This Meeting for: Kansas Operation Lifesaver, Board of Directors and Committee Meeting

Date: Thursday, August 10, 2017 starting at 1:30 pm
Kansas Law Enforcement Training Center: Director’s Board Room
11009 S Hornet Road Hutchinson, KS 67501

Present: President, Matt Vogt (Valley Center Police Department, KPOA & Volunteer); Tony Stewart (KHP & Volunteer); Norbert Angell (Volunteer); Adrian Hertog (Volunteer); Lynn Aldrich (Volunteer); Mike Foster (Topeka Rescue Mission); Lucas Conrad, Watco companies; Tara Mays, Executive Director.

Guests: Julie La Combe (Coach, Volunteer, Past Executive Director); Deb Romine (volunteer); Terry Tauai, (BNSF Police); Anna Ruzhanovski (Hutchinson Police Department).

1. Meeting was called to order by President Vogt at 1:41 p.m. Members signified their attendance on the KS OL sign-in-sheet.

2. Matt Vogt gave the safety briefing.

3. Introductions around the room were made.

4. Mike Foster moved to approve the KS OL Board of Directors meeting minutes from the May 11, 2017 meeting. Lucas Conrad seconded. Motion carried. A discussion lead by Adrian Hertog regarding the committee meeting minutes and the special session minutes (absence of being posted) was had. It was determined that the errors as noted by Adrian were due to posting the wrong version, uncorrected copy. The absence of the special session minutes was due to an oversight. The Committee meeting minutes will be corrected, and approved at the next quarterly meeting. It was agreed that the corrected version of the minutes would be reposted and redistributed at the next quarterly meeting.

5. Tara Mays provided an in depth commentary on the services she will provide along with her vision for the future of our organization. She recently returned from new coordinator training in Washington, D. C. She reported that the training was very helpful in learning the processes. She was given insight into how national works and how it relates to our common cause. She advised that the Operation Lifesaver national offices will be moving from Alexandria, Virginia to the FRA offices in D. C. It is difficult to determine how this will affect the operation. Tara has been taking opportunities to observe OLAV’s presenting to various audiences. She asked that we provide any and all ideas that will help her immerse herself into the organization. The committee thanked Julie La Combe for continuing to play an integral part of her learning experience. Tara provided a copy of contract & copy of Board of Directors contact listing in our packets.

6. Budget Information:
A. Adrian Hertog lead the discussion concerning (contributors) that have yet to provide the “share” that was promised, as indicated by the reports that were provided in our packets. Adrian felt Tara should follow-up with Julie on the history of payment timing. Adrian felt is was at the very least necessary to ask what the issue might be. It was agreed that Tara would ask Julie for advice before moving forward.

Adrian presented the treasurer’s 3rd Quarter report, (see attachments) treasurer’s report. Mike Foster made a Motion to accept the Budget, with Lynn Aldrich seconded. Motion carried. Adrian acknowledged Julie La Combe and thanked her for the introduction and acceptance of the accounting program WAVE.

B. Matt asked for nominations to fill the vacancy left by Adrian Hertog’s resignation of the position of Treasurer. No one stepped forward. The discussion surrounded the combination of positions to fill the vacancy. Norbert Angell and Mike Foster declined the additional position. Adrian Hertog reiterated the importance of the position of Treasurer and said he would continue on as Treasurer.

7. Old Business
A. Tara asked for input regarding the Kansas Ag periodical and if our desire was to continue to post in the periodical or whether we had thoughts of another use for funds? It was suggested and accepted by all that we would research the topic of LEO memorial or scholarship program for fallen officers dependents in an ongoing theme to positively support our law enforcement partners.

8. New Business
A. 2017 Initiatives
Tara provided us with an attachment that incorporated the schedule of “Messages and Events” for Rail Safety Week. It was agreed we would identify those area of high-risk and provide greater attention with our resources. Lucas Conrad volunteered to contact a crew that was recently involved in a crossing incident and solicit their story for publication and sharing for Rail Safety week. Tara is interested in being able to be in the cab of a locomotive. It was felt it would be an excellent experience for her.

i. Tara explained that there were mini-grants available for PSA’s from OL National. After a discussion it was agreed that we would launch a digital PSA. This was something that had long been our desire. Tara will use the KDOT blog to put in a plug for Rail Safety week. Mike Foster explained that the Mission will have a variety of activities along with a different slogan each day of the week of Rail Safety week.

ii. Donations of our incentives back to other organization was discussed. Mike Foster thanked the group for the donation last year which made it possible to open the day care at the Mission.

B. August 18, 2017 there will be a Face-to-Face with both Tara and a Leavenworth Police officer, at the Mays Group office in Topeka, Kansas.
C. Budget committee meeting will be scheduled in the near future with volunteers, Norbert Angell, Matt Vogt, Mike Foster, Adrian Hertog, and Deb Romine.
D. Crash car use. Julie explained the current process for handling the Crash Car, scheduling, transportation, storage, etc.

Matt has been approached by UPRR for the use of the car. Norbert Angell was adamant about not allowing this to happen. He has worked for the past 5 years to get UPRR off dead
center regarding the use of a once perfectly good crash car that has rotted in the Topeka. Julie La Combe mentioned that the use of the crash car was limited in what the insurance policy dictates, which requires someone be present with the car at all times and we wouldn't know that to be the case if the crash car was used in this way. It was decided that crash car use over the next few months wouldn't allow for further use at this time.

E. Payments to The Mays Group firm for services of Tara Mays were discussed. Julie explained how she was paid in the past, how easily Tara could be compensated, and how we could save $72.00 a month by cancelling ADP. The current policy for approval of expenses would remain in place. 2 board members, one with and one without signature authority will respond to e-mails coming from The Mays Group that include all services and expenses before Matt could process payment in the future and for the previous 2 months.

9. Board Adjournment: A Motion was made by Lynn Aldrich, seconded by Lucas Conrad to adjourn the meeting of the Board.

Motion carried to adjourn, 3:34 pm.

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

A 12minute recess.......................
reasons, is not a friend. There was agreement that bus drivers safety presentations typically come during the next few months of the year. And there discussion about Department of Education resources that we could encourage OLAVs to use when thinking about target audiences.

3. Next meeting will be November 9, 2017, 12:30 in Topeka after a brief general conversation. A suggestion was made to have a guest speaker at our next quarterly meeting. Tara suggested that it might be possible to line up the new Director of the Division of Motor Vehicles. Julie and Tara reminded us that awards would be presented at this meeting. The group was also reminded that it was that time of the year to make nominations for Volunteer of the Year. Julie commended Tara on her ability to be a “quick learner” & “self-taught”.

5. Adjournment-Julie LaCombe made a Motion to adjourn. Deb Romine seconded. Motion carried at 4:15 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by  N. A. Angell, III, Secretary
Edited by Tara Mays, Executive Director