

Crime Stoppers USA

December 17, 2009

3:06 CST

Teleconference

Meeting called by: Chairman Tom Kern
Facilitator: Tom Kern

Type of Meeting: Monthly Board Meeting
Note Taker: Kevin Viney

Attendees: Tom Kern, Elaine Cloyd, K Scott Abrams, James Chambers, Margaret Jones, Gary Potter, Tami Lawlor, Rob Sarrantonio, Jack Sullivan, Frank Boyd, Chris Cameron, John Lamb, Estela Quintanilla, Patrick Curran, Ken Kelly, Richard Carter

Absent: Greg Willey, Robert Mooney, Janice Van Houten, Earl Winterling, Nate Nickelson, Troy Erickson, Tim Stark, Mike Hope

Meeting Minutes

Approval of minutes: Due to a communication mishap, the November 11, 2009 minutes were not distributed with the agenda and therefore were unable to be approved. Secretary Viney was asked to get the meeting notes out to members as soon as possible.

Chairman report: Chairman Kern reported he had distributed his written report to all members. Chairman Kern asked for a consideration to remove Earl Winterling from the board for lack of participation and board attendance requirements. Elaine Cloyd asked if Earl had been contacted by Kern and he indicated that yes, he had tried numerous times to make contact with him. Moved by Frank Boyd to remove Earl, seconded by Rob Sarrantonio, passed with one vote no. Nominations Chair Margaret Jones was asked to find a replacement as soon as possible. The second item to be brought up was Chairman Kern's displeasure of the current Secretary role. In his opinion, the minutes are a vital part to the organization and must be kept current. It was the impression of the Secretary that the minutes were being recorded and were to be forwarded to the Secretary which were never done. Chairman Kern asked for the current Secretary to step down. Board member Chambers stepped in and called for a point of order that this conversation was not on the agenda and should be stopped. Chairman Kern indicated we would move on with the agenda and would continue his discussion with the Secretary offline.

Treasurer's report: A written report sent by K Scott Abrams was sent out to members dated 12/16/09 showing current income, expenses, an updated operating statement and a current balance sheet.

Regional reports: Regional reports were sent out and Chairman Kern reported receiving a number of them. Region 13, Los Angeles Crime Stoppers, is being launched this week. Region 9, John Lamb moved to waive dues for the new Mustang, Oklahoma program for the next year to allow them to get started. James Chambers seconded, passed. Frank Boyd asked to have local programs that don't respond as "defunct". He has tried to make contact with programs listed and is not getting results. Chambers commented that he has also had this problem and has made contact with the local Police or Sherriff's Departments for some success. Margaret Jones will also query to try to help make contact. Patrick Curran also asked for help from Margaret.

Legal services report: Richard had sent a written report and would take any questions from the board. Richard commented and applauded Joplin Missouri as a new program that has its "duck in a row" and is very meticulous with wanting to have a well run program.

Nominations

Committee report: Margaret report she had sent out a re-cap of the procedures of those up for re-election so everyone knew the timelines and requirements.

Finance report: Scott had nothing more to report until the budget report under unfinished business.

By-laws report: Rob has sent out his report and will make final recommendations in January.

Conference report: Tami report that a few weeks ago she acquired a minimum of \$10,000 towards expenses through a grant. Ideally, these funds would be used towards a \$3,000 for scholarship and paying registration fees to attend conferences for new programs. She has also asked that a \$5,000 amount be set aside for conference expenses in the new budget. She had been asked by the finance committee chair to submit a budget for these expenses. She feels this is "ahead of the game" since she doesn't know funding availability, vendors or sponsor donations or what numbers are being used to pay for meals or after hours events. February would be the earliest she could have numbers available. She will have more information included in the next newsletter which is set to be sent out. Scott is looking for profit and loss information, but Tami indicated this is a new request and she doesn't have a history to know up front what to expect. She is using an opening registration as a guide and asked that we take a stake in the future of Crime Stoppers. Scott indicated that the \$5,000 was already included in the budget but was more interested in knowing if this opportunity was going to make money or lose money for the organization. There was further discussion on the reasons for taking this "hard line" approach to keeping with the profit and loss side of the budget. Elaine Cloyd reminded everyone that when CSUSA was formed, it was the intent and a promise that the board would be accountable and fourth coming with our expenses. That all programs would know that we are protecting the money, and never have the organization in the "red".

Newsletter report: Tami reported that 7 people did not respond to her request for a "head shot" picture and bio to be used in the upcoming newsletter. If nothing is forwarded to her, a blank spot will be inserted with a caption, "did not submit information". In August, Tom Kern requested that every board member submit something for the quarterly newsletter. It's becoming very difficult to put out a newsletter with no content.

Membership: Surveys were shared and Margaret feels there are some great comments. Dues notices have not been sent out and Chairman Kern will call Margaret in a few days to finalize.

Resource

Development: Tom is still working with Datadots and Microdots organizations. Crime Stoppers in Australia is making a great deal of money working with this group and Tom is interested in learning more.

New Business: 2010 Budget has been sent with the financial information by Scott. It is a draft proposal looking back at 2009 and what should be included for 2010. It is his hope that we can get back programs that we have lost in the past. Scott is using the flat dues figure at this time for our contribution to CSI. The budget should be looked at very closely and voted on during the next conference call in January.

Ashland partnership is moving forward for the first quarter of 2010. All due diligence has been completed by Scott and Richard. It was moved by Elaine and seconded by James Chambers to accept this partnership with Ashlan. Passed.

Tom indicated that he has received many comments concerning meeting times and dates. He has asked that the board get back to him with recommendations on morning, afternoon or evening meetings.

Call for adjournment, moved by Frank Boyd, seconded by Gary Potter.