

Crime Stoppers USA

Minutes of the March 14, 2012 Board Meeting

Present: Scott Abrams, John Lamb, Elaine Cloyd, Chris Cameron, James Chambers, John Broad, Margaret Jones, Bob Mooney, Jan Van Houten, Barb Bergin, James Taliaferro, Frank Boyd, Lisa Pisciotta, Maxine Thomas, Don Everson, Sally Cox, Mike Blatman, Richard Carter
Absent With Notice: Estela Quintanilla, Ron Conlin, Cindy Kilgore, Loren Hamilton, Harvey Hilvitz

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 then asked for a motion to approve the February 8, 2012 minutes and James Chambers made a motion to approve the minutes and Bob Mooney seconded them. The motion carried.

Chairman's Report – Scott Abrams – Report Attached

- Scott received feedback from Ralph Page from the Canadian Crime Stoppers organization and Ralph will be taking some responsibilities in regards to Shred It. Shred It is looking for an opportunity to work globally with Crime Stoppers.
- We completed the Trademark and filed the paperwork in time.
- We are getting a large number of web site inquiries regarding dues asking “how do we pay, what do we owe”, etc. There was a mailing that the Non Profit Resource Center sent out that included a letter from Scott as President and a brochure outlining the benefits of CSUSA membership. John Lamb said there will be a new procedure regarding how we send out dues notices starting next year and it will be an actual invoice.

Vice-Chairman Report – John Lamb - Report Attached

- Investigation on Russ Handley is proceeding.
- Elaine Cloyd said that in John's report, he mentioned people from the Resource Development Committee were calling potential sponsors for the conference. Elaine asked who those potential sponsors were and John said they were sponsors from the IACP.

Secretary's Report – Chris Cameron

- Chris Cameron encouraged those who have not turned in their Conflict of Interest Forms to please get those in now.

Treasurer's Report – James Chambers – Report Attached

- John Broad asked how much the decline in our unrestricted cash has been so far this year. James said it is about \$25,000 and it was from membership dues coming in slowly and the payment of the 2012 CSI dues. There is always a decline this time of year.
- John Lamb made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report and Frank Boyd seconded the motion and it passed.
- James presented the completed audit for 2010 which showed good compliance. James made a motion to accept the audit report and John Lamb seconded it. John Broad asked the reason CSUSA is on a cash basis rather than an accrual basis. Scott said it since we are not being evaluated and going out to a bond issue, the cash basis is satisfactory. Scott called for a vote and the motion passed.

Regional Director Reports

- Barb Bergin is talking to 11 programs in South Carolina and communicating with them on the benefits of membership.
- Sally Cox said that the California Crime Stoppers conference was last week and 80 people attended. Michael Gordon Gibson spoke at this. Sally heavily promoted the Las Vegas Conference and is hopeful we'll get many people from California to the conference.
- Scott said Michael was very complimentary about the conference.
- Sally said there were some people there that had not been involved in the past so she was encouraged and hopeful.

Nominating Committee- Margaret Jones

- Candidate applications will be sent out in the next newsletter and will be mailed out to all programs at the end of May.

Finance Committee – James Chambers

- In 2011, a pepper spray company agreed to donate \$5,000 to CSUSA if they could use our name on the packaging of the spray. They did remit the \$5,000 last month.
- Data Dots revenue is not as much as we anticipated.
- Although the finance committee is working on identifying grantors, if any board members have some ideas as to where to look for grants, please let us know.

Bylaws Committee – Margaret Jones

- Richard Carter has drafted a legal memorandum and will discuss it with Margaret before we bring it before the board.

Resource Development Committee – John Lamb

- John met with the Non Profit Resource Center giving them the directive about aggressively going out for grants. He also asked them to give us a monthly report of their activities on our behalf. They indicated they would have the report to John on the first of each month.
- Margaret Jones asked if we had a signed agreement with the Non Profit Resource Center and John said we did.

Telecommunications – Elaine Cloyd and Bob Mooney

- The telecommunications survey is ready to go out. John Lamb said he would put the survey in the next newsletter.
- Bob Mooney told Telecompute that it was inappropriate for them to send out an invoice and then a reminder on the same day telling customers of the bill they have to pay which also asks them when they are going to pay. Bob said the company told him there was a glitch which has been fixed. Telecompute uses an external invoicing company.
- Lisa Pisciotta said that the new invoicing system is not working any better. Bob and Elaine will talk offline about further details.
- Scott Abrams said this has been an ongoing problem and is frustrated that this company cannot handle their billing process. Hopefully the survey will give us the information we need to determine the needs of our membership and if we should look for a different preferred vendor.

Membership Committee – Margaret Jones – Report Attached

- Many people sent their form stats online when filling out their membership application but have not sent in their checks. Margaret asked the Regional Directors to call those programs in their areas and remind them of their dues payment. Bob Mooney said he would contact all of those programs, whatever the region.
- Margaret asked John when the membership invoice was going out to the membership and he said it would go out within the next week.

Legal Services – Richard Carter – Report Attached

- Richard, John Lamb and Scott Abrams met with the Texas Dept. of Insurance Investigative Division and gave oral statements. They got a briefing of the status and were a part of the continuing investigation.
- The Lt. said he was near the end of the investigation. Since he has already interviewed Scott, John and Richard all he still needs to do is interview Russ Handley. It appears they have a solid case against Russ and his wife Karen. Charges against Karen could be operating as an insurance agent without a license. Additionally, an insurance policy that was sent to Russ as a sample was completed by him and was sent out to people as a policy in effect.
- Our follow up is once the case is completed we are suggesting and soliciting anyone that was a victim of Legacy Insurance to sign a petition that would seek the highest criminal charges against Russ.
- Bob Mooney asked if we are asking for restitution. Richard said we will want restitution made.
- Bob thanked Richard, Scott and John for representing us at this meeting.

CSI/CSUSA Conference Committee – Elaine Cloyd – Report Attached

- Registration for rooms for the Spring Board meeting must be made by April 9.
- There have been a few glitches about people trying to register for the conference so Elaine will work with John on that.
- Elaine talked about the sponsorship form and the importance of the using the correct sponsorship form.
- Elaine is hoping CSI will be able to help bring in sponsors.
- Two more training strands will be offered on Monday from 1-5 p.m. One of the stands will target newcomers to Crime Stoppers. The other will be advanced training for mature programs. They'll be training after our AGM and other training in the early morning. There may be ten additional hours of training.

Newsletter – John Lamb

- The newsletter will go to press on March 15 so please get articles to John by tomorrow.

New Business**The Daily Article – Scott Abrams**

- Scott communicated by email to the Andrew Strictler 5-6 different times and spoke to him on the phone two different times. Andrew would not identify who he was or what he was doing with the information. He was cordial at first but would start demanding information. The focus of his article was looking at the relationship between fundraising activities and the amount of rewards that were paid out. Scott tried to talk to him about all the other programs and activities

that Crime Stoppers was involved in but he didn't care. So not to inflame this issue, we chose not to respond. Scott said a number of programs did receive calls from the media about this article and it was a good opportunity for those programs to share the good news of Crime Stoppers to the local media.

- The Spring Board meeting will begin on Tuesday, May 1 at Noon and will go most of the day on Wednesday, May 2. There will be a meet and greet with CSI Board members on Wednesday evening.

Evaluate Meeting

- Scott asked the board to stick to the agenda items because we seemed to get off the track and hop scotch around the agenda.
- Mike Blatman said that if a committee person sends in a report, there is no need to go over the report unless something is new or different.

Margaret Jones made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Bob Mooney seconded it.
The meeting adjourned at 1:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Cameron
Secretary