

Meeting Minutes of March 13, 2008

Meeting No. 31

Kathy Cole called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m. in the Cole Conference Room, at the Ingham County Sheriff's Dept.

Members present: Kathy Cole, Lin Emmert, Jim Niewiek, Richard Darling, Diane Philpot

DMB staff present: Vivian Grinnell, Karen Stone, Dane Hengesbach

1. Review of Meeting Minutes from January 10, 2008

Richard had changes to item number 6. Change of name from Mark Murray to Julie Croll. Julie used to be Chief Deputy Treasurer.

Motion made by Lin Emmert to approve minutes with changes, seconded by Jim Niewiek. MOTION CARRIED.

2. Cell Phone Recycle Program

Diane agreed to register the Commission on the GoodSearch website in Jim Salo's absence. The cell phone recycle program is up and running. Kathy discussed with FOP and they will distribute the forms and collect phones. Updated information will be on the website.

3. FOP Conference Update

Kathy attended the conference and obtained a \$1,000 contribution! She also discussed the cell phone promotion and Barb Byrum's bill to add the check-off box donations for MLEOM to the tax return. Several MCOles attendees took flyers, and the cell phone information sheets.

4. Taxpayers Check off Box

- Barb Byrum Introduced House Bill 5476 (Authorize Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Monument Fund income tax checkoff) to allow an individual to designate on his / her annual state income tax return that a contribution of \$5 or more of their refund be credited to the Michigan Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Monument Fund, which is to pay for a monument that would display the name of every Michigan law enforcement officer who died in the line of duty. This bill passed in the House (108 to 0) on February 13, 2008.
- Kathy Cole gave attendees a copy of the Thomas Krug article from the Lansing State Journal, where it indicates that this check-off has the potential to generate up to \$1.5 million dollars in 2009 alone! The article also urges Michigan residents to continue showing their generosity by giving to the fallen law enforcement officers memorial fund.
- Another article will be coming out soon in the Free Press so the Commission needs to get Senators on board expeditiously. Discussion followed regarding possible contacts to help with the support. All Commission members will contact their local Senators and ask for their full support. This must be passed by **JUNE** in order to in time to get on the next tax form! Please contact your Senators.

5. Fundraising RFP Update
Commission members expressed their frustration regarding the lengthy process of obtaining the RFP. Vivian will contact Purchasing regarding expediting this process.
6. Financial Update
Dane stated that not much has changed. He handed out the updated financial report and will change the figures to include the \$1,500 donations received at today's meeting.
7. Donor Lists
 - Kathy stated that she has not heard from any of her donor contacts. All Commission members should be sending out the MLEOM brochures and donor booklets. Lin stated that she has sent out about 40 letters. Diane will follow up with Denise Illitch, of Illitch Charities, since they were originally scheduled to meet on January 18th.
 - The suggestion was made to put the printed information brochures and forms in all of the Police publications.
8. Next Steps
 - The Commission needs to get articles published in all of the Police magazines!
 - Kathy ordered 300 mugs and Vivian will order 500 more brochures.
 - The reappointment letter has gone to the Governor's office. Members should hear something very soon.
 - Motion to adjourn made by Kathy Cole, seconded by Lin Emmert, MOTION CARRIED.

Meeting adjourned at 2:10 p.m.

**Next Meeting: Thursday, April 10, 2008 @ 1:00 p.m. in the
Stevens T. Mason Building – OPS Conference Room**

**Union Representatives Meeting
Immediately Following Commission Meeting**

Attendees: James Tignanelli, President of POAM, Patrick Baidel, Michigan Association of Police, Bob Noordhoek, Michigan Sheriff's Association, and Christopher Luty, MSP Troopers Association, Inc.

Kathy Cole thanked the law enforcement group for attending the meeting.

The Commission expressed the need for support and assistance for fundraising for the Michigan Law Enforcement Officers Memorial. The role that police agencies across Michigan play is vital to our fund raising efforts. The following is a list of suggestions and ideas shared by the meeting attendees listed above....

