
MICHIGAN LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS MEMORIAL MONUMENT FUND COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes of September 11, 2008 Meeting No. 35

Kathy Cole, chair person, called the meeting to order at 1:12 p.m. in the OPS Conference Room, at the Mason Building, Lansing, Michigan

Members present: Kathy Cole, Lin Emmert, Richard Darling, Jim Niewiek
DMB staff present: Kerri Droste, Dane Hengesbach, and Karen Stone
Guest: John Buczek, the Executive Director of the Fraternal Order of Police

1. Approval of Meeting Minutes from July 10, 2008
Richard Darling suggested changing the next "meeting date" on the bottom of the minutes to read September 11th, rather than August 14th (since the August meeting was canceled). Motion to approve the minutes (with changes) was made by Lin Emmert, seconded by Richard Darling. MOTION CARRIED.
2. Financial Update
Dane distributed a copy of the Financial Report thru September 6, 2008 and summarized the financial activity for the Commission. He also provided a revenue listing identifying vendor/donor names and amounts donated. Lin requested that a date column be added to this report for future statements and Dane agreed. Kathy Cole presented Kerri Droste with a check in the amount of \$3,300.00 from the Paul Cole golf outing.
3. Update – Capitol Fundraising
Capitol Fundraising responded to the *request for additional information questions* submitted by the Commission. Kathy spoke with a couple of the references they provided and both references had great things to say about their fundraising capabilities and donor contacts. Jetco Solutions did not complete the questionnaire and declined due to other obligations. The Commission agreed that it would not be prudent at this time to spend \$30,000.00 to train the Commission members on fundraising techniques. The Commission moved to establish a new law enforcement subcommittee responsible for fund raising on behalf of the Commission and to table the proposal from Capitol Fundraising at this time.

John Buczek, the Executive Director of the FOP, addressed the commission, stating it was time that law enforcement took ownership of this important mission. He would like to work with the law enforcement community (statewide) to create a fund raising committee instead of paying such a large sum of money to a consultant. He stated that all law enforcement officers have contacts within their community which most likely include possible donors, such as large corporations, phone companies, car dealers, etc.

The Commission supported forming a subcommittee assigned with the task of getting the word out to **every** single law enforcement officer in Michigan. John Buczek and Kathy Cole will chair this subcommittee. Lin Emmert suggested to John that Thad from the Alpena lodge may be a good networking contact from that part of the state, since the subcommittee is looking for a broad statewide representation. Richard Darling stated that it is logical that the police community

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would be more passionate regarding fund raising for this intimate cause, so it makes perfect sense to utilize the expertise of law enforcement. John reiterated that all donations are tax deductible write offs, and corporations may be looking for options on donations. John will work with Kathy to compose a letter that will be sent to his contacts requesting an interest in sitting on this subcommittee. The Commission agreed to keep this subcommittee small.

Motion duly made to support and form a subcommittee; thereby suspending or postponing any other fund raising prospects at this time. Motion to support made by Lin Emmert and seconded by Jim Niewiek. MOTION CARRIED.

Kathy Cole will contact Capitol Fundraising with an update. Since it could be conceivable that the MLEOM may require their services in the future, Kathy will keep them informed as we move forward.

4. Citizen Bank Update

Diane Philpot sent Kerri an e-mail indicating that she had spoken with Citizens Bank and they are very enthused about promoting the memorial and selling coins/bumper stickers at several branches throughout Michigan. Their goal is to raise enough money for the "trust" of the memorial, including the perpetual upkeep and management of the monument. Citizens Bank will meet with the entire board soon, with a public service announcement campaign and timeline to commence in May, to synchronize with Police Officers Memorial Day.

Diane also indicated that she had contacted Guardian Glass and they expressed a strong interest in this project and are searching their operations here and abroad to see if it can match the specifications for the glass. Diane will provide an update at the next meeting.

5. Update Contact Information for Commission Members

Kerri provided a roster for each of the Commission members to update their email addresses, phone numbers, etc. She will share the document with all Commission members upon completion. She continued that she had spoken with the Appointments Division of the Governor's office, regarding the replacement of Jim Salo, and they indicated that they could not proceed until they were in receipt of Jim Salo's formal resignation letter. Jim stated that he had sent it directly to the Governor's office approximately three weeks ago. Kerri will follow-up with the Governor's office to see if that has been received, and how to proceed.

John Buczek and Richard Darling both have contacts within Mike Cox's office, so they will make inquiries regarding a replacement for Tom Furtaw, as the legal representative for the MLEOM.

6. Next Steps

Richard Darling suggested that they are underutilizing the United Way-SECC Campaign. Perhaps police departments could get the word out to earmark donations to the MLEOM, via law enforcement publications, and word of mouth.

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Richard also suggested that the Commission take advantage of the income tax check-off box this year, since there will be many more causes competing in 2009.

Kathy Cole, chair person, suggested that the October meeting be canceled, allowing them time to organize the subcommittee. The Commission supported this proposition and will meet again in November 2008.

Meeting adjourned at 1:55 p.m.

**Next Meeting: Thursday, November 13, 2008 @ 1:00 p.m. in the
Stevens T. Mason Building – OPS Conference Room**