

# **Crime Stoppers USA**

## **Minutes of the January 11, 2012 Board Meeting**

**Present:** Scott Abrams, John Lamb, Chris Cameron, James Chambers, Elaine Cloyd, John Broad, Margaret Jones, Bob Mooney, Jan Van Houten, Estella Quintanilla, Cindy Kilgore, Lisa Pisciotto, James Taliaferro, Frank Boyd, Don Everson, Sally Cox, Mike Blatman, Richard Carter, Kevin Anderson

**Absent with Notice:** Ron Conlin, Loren Hamilton

**Absent without Notice:** Maxine Thomas, Harvey Hilvitz, Barb Bergin,

The meeting was called to order at 12:02 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 asked for a motion to approve the December 14, 2011 minutes. Frank Boyd made a motion to approve the minutes John Lamb seconded it and the motion passed.

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

- The Executive Committee met on January 10, 2012 to discuss a potential opportunity to expand the name of Crime Stoppers through a television production. The person that contacted Scott wanted to move quickly on this and wanted a quick commitment from CSUSA. Scott sought out counsel regarding the pre-production costs involved, the time commitments and the financial obligations. Red flags appeared as they looked into this. After much discussion the EC decided that with the time commitment regarding the upcoming conference and our limited resources, this was not the appropriate time to move forward with this project. Richard Carter felt we made an excellent decision.

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

- CSUSA has 40 friends on Facebook and it continues to grow

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

- We ended up \$14,000 over budget because we spent more than we budgeted for and didn't raise what we expected. CSUSA has a fund balance of \$67,550
- James will send out the audit report to the group
- James sent the 2012 budget to the Board. Budget income is projected at \$121,000. A website sponsorship line item was added to the budget. There was much discussion about local program assessments and membership. Mike Blatman asked why the Motorola Grant and the Target Grant was listed as income on the budget. James explained that we were applying for grants to those organizations. Mike said that he would prefer that we not build a budget on grant monies that are not committed to us. Scott said there are other grants we are seeking that were not listed in the budget but feels that the number listed for grants in the budget are appropriate.

- Mike Blatman asked about the line item for travel expenses. Sally Cox felt that we should take out some of the expenses in the budget until we know if we will receive grants. If that happens, we can amend our budget.
- Scott asked the Finance Committee to go back and look at the grant line item and take a look at the proposed expenses as well.
- Mike Blatman suggested that all reports to the Board be emailed to the Board one week before the meeting. Scott Abrams said that not all board members are getting their reports in on a timely fashion which holds up the Chairman and Vice-Chairman reports.

#### **Nominating Committee – Margaret Jones**

- Applications will go out in May to all those running for re-election. Margaret has been working with the Not For Profit Resource Center to re-write the membership letter. CSUSA had 296 members in 2011. Chris Cameron asked about membership renewals and Margaret said they were emailed to all known emails in CSIM. Scott said if we don't receive membership dues from programs by mid-February, we will send letters to those programs.

#### **Bylaws – Margaret Jones**

- By-laws Committee will meet to review the by-laws specifically about Board term-limits and will get something out to the board before the next meeting.
- Bob Mooney said that he has reviewed some of the emails that were sent amongst the Board and asked Board members that do not concur with the committee's suggestions, to offer some ideas as how the term limit section should read.

#### **Development Committee – John Lamb**

- Data Dots – John is recommending another alternative because they are not following the agreement that we signed with them. Scott and John will work on this.
- Pepper Spray Agreement – We have not received the \$3500 licensing fee that was promised and due to CSUSA by the end of 2011.

#### **Telecommunications Committee – Elaine Cloyd**

- Elaine, with the help of the Not For Profit Resource Center, would like to send a short survey to our members asking if they use an answering service, Telecompute, 222-tips, etc to better understand our member's needs and concerns.

#### **Crime Stoppers USA 2012 Conference – Elaine Cloyd – Report Attached**

- The Spring Board Meeting agreement with the Monte Carlo has been reached.
- The CSUSA Conference Committee will meet on Friday.
- The committee has been working on the sponsorship book and the announcement of the conference. Elaine will work with John on the web site so the conference can be launched sooner than later.
- Scott will send out the information about our Spring Board Meeting within the week.

## **Old Business**

### **Newsletter – John Lamb**

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

### **Assistance to Financially Distressed CS Programs – John Broad**

- John Broad said there should be a statement from Scott to our members saying that if you are in financial distress, you can call a regional director or Scott. John Lamb asked John Broad to discuss this with Scott.

## **New Business**

### **Credit Card Agreement – John Lamb**

- CSUSA signed an agreement with Heartland to be our credit card provider but they now have changed their fee structure which makes them comparable to PayPal so we won't be using them.

### **Umbrella Policy – Elaine Cloyd**

- Elaine said the Umbrella Insurance Policy to cover CSUSA for the conference is signed and delivered.

### **Survey of Success Rates of Tips – John Broad**

- John has been doing some research on success rates of tips and if anyone is interested in this research or being a part of the survey, please contact him.

Since there was no further business, John Lamb made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Elaine Cloyd seconded it. The meeting was adjourned at 1:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Chris Cameron  
CSUSA Secretary