

Crime Stoppers USA

Minutes of the February 8, 2012 Board Meeting

Present: Scott Abrams, John Lamb, Elaine Cloyd, Chris Cameron, James Chambers, John Broad, Margaret Jones, Ron Conlin, Jan Van Houten, Cindy Kilgore, Barb Bergin, James Taliaferro, Frank Boyd, Loren Hamilton, Lisa Pisciotto, Maxine Thomas, Don Everson, Sally Cox, Richard Carter
Absent With Notice: Bob Mooney, Estela Quintanilla, Mike Blatman
Absent Without Notice: Harvey Hilvitz

Scott Abrams talked about the death of Gary Murphy, former president of CSI and a dear friend to Crime Stoppers. Scott will be attending the funeral in Toronto to represent CSUSA. In lieu of flowers they have asked for donations to the Canadian Crime Stoppers organization. James Chambers made a motion that to make a \$100 donation to the Canadian Crime Stoppers organization and Margaret Jones seconded the motion. The motion passed.

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. Conflict of interest statements should be turned into Chris. Scott then asked for a motion to approve the January 11, 2012 minutes. Elaine had a correction for the minutes regarding the upcoming CSUSA Spring Board Meeting. At the time of the last Board Meeting, we had not reached an agreement with the Monte Carlo regarding the spring board meeting. Elaine made a motion to accept the minutes as corrected and James Chambers seconded it.

Chairman's Report – Scott Abrams – Attached

- Scott addressed many program emails and web site inquiries this month
- Scott spoke about the inquiry about Crime Stoppers from Andrew Stricker, a reporter from an online newspaper called *The Daily*. He is looking for polices and information that are in our member section of our web site and Scott told him that is proprietary information. He has been looking at Crime Stoppers web sites on line and contacting local programs. Scott has been cautious as to what he has been sharing. This reporter wants to speak again with Scott within the next couple of days. Ron Conlin said perhaps it would be appropriate to have a conference call with Richard Carter on the line. During this Board Meeting, Richard received a call from Darlene Cusanza from the New Orleans Crime Stoppers Program. She spoke with the reporter and said he is planning a national attack on Crime Stoppers. He plans to say that the organization has violated public trust by spending much more money on administration than on rewards. He is looking for any scandal he can find. He also may be looking at supplemental reward funds that Richard has been warning programs about for 20 years. Sally Cox suggested that we put together some talking points to have handy if we receive any media calls.

Treasurer's Report – James Chambers – Report Attached

- Ron Conlin made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report and Jan Van Houten seconded the motion and it passed.

2012 Budget – James Chambers – Report Attached

- Ron Conlin said he was uncomfortable including monies that have not been committed as revenue in the budget. James said we did receive \$25,000 from Target for the Conference. Scott said a budget is a set of numbers that are estimates and goals for the organization. The numbers reflect our expectations and estimates that we seek as our goal for this year. One

commitment we have is from Shred It and there is an expectation we will receive \$20,000 from Shred It this year. Ron thanked Scott for the clarification.

- James said that the Non Profit Resource Center has applied for many grants for CSUSA. Elaine Cloyd asked if we could get information on the grants that have been applied for and the amount requested. James said he would compile that and send it to the board.
- Margaret Jones asked why the \$25,000 Target Grant was earmarked under Foundation Grants instead of earmarked for income for the 2012 conference. James said he would change that.
- Ron asked if CSUSA will pay for the Vice-Chair and the Treasurer to attend the CSI conference. James explained that the budget does not include monies for that expenditure. Board travel has been adjusted down to \$2,000 this year.
- Elaine Cloyd asked about the \$25,000 Target grant being received in 2011 but will be spent in 2012. Scott Abrams said we will still show that grant as income in 2012.
- Ron Conlin made a motion to approve the budget and Elaine Cloyd seconded it.

Nominating Committee – Margaret Jones – Report Attached

- Applications for regional directors covering even numbered regions will be sent out to all even numbered regions. Margaret found documents that listed when we incorporated and sent it to the Board.

Bylaws Committee – Margaret Jones – Report Attached

- The Bylaws Committee met and suggests that we ask the membership to approve some changes to the Bylaws regarding term limited board members. The Committee feels that those board members with a good history with Crime Stoppers but are being termed out should be able to stay on as an Active Advisor or an Active Life Member. The committee has come up with wording to bring to the membership for a vote. Scott would like the Board to review this within the next month and send our comments to Margaret. We will bring this up for a vote in March.

Resource Development Committee – John Lamb

- John said the Committee would like to work on raising money for the conference now. And the Committee would like to raise \$1 Million for CSUSA by the end of the year.

Telecommunications – Elaine Cloyd

- We will ask the Non Profit Resource Center to send out a survey to the membership in March.

CSI/CSUSA Conference Committee – Elaine Cloyd – Report Attached

- The signed agreement with the Monte Carlo for the Spring Board Meeting is done. The deadline for making your hotel reservation for the Spring Board Meeting is April 9. When you make that registration you will be charged for one night.
- The sponsorship booklet is almost done. There are many sponsorship opportunities that may pique the interest of potential sponsors.
- The Committee would like to propose that all Board Members receive a 10% credit on all sponsors they bring in to help pay for their registration fee. Ron Conlin made a motion to that affect and Margaret Jones seconded it. Scott said that the IRS could see this as a kick back and it is also in violation of our bylaws because it indicates that our board members not receive any payments for services. Ron asked Scott and James to look at this further and to give their opinion at the next meeting. Ron removed the motion so that we have time to investigate it and Margaret seconded it.

- The Conference web site is up but it still is a work on progress. As soon as it is complete we will send an email blast about the conference to all programs around the world.
- Elaine has received lots of feedback regarding the types of training that we will offer at the conference. We may be able to offer two strands in the afternoon on Monday, October 1 which would add 4 hours per strand. Then during the regional meeting time on Tuesday afternoon, we may be able to hold another class. Elaine said that we could also add more training during breakfast. Barb Bergin said that those coming from Florida are coming on grant monies so they can only attend if the training is relevant. Elaine said that's what she has been hearing so that's why the conference committee is working on more training than what CSI is planning. Elaine believes we can offer an additional 12 hours of training that will be relevant to programs in the US and abroad.
- John Lamb, James Chambers and Scott Abrams are on the CSI training committee and John said some of the training topics planned for the conference are Human Trafficking, Transactional Fraud, Money Laundering, Social Media, Internet Security, Public Relations and Information.

Old Business

Trademark

- Elaine Cloyd reported that the Trademark papers have to be in by February 27, 2012 and asked Scott if he was aware of that. Scott said he was and will handle this with Richard Carter's assistance.

Financially Distressed Programs – John Broad

- Regional Directors should let their programs in their regions know that there is help and advice if they are running into financial problems.

New Business

- Ron Conlon asked if a tribute is being planned to highlight and honor the dedication and service to Crime Stoppers by Alan Pratt and Gary Murphy. Both men were CSI Presidents and passed away within the last year. Scott said that Michael Gordon Gibson is planning something that will recognize these two men for their important and lasting contributions to Crime Stoppers.
- Margaret Jones said we have only received 53 paid members so far and Margaret would like to speak to Scott about how membership renewal invoices were handled this year and to plan another renewal communication to the entire CSUSA membership. Scott asked Margaret to call him regarding this.

Ron Conlin made a motion to adjourn the meeting and John Lamb seconded it. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned at 1:33 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Chris Cameron
CSUSA Secretary