County of Saratoga

Board of Supervisors

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SARATOGA COUNTY TRAFFIC SAFETY BOARD MEETING

May 12, 2014 – 1:00 P.M.

PRESENT: Chairman Andrew Prestigiacomo; Saratoga Springs PD; Bob Murphy, STOP-DWI Coordinator; Richard Washburn, Sheriff's Office; Frank McGarity, NYS Park Police; Cynthia Dort, Cornell Ext. of Saratoga; Patrick Campion, D.A.'s Office; Thomas Parks, Charlton Police; Todd Ives, Ballston Spa PD; Todd Moulthrop, South Glens Falls PD; Janine Stuchin, Prevention Council; Mickey Mahoney, Probation; Tim Williams, Waterford PD; Tom Goodwin, Stillwater PD; Donald Fougiere, New York State Police; Craig Hayner, County Clerk, Rick Schoonmaker, Galway PD; Patricia Hardy, Mother of Shenendehowa High School Student

Chairman Prestigiacomo called the meeting to order.

Mr. Murphy distributed copies of a listing of the Saratoga County Prom and Graduation Events. He said four proms have already been held, and there are quite a few this coming weekend. He suggested law enforcement look at the location of these events, particularly Saratoga Springs, as these events will have to be covered. He said he will provide an updated list at next month's meeting.

Mr. Murphy mentioned the Memorial Day crackdown will be May 22 – 27. That is in the grant that you have, and he said agencies can have an additional 12 hours. The crackdown after that will be for the 4th of July.

Chairman Prestigiacomo said due to an unforeseen delay in the implementation of the New York State Grants Gateway, 2015 GTSC grant applications will be made through the existing eGrants system. GTSC apologizes for any inconvenience this may cause. If you have any questions,

please contact your GTSC program representative, or e-mail your question to safeny@dmv.ny.gov. Deadline for grant applications is **Thursday, May 15, 2014.**

Chairman Prestigiacomo said police agencies in New York will partner with police departments across the United States to participate in a two week mobilization "Click it or Ticket" May 19th through June 1st. Agencies can utilize their PTS grant funds to staff seatbelt details. Saratoga Springs PD is planning on roving patrols and at least one seat belt checkpoint.

Chairman Prestigiacomo stated last Monday, he attended "Below 100" training. This initiative is fairly new. He also attended train the trainer in the afternoon. We have not had below 100 in line of duty deaths since 1944.

Chairman Prestigiacomo announced the Dave Matthews Band will be at SPAC May 30th and 31st. State Police and Ballston Spa PD will feel the residual effects.

Mr. Campion stated they have chosen a tentative day of October 23rd for the DWI training of police officers. More details and fliers will be forthcoming.

Mr. Campion mentioned that DWI supporting depositions will be changed from one to three pages.

Mr. Campion said DCJS will be providing Statewide Investigative Notecards to be utilized in DWI investigations. Mr. McGarity said they are available right now. Chairman Prestigiacomo asked if it mattered if these get filled out and it says New York State Police on them. Mr. Campion said he does not believe that will be a problem, as they like the way the State Police notecard is set up. He distributed a copy of a sample card. He said more and more DWI's are being contested.

Mr. Ives reported since the last meeting, they had three DWI's, and BAC's were relatively low. There is an increase in cell phone usage while driving and people driving using a hand held portable device.

Mr. Schoonmaker said he was not in attendance at last month's meeting. He reported for their St. Patrick's Day crackdown, 26 tickets were issued; three DWI's; one for drugs and one possible felony, and there were ten designated drivers.

Mr. McGarity distributed copies of a list of bands/acts that are scheduled for SPAC for the season.

Mr. Williams reported they had a couple of DWI arrests and one felony.

Mr. Goodwin stated they had one DWI.

Chairman Prestigiacomo stated they had seven DWI's.

Mr. Hayner stated the NYS Department of Motor Vehicles is conducting an ad campaign entitled "The Empty Chair" (Be in Your Chair on Graduation Day) encouraging drivers to buckle up, be a cell-free motorist and to be a sober driver.

Ms. Stuchin said they finally hosted Safe Springs which was held at several schools at the end of April/beginning of May. Discussion was held at this program on personal responsibility and the consequences of drinking and driving. She said they reached over 2,000 students, and they received good feedback. She said they will be doing this program again next year, and they are thinking about reaching out to more schools.

Ms. Stuchin displayed a small sample billboard that will be seen across the County entitled "Drugged Driving Can Start Here and End in Tragedy" (an arrow points to medicine bottles in a medicine cabinet).

Ms. Stuchin said there will be a Victim Impact Panel held tomorrow night in Saratoga Springs.

Mrs. Dort introduced Patricia Hardy who is the mother of Matt. Matt survived the crash of some of the Shenendehowa students. She is also an instructor for the Alive at 25 program. Ms. Hardy stated he is an ER nurse and was a flight nurse, and she has done some work at the County Jail. She said since Matt's accident, she is trying to get out and work with teenagers. She has been traveling with Mrs. Dort to various high schools. She said she spent the weekend in Lake George with teens from across the State about making good choices. She said Matt told his story at this event.

Mrs. Dort said at the Hudson Falls High School teen driver event, Baily Wind spoke. She said the Hudson Falls PD and Washington County D.A. were also there. It was good to be there to share with them to hopefully make a difference. She said they also attended the Magistrates' meeting and talked to the judges. She mentioned the new judge, Judge Mancini, will be observing at one of their classes.

Mrs. Dort said Patricia Hardy and she were at Lake George for the teen driver summit. There were 100 students from across the State, and Ballston Spa was the only school represented locally. There were discussions on good decisions behind the wheel. They really can identify when there is a victim speaking which makes a difference. She said she is grateful to have a few of them working with her. She stated this will be an annual summit, and she requested the agencies to encourage their area schools to participate.

Mrs. Dort said she was at the Navy base with Bikeatoga.

Mrs. Dort stated they are hosting a Child Passenger Safety class at the Sheriff's Department next week. She met with the Sheriff's Dept. last week about working together at the Fair this year and utilizing some of their space there. She said they are also working on some other ideas.

Mrs. Dort mentioned the Alive at 25 and Distracted Driving classes are over full every month, but they are going well.

Mrs. Dort stated there will be a three-day teen driver program at the Ballston Spa High School on June 4th – 6th. The Sheriff's Dept. and Ballston Spa PD will also be there. Baily Wind and Matt Hardy will be speaking as well as Noelle Johnson's mother.

**** NEXT MEETING – MONDAY, JUNE 9TH AT 1:00 P.M. ****

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine M. Sodemann