on Social Media , Aaron explained how he was determining whether “boosting” on FB was of any true benefit.
3. General Discussion.

Adrian had an update on the 3rd Quarterly Mtg. We will be able to tour a portion of the Rail lab. The Director or Assistant Director will be in attendance. Jessica asked if BBQ was alright with everyone for lunch and all approved.

Deb Romine reported that “Safe Day at the Zoo for Kids” was a huge success. Again, it was asked if we could appropriate some ENS signs for display purposes? Matt Vogt questioned whether we had any additional information on GCCI? General discussion of the topic, still up in the air, nothing definitive.

Both Aaron and Jessica suggested providing a Grant to any OLAV who had a special project. We certainly have the means to provide funding. Jessica, Mike, and Tony were behind the newest Art District project in Topeka to paint a mural on one of the downtown buildings. Sounds like a good way to educate the public and to gain community exposure.

3rd Quarterly meeting at BNSF Rail Training Facility, “Thursday, August 8, 2019, 9:30 – 4:00pm. BNSF Rail Training Facility, Johnson County Community College, Conference Room 25.

Deb Romine made a Motion to adjourn, Mitch Sothers seconded, the Motion carried at 12:25 P.M.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Norbert A. Angell, III, Secretary