

County of



Saratoga

## Board of Supervisors

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### **SARATOGA COUNTY TRAFFIC SAFETY BOARD MEETING**

**February 10, 2014 – 1:00 p.m.**

PRESENT: Chairman Andrew Prestigiaco; Joseph Waldron, Mechanicville PD; Saratoga Springs PD; Bob Murphy, STOP-DWI Coordinator; Rick Washburn, Sheriff's Office; Janine Stuchin, Prevention Council; Patrick Campion, Katherine DeMartino, D.A.'s Office; Thomas Parks, Charlton Police; Todd Ives, Ballston Spa PD; Richard Schoonmaker, Galway Police; Mickey Mahoney, Probation; Peter Martin, Supervisor-Saratoga Springs; Stephen Williams, Daily Gazette

Mr. Waldron called the meeting to order. He nominated Andrew Prestigiaco as Chairman of the Traffic Safety Board for 2014. The motion was seconded by Mr. Washburn and approved with all in favor.

Mr. Murphy stated he talked to every department, and everyone was pleased with the outcome of the Super Bowl DWI crackdown. The biggest part was the number of days to be out there which was very successful. For the St. Patrick's Day crackdown, it will be for March 14<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup>. He said he has given the allocations out to everyone. If additional hours are needed, 12 additional hours will be allowed.

Mr. Murphy said the State of New York has accepted our 2014 budget.

Chairman Prestigiaco stated the Empire State Law Enforcement Traffic Safety Conference will be held on April 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> at the Albany Marriot Hotel on Wolf Road in Albany, NY.

Chairman Prestigiaco mentioned National Sleep Awareness Week is March 2 – 9 with the start of daylight savings time on March 9<sup>th</sup>. The New York Partnership Against Drowsy Driving supports the goal of this traffic safety awareness campaign to alert all drivers to the dangers of driving while drowsy.

Chairman Prestigiacomo stated Grants Gateway is replacing e-grants. He said he has some contact information that he can give to everyone. This involves a handwritten form that has to be signed by your department head along with it being notarized. This will be the new way to apply for the Police Traffic Services grant. He asked if progress reports and vouchers will still be done by e-grants, and Mr. Waldron said yes. Chairman Prestigiacomo stated that the application for 2015 will go through Grants Gateway.

Mr. Campion introduced Katie DeMartino who is one of their DWI prosecutors, and she started in January. He said they are happy to have her. He stated they have been very busy. He read an article that said fatal crashes involving marijuana have tripled since the 1990's. If you are impaired by alcohol and marijuana, you are 24 times more likely to be involved in a fatal crash.

In discussing the results of the Super Bowl DWI crackdown, Chairman Prestigiacomo said they had nine arrests – 8 for DWI and 1 DWAI/drugs. 30 grams of marijuana were seized. He said they ran extra patrols and did a checkpoint Sunday night.

Mr. Washburn stated they had one DWI arrest.

Mr. Ives said they did one road check with 1 DWI; 1 DWAI/drugs, and 1 felony DWI.

Mr. Schoonmaker said their DWI checks had 17 designated drivers. He stated 15 tickets were issued with no DWI's. He mentioned this was a joint effort with the Sheriff's Department.

Mr. Parks said they just had routine patrols.

Mr. Waldron stated they had no DWI's, a lot of limos and a lot of designated drivers.

Ms. Stuchin said there will be a Victim Impact Panel tomorrow night in Clifton Park, and Mechanicville Police will be represented there along with speakers. She mentioned these panels have been 75 – 100 people in attendance. She said they continue with their Risk and Responsibility classes for young adults who have had drug and alcohol use.

Ms. Stuchin said next month, they will have Safe Spring, their annual gathering of high school students in Saratoga County. This will be held on March 13<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. at Skidmore College. She said she will be sending out invitation letters to all of the agencies. She said they will have coffee and donuts at 8:00 a.m. We welcome all of you.

Mr. Murphy said for the Victim Impact Panels, he is receiving calls from people from all through the State who want to attend. He asked if that was permitted. Ms. Stuchin said they do not accept walk-ins, but registration is done through Wes Carr's office.

Chairman Prestigiacomo introduced Peter Martin who is a Supervisor of the City of Saratoga Springs. Supervisor Martin stated he was pleased to be here today. He said he respects the work everyone is doing.

Mr. Waldron said they are busy with the Alive at 25. He said he reached out to the National Highway Safety team and became an instructor for teaching the course so that we can have more people on board and trained. Ms. Stuchin asked how many instructors are at each program. Mr. Waldron said at least four, but it could be reduced down to three. He stated attendance for this course is very high. There are 18 people already signed up for April. Chairman Prestigiacomo stated there were four attendees in the first class, and now, it is up to about 28 attendees per month.

**\*\* NEXT MEETING – MONDAY, MARCH 10<sup>TH</sup> AT 1:00 P.M. \*\***

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine M. Sodemann