



Minnesota Law Enforcement Explorer Association

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MINNESOTA LAW ENFORCEMENT EXPLORER ASSOCIATION
JUNE 13, 2001 QUARTERLY MEETING
UNAPPROVED MINUTES

1. Chair Johnson called the meeting to order at 11:41 AM. The following people attended: Chair Erik Johnson; Vice Chair Cory Manthei; Treasurer Eddy Manthei; Secretary Jim Stromberg; Jim Caauwe, Bloomington PD; Cheri Dexter, Washington Co. SO; Kathy McNeely, New Brighton PD; Gary Cayo, Minnetonka PD; DuWayne Dixon, MLEEA; Joseph Sturdevant, Columbia Heights PD; Eric Lammle, New Hope PD; Bob Reid, Viking Council; Jill McDonell, Viking Council; Jeanne Lawrie, Viking Council; Joe Neuberger, St. Paul PD; and David Mathison, St. Paul PD.
2. The agenda was approved by consensus.
3. The minutes of April 27, 2001 meeting were approved. The motion was made by Gary Cayo, seconded by Eddy Manthei, and approved unanimously.
4. Reports:
 - a. Treasurer: Eddy Manthei reported on the financial health of the association. He provided the attached Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss Statement.
 - b. Fundraising Committee: No report.
 - c. Scholarship Committee: Eddy Manthei reported on the Scholarship Committee. He has all of the current scholarship information. The scholarship data is confusing because old records were sorted by explorer name, not by post. Erik Johnson reminded the Association that scholarships are only valid for five years; after five years, unclaimed awards are returned to the Association.
 - d. Web Site: DuWayne Dixon reported on the Association's web site. The new provider is working well. There is a small e-mail problem that is being addressed. An Association merchandise catalog will be added to the web site.
 - e. Training Committee: The Training Committee is no longer active.
 - f. Membership Committee: Dan Meyer is on this committee but was not in attendance to offer a report. In general discussion it was agreed that the purpose of the committee was to recruit posts into the Association and a good future use of the committee would be to use the committee to encourage posts activity in other Association committees.
 - g. Nationals Committee: Gary Cayo reported for the Nationals Committee. The National Conference will be held in Flagstaff, Arizona. More information can be found at the web site www.learning-for-life.com. Gary Cayo will research joint, bulk-rate transportation options. Bob Reid encouraged posts to get their money in as soon as possible.
 - h. Breezy Point Committee: No report. Breezy Point issues will be discussed under New Business.

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5. Old Business

a. Breezy 2001 review

- i. Damage & Cleaning charges: Erik Johnson reported that Breezy Point Resort billed the Association \$281.43 for miscellaneous damages incurred during the 2001 Midwest Conference. A motion was made by Cory Manthei, seconded by Gary Cayo, and passed to authorize the Association to pay Breezy Point Resort and to bill the posts assigned to the damaged rooms. Joe Neuberger suggested that the Association request from Breezy Point Resort a list of what items should be in each room, that we provide that list to each post advisor, and that we instruct each post (advisors) check their assigned rooms at the beginning of the conference for missing items. It was agreed by consensus that we request this list and include it in next year's registration packet.

[The meeting was recessed from 12:09 PM to 12:31 PM for lunch.]

- ii. Behavior issues & suggestions: Erik Johnson and Cheri Dexter expressed concern about the increased number of conduct problems at the 2001 Midwest Conference. Several issues were discussed and suggestions were introduced.
 1. Requiring wristbands to access dance and other Association-sponsored evening activities was a good idea.
 2. An advisors meeting should be held after the opening meeting to discuss behavior expectations.
 3. Chaperoning the dances and other evening Association-sponsored activities should be assigned by the Association just as the "grounds security" duties are currently assigned.
 4. Radios and identifying vests should be issued to the security staff. A radio should also be left at the Association's registration table. The registration table should also serve as a security desk.
 5. A best-cleaned room award, as selected by the maids, should be considered.
 6. Door-hanger-style signs identifying post and explorers assigned to each room should be required on all doors.
 7. Behavior contracts that include procedure for transportation home for disorderly Explorers should be included in registration packets.
 8. At all times, at least two Advisors from each post should be available and not at the bar.



