# Crime Stoppers USA Minutes of the June 8, 2011 Board Meeting

**Present:** Scott Abrams, John Lamb, Elaine Cloyd, Chris Cameron, James Chambers, John Broad, Margaret Jones, Bob Mooney, Harvey Hilvitz, Jan Van Houten, Cindy Kilgore, Frank Boyd, Lisa Pisciotta, Mike Blatman, Elaine Cloyd, Richard Carter **Absent with Notice:** Barb Bergin, Estela Quintanilla, Don Everson, Ken Kelly **Absent without Notice:** James Taliaferro, Tim Stark, Patrick Curran,

The meeting was called to order at 12:03 p.m. by Chairman K. Scott Abrams. Scott asked if anyone had a conflict of interest regarding any of the agenda items but no one came forward with any conflicts. James Chambers made a motion to approve the minutes and Frank Boyd seconded it and the motion passed.

## Chairman's Report - Scott Abrams - Report Attached

- There will be a statewide meeting in Minnesota in July regarding some of the issues with some of the programs in that state. Scott Abrams has coordinated this meeting and will attend.
- Crime Stoppers Month is in September.

## **Vice Chairman's Report – Report Attached**

- There has been a change in personnel at Data Dots. Three people will be hired in the US to work with Crime Stoppers.
- John will send out the newsletter by the end of the month and is encouraging everyone to send in articles
- The Resource Development Committee is working on a \$500,000 grant for Crime Stoppers.
- To join the International Chiefs of Police Association is \$120 and to join the National Sheriff's Association is \$45. John made a motion that we join both organizations and Cindy Kilgore seconded the motion. The motion passed.
- We have had some concerns with Legacy Connections regarding insurance. John has been working with Lochton Affinity Program which is the largest independent insurance agency in the country. They have been very helpful to CSUSA and have assisted programs that need insurance right away. Legacy Connections continues to send letters to programs saying that they are affiliated with Crime Stoppers even after we severed ties with that company. John said that if you sent a check made out to the insurance carrier and mailed it to Legacy Connections, you are legally covered. Richard Carter said that if you sent in a check, demand to get the written policy binder. Scott Abrams wrote Legacy another letter asking them to cease and desist and they must remove the Crime Stoppers name from their web site by June 20. Russ Handley has the ability to do business he just can't tell people that he is a preferred vendor. John will put Lochton's information on our web site. Bob Mooney asked if we should issue a statement on the CSUSA web site that Legacy is not the preferred vendor and John said that will be put on the home page. Richard Carter will write the statement.

- Regional Director's Reports attached.
- John said that we still have not heard about the status of the Motorola Grant. Scott Abrams said he would go to their office in the Chicago area and meet with them.

#### Treasurer's Report – James Chambers – Report Attached

• James Chambers moved that the Treasurer's Report be accepted and John Lamb seconded it. The motion passed.

### **Regional Director's Report**

• Lisa Pisciotta said that during the Joplin tornado, a police officer from her department died after being struck by lightning while helping there. Scott Abrams will send a letter on behalf of CSUSA.

## **Nominating Committee – Margaret Jones**

- James Taliaferro's Regional Director's application is pending
- Loren Hamilton has applied for Region 7 and has passed his background check
- Sally Cox has submitted her application for Region 13

#### **By-Laws Committee – Margaret Jones**

• Frank Boyd, Scott Abrams and Jan Van Houten will sit on the by-laws committee chaired by Margaret.

#### **Membership Committee- Margaret Jones**

- Currently, CSUSA has 243 Paid Programs. We had over 300 members at this time last year. It is our responsible as Board of Directors to follow up with those that haven't renewed their membership. We have 10 new programs that have joined.
- John Broad asked if we collect any information as to why a program is not joining. Scott Abrams explained that the regional directors should be providing us that feedback which is the responsibility of the Board of Directors. John suggested we get that data and look at it collectively to see if we are serving the members in a way that is beneficial to them. John made a motion that the Not-For Profit Resource Center survey those members that have not paid their dues in the last 12 months to determine why they have resigned and give that data to the Board to be discussed at a future board meeting. Chris Cameron seconded the motion. James Chambers said he doesn't believe these programs have resigned; rather they haven't paid their dues. James thinks the Regional Directors may need help from the other Board members to help make those contacts. Elaine Cloyd felt that since the Not For Profit Resource Center sent out the original dues notices so it would be a good time for them to follow up with these 80 programs. After much discussion, the motion passed.

#### **Legal Update – Richard Carter**

- Most of the time spent by Richard this month was in regards to complaints about Legacy Connections. We do have to be careful not to interfere with Legacy's right to do business.
- Richard has also been working on the Trademark for CSUSA. We have one US
  Trademark that we are not using and have a second one that we have applied for
  but we have been notified that the attorneys in the Trademark office that they
  have some objections. Richard did say we have different options to accomplish
  our goal and is looking into it for us.

#### 2011 Conference – Chris Cameron

- At this time we have 75 people attending the conference. She is encouraging Regional Directors to promote this conference to programs in their regions.
- Conference sponsorship totals \$49,000 thus far.
- Chris is planning on the Board to work at the Registration Table and to be room monitors at every workshop. She will send a schedule as to what workshop each board member will be at.

## **Crime Stoppers International Conference 2012**

• Elaine Cloyd reported that we are working with HPN Global, a site selection management company to help us get hotel/conference quotes in Las Vegas. They are getting quotes from 12 different hotels. Elaine will report more later.

#### **New Business**

#### **CSI Spring Meeting**

• There is a new business model that CSI has adopted and will be shared at the October Membership Meeting at the CSI Conference. Currently, each Nation/Region has 3 people on the Board of CSI. There are 7 Nation/Regions plus advisors so that totals around 30 people on the CSI Board. CSI will add another 4-5 Nation/Regions so the total number on the Board will be 45. With the new model, the CSI Council which will have 3 members from each Nation/Region. They would be responsible for strategic, visioning and policy guidance on how CSI will be organized. The Council meetings would take the place of the CSI Training Conference. The training is getting too specialized for each Nation/Region and may not be as relevant as it has in the past. From this group of Council members, 7 members would be selected to serve on the operating board instead of just 4 members currently that sit on the executive committee members running the operations of CSI. Elaine Cloyd said that the CSI Board voted to move forward with this January 1, 2012. Elaine also suggested that CSI's focus will be to grow Crime Stoppers around the world.

#### **Isolation Parable – Scott Abrams**

• We cannot isolate ourselves from the rest of the world. Things are occurring on our soil. There are terrorists, drug cartels...all in our country. How do we cope with that? We have a strategic partner with CSI. They have forged partnerships with Scotland Yard, the FBI, the US Marshals and law enforcement all over the

world. We have to part of the world wide global solution. Mike Blatman said that he hasn't heard any success stories about CSI. They are not communicating regularly. There was a lot of discussion on this topic.

## 1-800-222-TIPS – Bob Mooney

In Delaware it rings in Crime Scene Information in Texas. If calling from Texas, it rings into Alternative Answers in Toronto. Bob is looking into how these calls are forwarded and will report back to the Board. Scott Abrams said we need a scenario as to where these calls go and who answers them.

Bob Mooney made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 1:35 p.m. and Jan Van Houten seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Chris Cameron