

Crime Stoppers USA

Minutes of the December 14, 2011 Board Meeting

Present: Scott Abrams, John Lamb, Chris Cameron, James Chambers, John Broad, Margaret Jones, Bob Mooney, Ron Conlin, Harvey Hilvitz, Cindy Kilgore, Loren Hamilton, Estella Quintanilla, Don Everson, Sally Cox, Mike Blatman, Richard Carter, Kevin Anderson

Absent with Notice: Elaine Cloyd, Frank Boyd, James Taliaferro, Lisa Pisciotta

Absent without Notice: Maxine Thomas, Barb Bergin

The meeting was called to order at 12:01 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 will send out the conflict of interest statement that each board member will need to sign and return.

Scott Abrams asked for a motion to approve the November 9, 2011 minutes. There was one correction with Ron Conlin's attendance being marked as excused for the November 9th meeting. James Chambers made a motion to approve the minutes as corrected and John Broad seconded it and the motion passed.

Chairman's Report – Scott Abrams-Report Attached

- Mississippi State Conference – Judge Carter will be attending and will represent Crime Stoppers USA
- Scott has been working with the TV Production Company out of California and has sent them all the necessary paperwork. He has not heard anything from them since so he'll keep pursuing this.
- Shred It – Gary Murphy from CSI is the contact with Shred It. This will be a project between CSUSA, CSI and CS of Canada. Gary has a meeting with Shred It later this week so Scott will have more information at the next meeting. This project will benefit the local programs as they will sponsor golf outings or other fundraisers the local programs might have.
- CSUSA has recently signed an umbrella insurance policy with Lochton for \$750 that will cover the CSI conference.

Vice Chairman's Report – Report Attached

- John has been speaking with James Mounce with Data Dots. John approached him with a sales issue and was told that Data Dots did not have time to help until February. John is disappointed and may investigate other companies that provide the same service to see if these others companies might be more helpful. Scott Abrams asked if there should be a conference call with Greg Goddard but John said he has not returned any of his calls. Scott said he would pursue that angle.
- John said he is still waiting on copy for the web site about the 2012 conference.
- There was an article on Raleigh North Carolina Crime Stoppers paying a large reward to an informant. Although it wasn't a reward paid for tip information, it was reported as a Crime Stoppers reward. Scott Abrams said that IRS guidelines

say that if a reward is paid that assists law enforcement in solving a case that reward does not have to be claimed on that tipster's taxes. This may be a good topic for our annual meeting at the 2012 conference.

Treasurer's Report – James Chambers – Report Attached

- CSUSA has 103,077.61 total assets. We received \$25,000 from Target for the 2012 Conference.
- The Audit is done so James will mail it out to the Board to be approved at the January meeting.
- The 2012 budget will be presented at the January meeting. The finance committee is working on it now.
- At last month's meeting there was a question about the Advertising Line Item on November's financial statement. James said that we spent \$4,000 on challenge coins so that is what that expense was. John Lamb will put the challenge coins up for sale on the CSUSA web site.

Nominating Committee – Margaret Jones

- Margaret said that 2012 is election year for Board Members and all even numbered Regional Directors. John Lamb said that voting will be done online.

Finance Committee- James Chambers

- CSUSA has joined the International Chief of Police Association. James learned that this association only allows individuals to join not organizations. Bob Mooney said that the sitting Chairman of CSUSA should be the member. Bob also suggested that we join the Sheriff Association but John Lamb said that they too, will not let CSUSA join as an organization, just an individual member. James and John wondered if that was a wise expense since we cannot join as an organization. Mike Blatman said that we should have representation and we should participate and purchase tables at their events. Richard is a life-long member of the National Sheriff Association and has an affiliation with the IACP and will send letters to those organizations to see if we can be a liaison in order to have a platform and/or speak at some of their meetings.

Bylaws – Margaret Jones

- Will set up a meeting with the committee to see if there are suggestions for updates

Development Committee – John Lamb

- We received a grant from Target for \$25,000 for the 2012 CSI conference. It will be shown as income for 2011 but will be put aside for the conference

Membership Vision Committee – John Lamb – Report Attached

- The membership vision committee has concluded and John sent out the report. Mike Blatman would like to see this go a bit further and offered some suggestions. Mike thinks we should address customer service as we must offer world class customer service to our members. The only time we hear from

members is when something is wrong. We have to address concerns as soon as we learn of them. We need to believe we have the best product out there but understand that we are not the only product out there. We are providing a service but there are other services CS Programs can choose from. When others choose the other service, we should not bad mouth them. When CS programs do something different than most of us, we should coach them rather than scold them. Mike also said we need to belong to the IACP, the National Sheriff Association, and the Attorney General's Association regardless if it's just an individual membership. It's what you do with the membership. We can go to conferences or get involved in some other ways. That will help get our name and message out.

Legal Services – Richard Carter - Report Attached

- Richard called the State of Texas Dept of Insurance about the Legacy Insurance and learned that the criminal investigation continues.

Crime Stoppers USA 2012 Conference – Chris Cameron – Report Attached

- Sally Cox, Elaine Cloyd and Chris met to discuss the sponsorship packet. The \$25,000 from Target is a good start but we still need to raise \$58,000 more in sponsorships. Sally said that we should be ready to launch the conference in January. Elaine will call a meeting with the conference committee next week.

Old Business

Telecompute – Margaret Jones

- Margaret received a call from Telecompute asking for all the email addresses of all member programs. Margaret asked what she should tell them and was told to refer all inquiries to Scott.

Newsletter – John Lamb

- The next issue will go out December 15 so if anyone has anything to submit, please do so now

New Business

Assistance to Financially Distressed CS Programs – John Broad

- John Broad said there were many programs financially distressed and believes we should try to coach them to try to help them build there program back up. John Lamb went to a fundraising seminar and will share that fundraising information with the Board so we will have another resource to share with our local programs. John Broad hope that CSUSA will make this issue a priority.

CSUSA Mid-Year Meeting – Scott Abrams

- May 1st and 2nd is the CSUSA Mid-Year Board Meeting in Las Vegas. We will start around Noon on the 1st and have meetings all day on the 2nd. The Meet and Greet with CSI will be Wednesday night, May 2nd. John Lamb asked if anyone was not able to attend and Sally Cox said that since she'll be about ready to deliver her baby, she will not be able to attend.

Light Speed – Ron Conlin

- Ron said that Light Speed would like to meet with CSUSA regarding virtual training when we are in Las Vegas in May.

Since there was no further business, John Lamb made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Ron Conlin seconded it. The meeting was adjourned at 1:07 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Chris Cameron
CSUSA Secretary