

# **TRAFFIC SAFETY BOARD MEETING**

**February 6, 2006**

PRESENT: Chairman Will Crandall, Saratoga Springs PD; E.M. Rooney, Sheriff's Dept.; John Tanchak, Waterford PD; Larry Whalen, Stillwater PD; Robert E. Kane, Corinth PD; Karen Pettigrew, MADD/Saratoga; Bob Murphy, Saratoga Co. STOP/DWI Coordinator; Jack Murray, Co. Auditor; Jim Murphy, D.A.; Scott McCart, NYSP/Clifton Park; Mickey Mahoney, Probation; Kevin Judd, South Glens Falls PD; Judy Ekman, Prevention Council; Joseph Waldron, Mechanicville PD; Press

Chairman Crandall called the meeting to order.

Chairman Crandall said they did not have any DWI's on Super Bowl Sunday. There seemed to have been more house parties than people going out to the bars. It seems to help when the DWI patrols are announced by the media.

Chairman Crandall said he made copies of information on Photogrammetry for the Board members. He said maybe we can have mutual training on this.

Chairman Crandall thanked the Prevention Council for the nice letter Saratoga Springs PD received regarding the last Victim Impact Panel. Mrs. Pettigrew stated Jim Field, Saratoga Springs' DARE officer did an absolute fantastic job. People appreciated what he had to say, she said. Chairman Crandall said if any other departments have DARE officers, it would be a perfect thing to have them at the Victim Impact Panels. The last one went pretty well, he added. Mrs. Pettigrew said we definitely want people who have been on the job handling the DWI's. She said John Kelly comes across very well also. She said if you schedule someone to speak at the Victim Impact Panels, it would be good for them to go to the panel ahead of time to get the jest of it.

Chairman Crandall said he does not have any experience with TRACS. Chief Waldron has been in the lead on this. Any law enforcement agency with questions should hook up with him. Mr. Tanchak stated two of his guys are certified in TRACS. Chairman Crandall asked Mr. Tanchak to

make his guys available to them. Mr. Tanchak requested Chairman Crandall to call them to set something up.

Mr. Murray said the grant applications have been sent into the State, so we can schedule a couple months of road patrols.

Chairman Crandall stated they seem to be seeing more rollovers, and speed is always a factor in that. We should aim at aggressive driving around the high schools, he said. Mr. Murray said that would be good for March and April. Once he gets the claims in, he will know how much money is left over. He said the departments can do 16 hours each month. It was the consensus of the Board to do 16 hours in March (whatever dates each department chooses) and 16 hours April 10 – 13. Mr. Murray urged that the departments get that paperwork back to him as soon as possible so that he can get the checks out to them.

Chairman Crandall requested that an announced DWI patrol be done on March 17<sup>th</sup>. Mr. B. Murphy stated having these announced helps curtail the DWI's.

Sgt. McCart stated they had one DWI yesterday. Chief Waldron said they had a lot of open container arrests and marijuana possessions. People are starting to get the idea that the County of Saratoga is taking this seriously, and everybody is out there patrolling, he said.

Chairman Crandall said a Science of Speed class will be held March 8<sup>th</sup> at the Town of Saratoga Town Hall. He said Judge Mathis is always interested in law enforcement for that program.

Chairman Crandall said he had a request from a couple of individuals in the court system who want more hard data relating to moving violations and accidents. He said he believes this can come from TRACS. This will solve problems we have been trying to deal with for years, he said.

Chairman Crandall said Buckle Up New York is coming up in May. I would like to do some interagency projects for that week, he said.

Mr. Murray said he will be ordering equipment this month. As soon as it comes in, he will give it out. Chairman Crandall asked if that will be during a press conference. Mr. Murray said if that is what he would like.

Mr. J. Murphy said his office is putting together a training program for local law enforcement agencies. We want to start out with the smaller agencies and ultimately reach out to the State Police, Sheriff's Dept. and the Saratoga Springs PD, he said. He said we want to discuss blood draw orders, as this statute is very complicated. He said there are certain parts of it that are better explained than just read. He said there are new drug statutes that change the weights on possession and a new DNA subject index, as there are new procedures for DNA collection and a bunch of new things relative to DNA, he said. He said lastly, there are some changes on domestic incident reports. We see these things as requiring a mini training session, he stated. He said they want to be flexible; 4 or 5 people will come to your offices from his department. Hopefully, we will hear from you on what you would like them to talk about. This will help them see what the problems are in the field, he added. Chairman Crandall asked Mr. J. Murphy if Jim Davis will be doing another DWI class this year. Mr. J. Murphy said yes, but we will be focusing on this training first.

Mrs. Pettigrew announced that the next Victim Impact Panel will be Tuesday, February 14<sup>th</sup> in Clifton Park at 7:00 p.m. Mrs. Ekman said Corinth PD will be speaking.

Mrs. Pettigrew said they are still working on bringing the Multi-Media program to the high schools May 1 – 12.

Mrs. Pettigrew said blood draw is one of MADD's priorities this year. We will have having a press event at the Legislative Office Building in Albany on March 1<sup>st</sup> at 11:00 a.m. Some of the Legislators will be speaking, she said.

Mrs. Pettigrew stated she has been attending Parents Who Host Lose The Most meetings, and we are gearing up for the prom season.

Mrs. Pettigrew said MADD/Capital Region meets the first Thursday of each month at the State office on Troy-Schenectady Road in Latham (785-6233). She said they get law enforcement representation there, but she would love to see Saratoga Springs PD representation there. We need the networking and expertise, she added. She said they try to keep these meeting to an hour. Mrs. Pettigrew stated the road rally scheduled for June at Cook Park in Colonie has been postponed to September due to some logistics. If anybody is interested in getting involved, let us know, she said.

Mr. B. Murphy said Safe Spring is March 16<sup>th</sup>. Usually aggressive driving is that following week, March 20. A lot of students come back from Safe Spring, and at the end of March, they start taking right off. The number of cars double in the school lots, he said.

Mr. B. Murphy said the departments can do 16 hours for a DWI patrol on March 17<sup>th</sup>.

Mrs. Ekman stated she will have prom and graduation dates for the April meeting.

Mrs. Ekman said the Prevention Council applied for a grant to be able to replicate some under age drinking prevention. Laurie Beer, our coordinator, has been in touch with a couple of you about this. We want to work with police departments, NYSP and the Sheriff's Department to coordinate your under age purchase stings and compliance checks. In Saratoga Springs, we offer Tips training for local merchants. In Saratoga Springs, we have been giving Unstung Hero certificates for the establishments that do not sell to underagers and intoxicated persons. We really would like to move that out to other areas of the County, she said. We will know early to mid-March whether that funding is available.

Chief Waldron said Countywide Operation Safe Stop is February 27 & 28. Are we still doing that and using aggressive driving monies? Chairman Crandall asked if the departments would rather do that than do the hours for March aggressive driving, and the consensus was yes. Chairman Crandall said he encourages everyone to talk to the bus drivers. He requested the results of this to be called into him (584-1800, Ext. 403) or faxed to him (584-1744) so that he can put out a press release. He said they have had a law enforcement officer ride with the bus driver, and the police car was back a little bit.

**\*\* NEXT MEETING – Monday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> at 1:00 p.m. \*\***

The meeting was adjourned.  
Respectfully submitted,  
Elaine M. Sodemann