
**MICHIGAN LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS
MEMORIAL MONUMENT FUND COMMISSION**

Meeting Minutes of April 8, 2010

Meeting No. 43

Kathy Cole, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:15 p.m. in the OPS Conference Room, at the Mason Building, Lansing, Michigan. (Experiencing issues with the security staff requiring escorts for the Commission members.)

Members present: Lin Emmert, Richard Darling, Jim Niewiek, John Szczubelek, Diane Philpot

DMB staff present: Kerri Droste, Dane Hengesbach, Karen Stone

Please note action items are highlighted in yellow.

1. Approval of Meeting Minutes from March 11, 2010

Kathy Cole moved for a motion to approve the minutes from the March 11th meeting. Richard Darling made a motion to approve minutes, seconded by Lin Emmert. MOTION CARRIED.

2. Financial Update

Dane distributed a copy of the Financial Report as of 3-31-10, and reviewed the financial activity for the Commission. Dane stated that March tax check-off donations went down substantially. The current fund balance totals \$65,047.20. Dane inquired as to the Donovan & Smith retainer of \$3,000 through March. These invoices are paid through an EFT into their bank account. Dane will check and make sure that the bills are paid and money was deposited into their account.

Kathy will also contact Kathy Donovan directly to clarify how funds are received.

Lin gave Dane a check in the amount of \$520.00 from the Northern Michigan Association of Police. Kathy Cole gave Dane \$79.00 for cell phone donations.

3. Appointment Updates - Kerri

Kerri Droste still has not received any feedback from Eric in the Governor's *appointment office* or Bob Burns, our DTMB legislative liaison regarding a new appointment for Jim Salo.

4. Sign Update – Jim and Kerri

Per Jim Niewiek's update (he is currently in Florida), the new sign will be ready in May and Kerri has confirmed with the Commission that our Facilities Administration employees will install the sign.

5. Brochure Print Costs - Kerri

- Kerri gave a handout listing the cost options for the new MLEOM brochures. We will order 2,000 for a total cost of \$1,477.43 through Print & Graphics. This motion was approved at our last meeting and this is the best cost option.

6. Tax Deductible Language Update – John

- 501 (C) (3) John Szczubelek did a great deal of research regarding the legal nuances to enhance the ability to attract corporate tax deductible

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contributions and maximize the benefits from corporation donations. The Commission is currently a 170 (C) (1). John drafted a two-page document (see handout: *Tax Deductible Contributions for MELOM fund*). Although he gave a disclaimer that he is *not* a tax attorney, he does **strongly recommend that the Commission pursue a 501 (C) 3 exemption**, to benefit from corporate contributions. Charitable foundations also typically require this exemption as a condition for donation for tax exempt purposes. This designation would remove all doubt if a large donation is a legitimate, charitable tax deduction. John also provided an electronic link to the multi-page form 1023 that should be completed, in assistance with our Treasury department. The AG's office has a charitable trust office with highly qualified people that will work with Treasury on this request.

- Richard Darling agreed to complete the form ASAP with the assistance from Sarah Pierson in the Treasurer's office, who has much experience and expertise with this application process.
- John recommended that we change the verbiage on the new brochures to read generic IRS neutral at this time (for the new printing).
- John S. also recruited Bruce Edward Walker as a possible cross-marketing consultant who may have a contact with a large corporate donor. Mr. Walker has a very diverse background with public and media relations and will attend the next Commission meeting on May 13th with his presentation. **Since Kathy Cole will not be in attendance at that meeting, Mr. Walker will contact Kathy personally to discuss his ideas for the Commission.**
- The MCOLES Meeting is scheduled for April 21st. John stated that there is "no official business" to complete at this meeting so they have requested a speaker from the Commission. The conference will be held in Ottawa County and John S. will send Kathy Cole the information. **Kathy will ride with Sheriff Wriggelsworth to the conference and give a presentation that includes the new DVD to the MCOLES group. She will also try and touch base with John Buczek at this meeting to further discuss contact lists and ideas for establishing a corporate contact committee within the law enforcement community.**

7. Citizens Bank Update (Diane)

Diane did obtain prices on the stickers. She asked for clarification on the pre approval by SOM or should she have CB buy them as a donation. Any SOM expenditure \$2,500 or less does not require approval. These stickers would be to place on the back of your vehicle windows. Pricing standard; the more you order, the less they cost (range from 5 cents to 7 cents for each three inch sticker.) They also come in difference colors through Precision Press.

Kerri will contact Dan Stiles at P & G for a quote as well. Diane will call Citizens Bank for a 2-week participation window for **POLICE WEEK from May 9-15th which recognizes the service and sacrifice of law enforcement.**

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8. Summer Conferences (Lin)

The Michigan Assoc. of Chiefs of Police Conference will be held June 28th at Shanty Creek Resort. Lin Emmert will attend and commute back and forth. She will not require overnight accommodations.

MSA Conference – June 13th. Kathy Cole will attend this conference.

Diane Philpot will be going back to Eastern for the MiCops presentation with Denise. She is also teaching at Schoolcraft Academy and supplies information packs on the memorial.

Lin is working with Frank Moss on The National Patrol and Rifle Competition.

They have offered to give the MLEOM a table for their conference in Troy, June 7th and 8th. Diane will do both days.

Golf Outing at the Eldorado Golf Course by Warthogs will be held on June 2nd in Mason. Kathy will attend with all proceeds going to MLEOM.

9. Virtual E-mail & Fan Pages/Facebook (Lin and Kathy)

Lin stated that she had sent out the video to all of her friends. She will leave the tax video on the website until after tax season, and then will change it out.

Diane brought her daughter Kaitlin to the meeting to explain website fan pages, Face book, Twitter, etc. She suggested that a simple profile would be the easiest, just post to the website link, and have a “donate here” box. All of your information is posted on your account. Events, fundraisers, etc. Establish MLEOM and use the logo as your profile, picture, etc.

Twitter is very limited (149) characters, so Facebook would be the best for the Commission needs. **Kathy Cole will create a Facebook page for the Commission.** Some discussion was held regarding Ning as well, which also accommodates photos, news, private vs. public issues, etc.

Some discussion regarding Nixel paging system. Kathy is the administrator and will post updates as community advisories.

Richard Darling brought a copy of the Trooper Magazine to the meeting. The MLEOM Ad was very strategically located and looked very professional.

Motion to adjourn made by Lin Emmert, seconded by Richard Darling. MOTION CARRIED.

Meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

**Next Meeting: Thursday, May 13th, @ 1:00 p.m. in the
Stevens T. Mason Building – OPS Conference Room**