

Crime Stoppers USA

Minutes of the September 14, 2011 Board Meeting

Present: Scott Abrams, John Lamb, Elaine Cloyd, Chris Cameron, James Chambers, John Broad, Margaret Jones, Bob Mooney, Jan Van Houten, Cindy Kilgore, Barb Bergin, James Taliaferro, Frank Boyd, Mike Blatman, Estela Quintanilla, Maxine Thomas, Sally Cox, Richard Carter

Absent with Notice: Loren Hamilton, Harvey Hilvitz, Lisa Pisciotta

Absent without Notice: Don Everson

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 had any conflicts. Scott Abrams welcomed Maxine Thomas, new Regional Director for Region 11 to the Board and Sally Cox, the new Regional Director for Region 13.

Scott Abrams asked for a motion to approve the August 8, 2011 and August 10, 2011 minutes. Margaret Jones said that the Nominating Committee section of the August 8, 2011 minutes should read that the CSUSA Board still has vacancies for Regional Directors in Region 1, 2 and 8. Frank Boyd made a motion to approve the minutes as corrected and Margaret Jones seconded it and the motion passed.

Chairman's Report – Scott Abrams

- The contact person for Digital Witness, a television show, has asked the CSUSA Board if we are interested in their production of a show that highlights Crime Stoppers. A month ago Scott asked them for more information but he has not heard back as of yet.
- We are still working on our strategic planning process and as a result we are forming a Membership Visioning Committee which will be chaired by John Lamb. Scott sent out an email to the Board asking for those interested in serving on this committee to contact John.

Vice Chairman's Report – Report Attached

- John Lamb is working on the web site and updating it where needed.
- He is working on starting a Crime Stoppers Program in Nowata, OK.
- John had some discussions with Conoco Phillips about a possible grant
- John will order business cards for all new Crime Stoppers Board Members
- Please submit articles for the newsletter which will go out in October. Scott said we want to make it as interesting as possible so everyone needs to submit articles.

Treasurer's Report – James Chambers – Report Attached

At Large Director's Report

- Ron Conlon said he will be filling in as Region 1 Director until that position is filled.

Nominating Committee – Margaret Jones

- Margaret will resend an email to all programs in Region 1 and 2 to let them know there are openings in both regions for a regional director in the hopes someone may be interested.

Finance Committee – James Chambers

- CSUSA produced 1,000 challenge coins and paid \$3.15 per coin. After selling 184 at the conference for \$10 each we raised \$1,020. The 20 Masonic Coins we produced are all sold which we sold for \$20 each.
- We bought CSUSA pins and gave them out at the conference and will continue to give those out at all CSUSA events. We paid .74 cents per pin.
- The silent auction at the conference raised \$1142.50 for CSUSA.

Development Committee – John Lamb

- John said the committee is working on website advertising
- We have applied for some Federal Grants and are waiting to hear if we received them
- We will be writing a grant to Target for the 2012 CSI Conference

Membership Visioning Committee – John Lamb

- Several Board Members have offered to serve on this committee and John will contact the Board members who will be tapped to serve next week.

Legal Services – Richard Carter - Report Attached

- Richard Carter said that he expects to hear from the Texas Dept. of Insurance to see if they wrapped up their administrative and criminal investigation as to whether Russ Handley's and Legacy Insurance's license will be revoked in the state of Texas and if a criminal case will be pursued. If Richard does not hear by September 16, he will call to follow up.
- John Lamb said phone calls from CSUSA members about the insurance issue have started to subside. The Board has done a good job at communicating about this to our members.

Crime Stoppers USA 2011 Conference – Chris Cameron

- Chris Cameron said there were 117 paid delegates at the conference. Silent Observer brought in about \$46,750 in sponsorships and \$48,235 in registrations. Therefore the pro-rated share for Crime Stoppers USA will be approximately \$5,100.
- Scott Abrams said the Kent County Silent Observer Board seemed enthusiastic and pleased that CSUSA was there and they represented their program very well.

Crime Stoppers USA 2012 Conference – Elaine Cloyd

- The contract with CSI is being worked on right now as well as the contract with the hotel.
- The original contract with CSI stated that CSI would receive \$75 per delegate and an upfront \$7500 licensing fee. Those two amounts would total close to \$150 per

delegate. We came back to CSI with some suggestions and a compromise so we could make this work better financially for all involved. CSI agreed to reduce their licensing fee to \$3,750 and to an 80/20 split on any profits over the \$3750.

- The dates for the CSI Conference which will be held at the Monte Carlo Hotel in Las Vegas will be October 1 – 4. The Meet and Greet will take place on the evening of October 1 and the Gala will be held the evening of October 4.
- The CSI Spring Board Meeting will be May 3-5 in Las Vegas at the Monte Carlo Hotel so Scott would like to hold the CSUSA mid-year Board Meeting on Tuesday, May 1 in the afternoon and all day on Wednesday, May 2. In the evening of May 2, we will have a Meet and Greet with the CSI Board. Scott said this will be a great event to foster more communication between the two boards. Scott will be sending more information about this very soon. Elaine said that the Monte Carlo has agreed to give us a hotel rate of \$70 per night and \$85 per night on the weekend.

Old Business

Strategic Planning Process – Scott Abrams

- Scott said we had a good start on the strategic planning process at the conference. Scott will put everything we have discussed into a living document. It will be broken down and organized into operational, financial, goals and objectives. The EC will review the draft of the document and Scott will then bring it to the full board at the October meeting. It will be a useful tool when we are done because it will give us a clear vision and will help us explain what CSUSA is and what our mission and objectives are. The Membership Visioning Committee will be part of this strategic planning process.

Audit – James Chambers

- Elaine Cloyd asked where we were on the 2010 audit. James explained we are gathering information right now and sending it on. Elaine said that since we are applying for grants, many funders want to see our audit. Scott said we are just about done gathering the information we need to get this audit done.

International Airport Police Association - Ron Conlon

- In Washington State the Crime Stoppers Programs there will be launching a program with the International Airport and Seaport Police. This pilot program, which may go nationwide, is looking to receive Homeland Security money to come up with unified signage for all airports, seaports and transportation hubs that will say “If you have information about a crime call crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS”. This pilot program would start in the Pacific NW, British Columbia and Portland. All airport and seaports would have signage paid for by Homeland Security. This would give Crime Stoppers a fair amount of publicity to people from all over the world. Ron said they are very excited about this initiative. There is a virtual training piece to all of this. Ron said if CSUSA is interested CSUSA could manage Crime Stoppers Virtual Training and receive the profits from this venture. This could be a great tool to offer training to programs that

cannot afford to go to conferences and we could train our members on Boardmanship, How to Start a Program, etc. Scott would like the Development Committee to explore this further and bring back their findings to the Board.

TipSoft Business Plan – Scott Abrams

- Although there was no obligation to call, a representative from Crime Reports/TipSoft called Scott to ask how the CSUSA Board would feel if they increased their prices. They want to change their economic model and charge larger programs more for utilizing more of their services and perhaps reduce their price to smaller programs that don't use as many of their services. Currently, all programs pay the same amount for TipSoft. Mike Blatman said he talked to Kevin Anderson and suggested they may want to phase in the higher amount over time.

At 1:14 p.m. Bob Mooney made a motion to adjourn the meeting and John Lamb seconded it.

Respectfully Submitted,

Chris Cameron