

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

Date: February 15, 2012

Place: Brookhaven Town Hall – Work Session Room

MEMBERS PRESENT (13)

Robert J. Behrle

Suffolk County Sheriff

Steven Kamvakis

Suffolk County Department of Fire, Rescue & Emergency Services

Theodore R. Klein

Suffolk County Department of Planning

Karl Klug

Suffolk County Department of Health – EMS Division

Stephen Miller

Suffolk County District Court

Andrea Neubauer

Suffolk County Probation Department

Robert Pearce

Southampton Town Police

Alexander J. Prego

Suffolk County Department of Public Works

Michael J. Salatti, P.E.

Greenman-Pedersen, Inc.

John Saraceno

Town of Smithtown

Richard H. Schneider

East Hampton Village Police Department

Arvind Vora

Retired from Suffolk County Department of Public Works

Lynn Weyant

Retired from Town of Brookhaven

GUESTS PRESENT (10)

Christine Degen, Texting Awareness Foundation
Jennifer P. Hogan, GTSC
Rachel Lugo, EAC
Christopher McBride, AAA
Tom McCoy, MADD
Anthony Miserendino, NYS Police – Riverside
Christopher Mistrion, Nassau County Traffic Safety Board
Rocco Panetta, Texting Awareness Foundation
Michael A. Petronzio, State Police
Patricia Ralph, SCDPW

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of February 15, 2012 was called to order by Richard Schneider, Chair, at 2:07pm.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Richard Schneider, Chair, indicated a quorum was present. Richard requested any additions or corrections to the January 2012 minutes for which there were none. A motion to approve the January minutes was made by Robert Pearce; second by Robert Behrle. All were in favor; none opposed.

CORRESPONDENCE

- Alexander Prego, SCDPW, provided a call for presentations for the New York Highway Safety Symposium in Lake Placid.

ENFORCEMENT PROGRAMS

- Richard Schneider, Chair, indicated nothing to report for East Hampton Village PD.
- Robert Behrle, Suffolk County Sheriff, indicated nothing to report for Sheriff's. Robert stated a DRE representative would be speaking at the end of the regular meeting.
- Michael Petronzio, NYS Police, introduced Anthony Miserendino, NYS Police – Riverside, who will be attending TSB meetings. Michael reported:
 - Grant details and distracted driving details are continuing.
 - The next DWI enforcement will take place in Nassau County on St. Patrick's Day.
 - Distracted driving is a "hot topic." A new sight vehicle which is unmarked, with low profile lighting, is being used.
- Robert Pearce, Southampton Town Police reported:
 - 17 DWI's in January – these numbers are on par with last year's.
 - Distracted driving – people are just doing it without concerns of the consequences.

ENGINEERING PROGRAMS

- John Saraceno, Town of Smithtown, reported:
 - Having an agreement with 3M for a sign inventory database. Currently, they are using a tablet with GPS which can update the in-office data when new signs are installed.
- Lynn Weyant, Town of Brookhaven, reported:
 - They are in the initial phase of their first roundabout, however all is on hold during the winter months. They declined State funding; instead building in-house.
 - Sign inventory/maintenance project has been initiated.
- Theodore Klein, Suffolk County Planning, reported:
 - At a Commissioner's meeting, two (2) applications were discussed:
 - Condominiums at the Oheka Castle location,
 - "The Irwin Garsten Retail Center", just east of Home Depot in Riverhead, where egress right turn only along the north side of CR58 and cross access agreements with the Riverhead Centre property to the west was recommended.
- Alexander Prego, SCDPW, reported:
 - According to Newsday, the new County Executive was in Albany to try to create a Traffic Violations Bureau – similar to Nassau County.
 - A bill for fifty (50) more red light cameras is currently in the Transportation Committee.

HIGHWAY SAFETY PROGRAMS

- Richard Schneider, Chair, introduced:
 - Christopher Mistrion, the Chair of the Nassau County Traffic Safety Board. Christopher indicated:
 - He works out of the Department of Public Works.
 - DWI efforts are ongoing and they are looking into enhancing programs - for example, education.
 - Distracted driving is part of every-day police work.
 - They are trying to advertise every day policing to 'give credit where credit is due.'
 - Their red light camera locations are chosen for safety and quantity of accidents.
- Jennifer Hogan, GTSC, reported:
 - She attended the Nassau TSB last week.
 - At the February 16th Albany meeting, a State-wide pedestrian campaign was defined. A placard was provided which Nick Masherone had printed.
 - The Empire State Law Enforcement Conference is scheduled for April 19th and 20th at the Hotel Albany. March 16th is the deadline for applications via the website.
 - Grants are due May 15th.
 - Reiterated the importance of updating emails on E-grants.
 - Reiterated that presenters are needed for the symposium in Lake Placid.

- Christopher McBride, AAA, reported:
 - May 11th is a Car Fit Training event in which seniors are “fit” for their vehicle, i.e. mirrors, seatbelts, headrests are correctly positioned for them.
- Rachel Lugo, EAC, reported:
 - The date for the “Building of Bridges” Conference has been set for June 7th, at Malloy on Route 110.
 - Child Passenger Safety Board – trying to get legislation passed so all vehicle occupants will be required to wear seatbelts.
 - SCPD Highway Patrol will be training 18 officers to get CPS certified. No date has been set yet, but three (3) classes will be held between now and September.
- Tom McCoy, MADD, reported:
 - Nominations for the March 22nd Law Enforcement Awards are due this week.
 - April/May Awareness Campaign will focus on victim advocacy; drunk and drug driving.
 - Rocco Panetta, Texting Awareness Foundation introduced Christine Degen, also from Texting Awareness Foundation, who commented that kids are aware of distracted driving; still they do it. They can not multi-task while driving.
- Karl Klug, Suffolk County Department of Health, EMS Division, questioned whether any information was available regarding a driving simulator which the Manhasset-Lakeville area has.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

- Alexander Prego, SCDPW, reported:
 - 18 of 20 new Traffic Safety Board appointments have been approved by the Legislature.
 - Arvind Vora, retiree from SCDPW, provided information on two (2) bills which passed the Senate; pending in the Assembly.
 1. Making aggravated, reckless driving a Class E felony,
 2. Abigail’s Law – it would be against the law for a licensed driver, under the influence, to supervise a person with only a learner’s permit.

OLD BUSINESS

- Nothing to report.

NEW BUSINESS

- Nothing to report.

Richard Schneider, Chair, introduced Deputy Sheriff, Mike Hern, who provided a presentation regarding the Drug Recognition Expert Program.

ADJOURNMENT

Being no further business, the February monthly meeting was closed by Richard Schneider, Chair, at 3:40pm. Richard asked for a motion to adjourn – the motion was made by Robert Pearce; 2nd by Robert Behrle. The next meeting will be held March 21, 2012.