- Commission must get the word out and get information published in Law Enforcement magazines and Police publications!
- Some frustration regarding the House Bill 5476, which was passed 108-0. The Senator from Novi (Nancy Cassis) does not want to take it to the full Committee due to what she considers to be *more pressing issues*. Pat Baidel offered to assist in determining why legislators are not supporting this important piece of legislation.
- Suggestion that the Commission must determine what the Senate Finance Committee issues are and then begin making contact with other Senators, to put on the pressure.
- James Tignanelli will talk with lobbyists to gain support for this cause.
- James Tignanelli also suggested sending mailings to local union presidents, they would help. We must get the word out and have others take ownership.
- James also stated that the POAM is holding a business meeting on Wednesday, May 21st at the Amway Grand Hotel, in Grand Rapids, which is a seminar with 175 leaders in attendance. Kathy suggested that perhaps the MLEOM Commission could request just 5-10 minutes at the meeting to appeal for their support and assistance. James said he would gladly allow the time on the agenda, and suggested bringing the model, memorial brochures and hand-outs for the cell phone donations.
- Pat Baidel's group (Michigan Assoc. of Police) will be holding a conference in June and he can guarantee something in their magazine if Kathy can provide the information.
- Chris Luty will check on the dates and see if there is room on the agenda at their conference.
- Bob suggested a one-page mailer that you can just fold over, seal and mail. Vivian will check with Print & Graphics on this item.
- There was much discussion regarding these meeting representatives making some contacts to allow the Commission members to "get their foot in the door" so to speak.
- Bob Murdock inquired about making contact to solicit the survivors for funds, since they all share knowledge regarding this great cause, but the Commission members stated that the Bylaws don't allow solicitations to this group.

- Suggestion made to the members to approach the smaller glass companies to see if they would donate anything. There are five or possibly ten different Michigan businesses such as Henderson Glass, Lansing Glass, to approach with the sample and have a discussion to determine if they could possible donate or help in any way.
- Discussed the unions including a check-off on their cards.
- Bob suggested identify the types of needs the Commission has, approach different Sheriff's Departments (Grand Rapids, etc.); Chief's of Police, identify areas in the State and go back to Law Enforcement for contacts. You must get this information out there. Contacts may include Kellogg's, BCBS, hospitals such as U of M, Chase Bank, GM, GMAC, Five-Star Bank, large mall Developers in Michigan, cell phone companies, Motorola, also attend all of the Police conferences to ask for help. James offered to talk with his BCBS contact.
- Focus on Michigan based companies and Michigan Corporate lists. Must get the information and facts out to these individuals. Patrick Baidel knows the owner of Cruisers in Brighton; he will talk with the owner to see if there might be some trade shows the Commission could attend.
- Must focus on the Top Employers in Michigan that are doing well. (Google) Companies looking for good-fits or some charitable publicity for their company. This is a great cause! Also consider the Gaming Commission contacts...
- James agreed to talk with DeVos Foundation.
- Get out some updated press releases!! Keep the local papers informed and updated, keep updating public as a reminder. Communicate and ask for help!
- Also suggested a donation form with a check off list: \$500.00 box, \$1,000 box, \$3,000 box, \$5,000.00 dollar box and then also include other \$_____ and let the business or individual fill in the amount.
- Have a local business competition – Raffles, Match Funds program, White Tie event, to bring in the big money.
- Kathy Cole will be attending the MSA Conference in June and will have all of the brochures, booklets, charitable recycling information sheets and model with her.
- The Commission thanked each and every attendee for coming and for sharing their insights, ideas, suggestions, recommendations and expertise. It was apparent these individuals have much collective wisdom to share and will support the Commission in their fund-raising efforts. Their support and assistance is greatly appreciated.

Contact Information:

James Tignanelli: Jat@POAM.net

Patrick Baidel: electraglide123@aol.com

Bob Noordhoek: Rnoordhoek@michigansheriff.com

Christopher Luty: cluty@mspta.net