

Crime Stoppers USA

Minutes of the September 1, 2011

Executive Committee Meeting

Present: K. Scott Abrams, James Chambers, John Lamb, Elaine Cloyd, Richard Carter, Jan VanHouten, Bob Mooney, Chris Cameron

Excused: Estela Quintanilla

The meeting was called to order by Chairman K. Scott Abrams at 1:03 p.m.

2012 Crime Stoppers International Conference – Elaine Cloyd

- Scott reported that he, Elaine Cloyd and John Lamb met with the Executive Committee from Crime Stoppers International to go over plans for the 2012 Conference that CSUSA will host in Las Vegas. CSI will meet in the next day or so about the licensing fee of \$7500 that we asked be removed from their contract. They were in agreement with holding the conference at the Monte Carlo from Monday, October 1 through Friday, October 5 with Opening Ceremonies on Tuesday morning and the Gala on Thursday evening. Holding this conference during the week brings the hotel room rate down to \$80. Scott said that the CSI EC Board was very positive about the hotel and what we have in mind for this conference. The mid-year CSI meeting will also be in Las Vegas May 3-5, 2012. CSI is very open in having the Canadian delegates meet with Target. CSI also is in agreement with having breakout sessions as well as plenary sessions.

Insurance – Judge Carter and John Lamb

- Richard Carter said that Susan Marx, the investigator handling the administrative aspect dealing with Legacy Connections Insurance and Russ Handley's license said her part of the investigation should be completed by mid-September and will then be turned over to the attorneys for their action in taking Russ Handley's and Legacy Connection's insurance license. They are treating this case very seriously and are hoping for an early conclusion. Richard also received a response from the criminal investigator who has identified over 20 CS programs that were effected by the handling of their insurance and has furnished those documents to the fraud unit. The attorney's have subpoenaed and received Legacy's bank records and are reviewing them. Richard believes we should wait until mid- September before meeting with the FBI in Dallas.
- John Lamb spoke with a Crime Stoppers Program that was told by Legacy Connections Insurance that their large one-day events were covered under their general liability policy but eventually found out they needed separate coverage for events.

Sponsorship on Web Site – Scott Abrams

- Scott said that every so often people approach CSUSA about putting an ad on our web site. Scott said we need a process where we evaluate those that want to buy an ad and figure out what to charge. John Lamb said that there can be automatic

- billing where a bill is generated when the next payment is due. Scott has a form and a rate chart that he will send out for discussion. John said the rate can be determined by how many times an ad is shown each day on the web site.
- John also suggested putting a privacy policy on our web site that says we are not capturing our visitor's personal data or selling their information.

Strategic Plan – Scott Abrams

- Scott handed out the SWAT analysis at the Board Meeting in Grand Rapids and now he would like to take those statements and incorporate them into a goal statement. Scott asked for input from the Executive Board about the comments and ideas that came up from the meeting.
- Elaine said a lot of good things came out and said the biggest thing we need to decide as a group is what are we providing to our membership and what direction do we see CSUSA heading.
- Bob Mooney said the focus has to be showing what we provide to our members to encourage everyone to come into the fold. Bob sometimes finds it difficult to respond to the question, "What are you going to provide to me if I become a member of CSUSA".
- Scott said there are various elements of a strategic plan. One being operational and the other visionary. Scott said he was more in line with the previous document as opposed to the one we put together a couple of years ago. He wondered if there was a need to reach out to other organizations that are crime-solving organizations but don't necessarily follow traditional CS guidelines although if we reach out to them they must have some of the elements of Crime Stoppers. He also asked if we should have two levels of membership and a dues structure.
- Richard said if we had two tiers of membership he would call them original and crispy. You can have the two types of programs that co-exist.
- Elaine said we had to make sure that the true Crime Stoppers programs are ok with this. We are at the point that we need to sit down and talk about what we are going to do. The true concept is the anonymity aspect which is the backbone of our organization. Crime Stoppers programs around the world don't operate all the same. So how do we structure our organization going forward? Scott said we need to form a committee that will discuss what the new structure will look like. Elaine said we may need to discuss this with CSI too.
- Some of the anonymous tip lines might be police departments who offer anonymous tip lines without giving rewards of having a citizen board.
- Chris said you could have a member and an associate member and the associate would not have Richard as a benefit. The associate members would not have all the member benefits full members would have.
- Richard said the State of Texas is re-evaluating their certification process. If we can open it up where people come to us we could teach them best practices which would benefit us all.
- Scott said we should evaluate what we will look like in the future and put a committee together that will have a set goal to develop this plan. That plan would be one of our strategic goals. Everyone was in agreement with this. The

committee should be comprised of 7-8 people and Scott would like to include other Board members as well. The EC will determine who sits on the committee. Scott will send an invitation to all Board members and the EC will solidify who will sit on this committee before the next board meeting.

John Lamb made a motion that we adjourn the meeting at 12:46 a.m. The motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Chris Cameron