

**SUFFOLK COUNTY TRAFFIC SAFETY BOARD
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING**

Date: November 16, 2011

Place: Brookhaven Town Hall – Work Session Room

MEMBERS PRESENT (8)

Robert Behrle

Suffolk County Sheriff

Douglas Death

Office of the County Executive

Steven Kamvakis

Suffolk County Department of Fire, Rescue & Emergency Services

Karl Klug

Suffolk County Department of Health

Stephen Miller

Suffolk County District Attorney

Robert Pearce

Southampton Town Police

John Saraceno

Town of Smithtown

Arvind Vora

Retired – Formally of SCDPW

GUESTS PRESENT (9)

Frank Bania, LI ABATE

Lisa Dils, Town of Brookhaven

Stavros Dalambakis, LI ABATE

Theodore Klein, SC Planning

Joseph Kruk, 106th Rescue Wing

Christopher McBride, AAA

Alexander Prego, SCDPW

Patricia Ralph, SCDPW

Tom Temistokle, NYSDOT

CALL TO ORDER

In the absence of Richard Schneider, Chair, the meeting of November 16, 2011 was called to order by John Saraceno, Vice Chair, at 2:15pm.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

John Saraceno, Vice Chair, indicated, since a quorum was not present, the September 2011 and October 2011 minutes could not be approved. John requested any additions or corrections to the October 2011 minutes for which Robert Pearce, Southampton Town Police, indicated DWI statistics should reflect 37 DWI's in August with 243 DWI's to date. These corrections were noted.

CORRESPONDENCE

Alexander Prego, SCDPW, indicated Tom Temistokle, NYSDOT, provided two (2) informative articles and two (2) pamphlets. Respectively, they are as follows:

- "Centerline Rumble Strips"
- "ODOT: Parkway Beacons Having Positive Impact"
- "Field Guide for Inspecting Signalized Intersections to Reduce Red-Light Running"
- "Intersection Safety Strategies"

ENFORCEMENT PROGRAMS

- Robert Behrle, Suffolk County Sheriff, reported State Grants are starting to come in, but have yet to be reviewed.
- Robert Pearce, Southampton Town PD, reported:
 - 17 DWI's in October,
 - STEP Grant was received, however, no dollar figure was indicated,
 - Bunny Seat Belt Grant was received, but only half the amount originally requested. This will be good for the "May wave."

ENGINEERING PROGRAMS

- Alexander Prego, SCDPW – nothing to report.
- Tom Temistokle, NYSDOT, reported:
 - Region 10 NYSDOT is currently analyzing crash reports for recent cable rail crashes on the Long Island Expressway and Sunrise Highway. There have been fifteen (15) such crashes between August 1, 2011 and November 1, 2011.
 - This is an active contract (D261400) for the installation of cable rail on the LIE, between Route 112 and Riverhead, and on Route 27, between Route 112 and the Shinnecock Canal.

A lively discussion ensued. Joseph Kruck, 106th Rescue Wing, added, while driving through many states, he noticed the cable rails had yellow reflectors on them approximately every 100 yards. The posted speed limit was 70mph.

- John Saraceno, Town of Smithtown, reported:
 - They are continuing to upgrade residential area street lighting to LED's.

- Lisa Dils, Town of Brookhaven, reporting for Lynn Weyant:
 - The Town is still interviewing developers for the Ronkonkoma Hub. This will be a "phase" type development. They are hoping for a selection by January and begin work in 2012.
 - Utility poles are being relocated at the Whiskey Road/Miller Place-Yaphank Road roundabout project.
 - The Union Avenue, Holbrook, project is in the final pavement stage.
 - The Town received the AAA Award for their Bike Rodeo and Defensive Driving programs.

HIGHWAY SAFETY PROGRAMS

- Christopher McBride, AAA, reported:
 - The Safety Awards luncheon was held, Tuesday, October 25th. Individual awards were given to an assemblyman and a state senator for their involvement with texting awareness.