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9. Posts need to remind all vehicle drivers to tame their driving conduct. The Breezy Point Police Department cautioned us about speeding marked squads.
 - iii. General feedback: Cheri Dexter asked how to host a competition event. Gary Cayo explained that competition hosting has been a slow evolution. Several west-metro posts originally hosted the Midwest Conference and that hosting of competitions was, first, assigned to federal agencies with specialized skills in the particular event and, second, assigned to whomever volunteered. As the Association evolves from the original “911” posts, more opportunities should present themselves to east-metro and out-state posts.
 - b. Fundraising Update
 - i. Video production status: Eddy Manthei reported that two different groups took video at Breezy Point. He has requested copies from both groups. When copies are received, Eddy will send out for bids for a fundraiser video to be made.
6. New Business
- a. Formalizing Breezy Point Conference committee: Gary Cayo recommended to the board that a Breezy Point Conference Committee be formed. After much discussion, Erik Johnson summarized the opinion of the board. Erik stated that the board is strongly considering the formation of a Breezy Point Conference Committee to carry out all tasks associated with the conference and to foster involvement of more posts. Gary Cayo and Cory Manthei will meet and draft a list of proposed duties for the new committee. They will bring the completed list to the next meeting. Once organized, Breezy Point Conference Committee responsibilities will be posted and made available to all MLEEA posts.
 - b. Breezy Point 2002
 - i. Contract from Breezy Point: Erik Johnson reported that on May 1, 2001 he received from Bonnie Tweed of Breezy Point Resort a proposed contract for the 2002 conference. Rates increased from \$140.00 per person to \$145.00 per person. A motion was made by Jim Stromberg and seconded by DuWayne Dixon to authorize Erik Johnson to sign the contract and mail it back to Bonnie. Gary Cayo mentioned that Cragans Resort approached him because they are interested in hosting the MLEEA Midwest (Breezy Point) Conference. After discussion, it was agreed that we would be willing to consider Cragans and Gary Cayo should let them know that we would entertain a proposal from Cragans.



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- ii. Search & Arrest judging change: Erik Johnson initiated discussion about repeated problems with the DEA and their administration of the Arrest and Search competition at Breezy Point. Specific problems that were identified and discussed with the DEA before the 2001 Conference included not returning score sheets, not using score sheets, questionable accuracy in scoring, and questionable behavior around young explorers. Feedback from Arrest and Search evaluators and firsthand observation by Gary Cayo revealed that little improvement was made at the 2001 conference. Erik Johnson reported that the Saint Paul Police Department has been asked to consider running the Arrest and Search competition. David Mathison and Joe Neuberger reported that the Saint Paul Police Department's CIRT is willing to commit to running the Arrest and Search competition and final approval from the department is pending. After considerable discussion, a motion was made by Eddy Manthei, seconded by DuWayne Dixon, and approved to discontinue to use the DEA to run the Arrest and Search competition at Breezy Point. Bob Reid recommended that the MLEEA send the DEA a thank-you letter and a plaque for their service. Gary Cayo will draft a letter.
- c. Addition of "at-large" or "district" MLEEA Staff persons: Jim Stromberg suggested to the board that the Association consider creating "at large" or "district" seats on the Association's Board. Cory Manthei and Erik Johnson explained it that each post in the Association is a voting member of the Association and representatives from each post are welcome to attend the quarterly meetings. Erik Johnson noted that the Association may have quorum problems if "Board level" at-large or district seats are created because out-of-town members may have trouble making it to the meetings.
- d. Scheduling software for Breezy Point Conference: Jim Stromberg announced that he has initiated research into event scheduling software for the Midwest Conference. He wanted to know if the Association is interested in further exploration. The Board agreed that the scheduling software concept was a good idea and that Jim's research should be shared with the Breezy Point Conference Committee, once officially formed.
- e. MLEEA e-mail address list: Jim Stromberg reported on problems with the MLEEA@yahoogroups e-mail group. Yahoogroups is less user friendly than its predecessor, E-groups and, after about one year, no posts have utilized the group messaging advantage of Yahoogroups. The group-messaging feature has only created confusion for many of the members. Jim suggested that we switch the official MLEEA e-mail address from Yahoogroups to a standard Hotmail e-mail address; this was approved by consensus.



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7. Miscellaneous Items: Gary Cayo questioned the value of the MLEEA-sponsored Fall Planner. The general opinion was that it was a worthwhile event. Jill McDonell and Jeanne Lawrie agreed to help with future Fall Planners. Erik Johnson wanted to promote the Don Cup as a prestigious award. He suggested that posts keep a log of their activities to help them compete for the 2002 award. Erik Johnson wanted to locate an out state meeting location—possibly in Saint Cloud—for the next meeting. Eddy Manthei agreed to research this. DuWayne Dixon asked about the Duluth Conference. It was agreed by consensus that MLEEA supports but does not have any involvement in that conference. The MLEEA is willing to add information about the Duluth Conference to the MLEEA web page.
8. The meeting was adjourned at 2:20 PM.