- Stavros Dalambakis, LI ABATE, reported:
 - A power point presentation is being generated in conjunction with BOCES. It is approximately 45 minutes in length. It will be shown to seniors, stressing the motto, "Look Twice- Save a Life."
 - Their "Vets Run" raised \$10,000 for Veterans.
 - Along with St. Mary's, they raised \$4,000, toys, and food for local families.

- Joseph Kruk, 106th Rescue Wing, reported:
 - The base wants to host a child passenger safety class. Alexander Prego, SCDPW, will provide Joseph the contact information for Susan Katz, Safe Kids Suffolk, Rachel Lugo, EAC, and Lynn Weyant, Town of Brookhaven, to coordinate the class.

- Karl Klug, Suffolk County Department of Health, reported:
 - On CR97, Nicholls Road, another ambulance overturned due to a MVA. The patient did not sustain injuries, however, an EMT was ejected and suffered head injuries.
 - The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) recently released an extensive study which included ways to make the interiors in the back of the ambulance safer for patient and medics.
 - Difficulties arise since Towns use different pre-emption systems at signalized intersections.

- Douglas Death, Office of the County Executive, provided:
 - 2011-2012 STOP DWI school year calendars.
 - DWI arrest report showing 3,700 arrests through the end of September.
 - DWI fatality report showing 43 alcohol involved fatalities in a 24hr period for 2011.
 - 2011 Pedestrian fatalities totaled 27; 17 of which involved alcohol. An interesting statistic: in some of the accidents, the pedestrian was intoxicated and hit by a sober driver. Alcohol levels were reported at .33, .2, .2+.
 - Fatalities with alcohol involvement are in all neighborhoods; all nationalities. A GTSC program is looking at the first week in June to conduct a multi-cultural diversity training program. The exact date and location is not known at this time. They are looking to invite leaders of the community to present information to analyze the area; specifically to pin point areas needing improvement.
 - Douglas reported schools and churches appear to be the best locations to talk and get the information out due to having a captive audience.
 - Douglas reported: if a breathalyzer comes up with no definitive results, although the motorist is showing signs of intoxication, a Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) can be called out to conduct an extensive interview, with blood and urine testing, to prove alcohol and/or drug involvement. Using DRE's can be cost prohibitive; many times being called in from home. A Grant would help defer some of the costs. The Grant is specifically for enforcement; NOT training. A person must be in law enforcement to go through the DRE training: 3-day pre- school, 10 day classroom, and then extensive practical experience.
 - Another program is called Advanced Roadside Impaired Driving Enforcement (ARIDE).
 - MADD will conduct a candlelight vigil on Sunday, December 4th, at SUNY Farmingdale in Roosevelt Hall. Further information can be obtained via their website, longislandmadd.org.

- Theodore Klein, Suffolk County Planning, reported:
 - New Frontier Trailer Park on Route 110 in Babylon has 375 trailers on site; most with individual septic tanks which are causing health concerns and issues. The owner of the property is selling to a developer who has offered \$25,000 to each trailer owner for relocation. The developer, along with the Town, are looking to develop the location as "mixed use;" building 500 apartments and 50,000 square foot retail space with access onto Route 110. There are many unprecedented issues for Babylon Town.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

- Nothing to report

OLD BUSINESS

- Alexander Prego, SCDPW, reported:
 - He sent the appointment names and resumes to the Clerk's Office.
 - Website status: Alexander emailed IT with various things to do on the website. Currently, the website is not ready; the functionality we would want is not yet in place. Once up and running, visitors will be able to access the website via links on the legislature and DPW websites.

NEW BUSINESS

- Alexander Prego, SCDPW, requested ideas for future presentations at the meetings. These suggestions should be forwarded directly to him. Robert Behrle, Suffolk County Sheriff, suggested a “drug recognition expert (DRE).” John Saraceno, Vice Chair, suggested someone to discuss ignition interlock.

ADJOURNMENT

Being no further business, the November monthly meeting was closed by John Saraceno, Vice Chair, at 3:05pm. Although a quorum was not present, John asked for a motion to adjourn – the motion was made by Robert Behrle; 2nd by Karl Klug. The next meeting will be held December 14th.