



Minnesota Law Enforcement Explorer Association

MEETING MINUTES

12/08/04

THE LOOKOUT, Maple Grove

Members Present

Cory Manthei, Cheri Dexter, Marcus Bruning, Gary Cayo, Dan Meyer, Elaine Sinn, Scott Kostohryz, Jeanne Lawrie, Jessica Ovall, DuWayne Dixon, Jeremy Ellison, Deb Fields, Brandon Brugger, Heather Olson, Bob Reid.

Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 1137 hours by Cory Manthei, Chairperson. The agenda was adjusted and approved by the membership. (Motion by Cayo and approved by Dexter)

Visitors / Presentation

AMY COUNTRYMAN of **Special Olympics Minnesota** made a presentation regarding upcoming events and needed support and assistance.

Amy thanked the membership for their previous involvement in Special Olympics and encouraged continued involvement of law enforcement explorer posts. Amy brought with her BETHANY RAMP who is an Athlete and Coach for Special Olympics Minnesota. Bethany expressed her appreciation as well.

Upcoming Special Olympic Events included January Polar Bear Plunges and Tip-A-Cop promotions in several locations around the state. Posts are encouraged to contact local F.O.P. lodges or Special Olympics Minnesota for how they may become involved. Amy discussed the final leg of the Special Olympics Torch Run that leads to the Summer Games. Explorers have been involved in the Torch Run in the past and are encouraged to get more involved. Cheri Dexter spoke of her post's involvement and what a great experience it has been.

Next year, the International Torch Run Conference will be held in Minneapolis. Much help is needed for the planning of the event and the day of the event.

For more information, contact:

Amy Countryman
Law Enforcement Torch Run Manager
Special Olympics Minnesota
Wk# 612-604-1256 or 800-783-7732, ext. 256
Email: countrymana@somn.org



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Board Member Reports

Cory reported that Allen Schmidt was unable to attend this meeting due to work requirements but would forward the previous minutes.

Cory and Cheri are working with Public Relations Coordinator Kris Krueger extensively working on plans for the 2004 State Conference and other promotional projects for the organization.

Cory will receive her Masters Degree on December 17, 2004. WAY TO GO CORY!!!!!!

Ed Manthei was also unable to attend the meeting but the Treasurer's report was distributed and approved by the membership.

Standing Committee Reports

Bob Reid reported for the Funding Committee. Bob is busy working hard to raise money for the scholarship fund. Bob met with the Chiefs Association and reported that he was developing a letter to the group requesting a donation.

Bob also reported on work being done to hold a Breezy Point Reunion Dinner. Posts are encouraged to update their alumni lists and an announcement will be published in several trade magazines seeking alumni. The event will focus on recognizing the three Dons and will likely be held in June in the Metro area. Stay tuned for additional news.

The Scholarship Committee is currently working to update scholarship award information. Current information will be distributed at the annual meeting at Breezy Point.

On behalf of the Nationals Committee, Gary Cayo reported that the 2006 site has apparently been chosen but not yet announced. Efforts to have the conference held in Minnesota were discussed. Many dead-ends have been met and there is clear resistance on the part of Jim Kaminski at the National Office. Cory is currently working on accessing the National Advisor Website and will forward information to all posts when available.

Old Business

Consolidation of the Viking and Indian Head Councils continues to move forward. If the merger is approved in February, implementation will be June 30, 2005. Bob Reid reported that all indications are that Exploring is a recognized area of growth for the organization and there will be little change to the operation. The telling factor will be when a new Scouting Executive is appointed for the newly merged councils and a direction is indicated by that person.

New Business

Elaine Sinn reported on involvement at the Chief's Conference. The conference is scheduled for April 11-14, 2005 in St. Cloud. Elaine is working on presenting some items of recognition from the MLEEA at the Monday luncheon program.

Cory reported the Law Enforcement Opportunities Conference is also scheduled for April. Heather Olson and Marcus Bruning will develop some displays for a booth at the conference.



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Miscellaneous Association Business

Cory asked the group for support in bring the National Explorer Representative in for the Breezy Point Conference. Reggie would be flying in from the Knoxville, TN area and we would have to cover his expenses. The group overwhelmingly approved the expenditure and Cheri Dexter will attempt to locate a host family for the visit.

Minnesota Law Enforcement Exploring Conference

PR

Cory reported the work through the Public Relations Coordinator is focused upon identifying the benefits of exploring to law enforcement agencies and the communities they serve. A presentation package is being developed to emphasize explorers as future candidates and leaders in law enforcement. Agencies will recognize the candidates as having some good initial skills training and will have a better idea of the strengths and weaknesses of their candidates through the exposure received in exploring. Explorers have a better sense of what the career involves and have already worked to improve on the attributes needed to be an excellent officer. Cory and Cheri continue to work on this effort.

Competitions

The Blue Cross Blue Shield Post is working on the Breezy Point Competition program. They are having some trouble and will work with Gary Cayo to correct the deficiencies.

Witness Interview will again be offered as an event this year.

Posts interested in hosting an event or providing role players for the conference are encouraged to contact Gary Cayo.

Gary reported that Minnetonka has discarded lap tops from the squads that would be a great fit for the association to use for programming. Cory will develop a letter to the city manager requesting their donation.

Lecture Topics

Progress and Partnerships are to be the focus of this year's lecture topics.

Cory will be attempting to secure Steve Cannon of the Mall Of America Security to speak about the improving professional image and demands of private security. Cory will also contact Laura Setter with Target Corporation to speak about community partnerships.

Two other topics were discussed. The first was the Best Candidate Model currently being used in St. Paul and the other was Surviving FTO 101. Both were agreed to be productive topics.

DEB FIELDS of Minneapolis agreed to coordinate the lecture topics and sample police test. THANKS DEB !!!!!

Pistol Shoot

Dan Meyer reported progress on securing a free pit for us to shoot in at Breezy. Last year there was a fee. The pit being considered is closer to the conference center as well.

Revolvers will continue to be used at the Breezy Point Conference. The Chief's and Sheriff's Associations support continued use of revolvers. It was discussed that the pistol shoot is about developing fundamentals. The fundamentals can later be applied to law enforcement training and combat shooting.



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Coin and Pins

DuWayne displayed the coin samples to the group and some minor color changes were requested. DuWayne is going to complete some more research on the costs of the coins. Use of the coins was discussed (Advisor gift, chief appreciation, commemorative Breezy Reunion). The board will make final determination in January.

A new pin is being designed to distribute for the 30th conference. DuWayne will continue to work on the pins and meet with the board for final approval.

Door Prize and Raffle Items

Statues will once again be ordered as raffles and door prizes. It was requested that at least one of the items say "Sheriff" instead of all "Police". A letter will be included in registration materials encouraging posts to bring door prizes. Please let Cory know what you are bringing.

Registration and Fees

Fees have not been finalized for the conference. The board will meet in January and make every effort to keep costs down.

The board is scheduled to meet on January 4th. Included on the agenda is coordination of mailings and discussion of the general conference budget. Dues notices and Breezy Point information will be sent on or about January 10, 2005.

Some discussion took place regarding room assignments. Rooms are assigned according to post size and rooming needs and the order in which they are received. Posts are reminded to send in their registration early. Late registrations may result in a less satisfactory accommodation at the conference. Anyone interested in volunteering for the Rooming Committee is encouraged to contact Cory or Cheri. The group meets at the beginning of April.

Trophy vs. Plaque

Why do the shooting awards result in trophies and the competitions award plaques? The cost is about the same. Some of the advisors present preferred the plaques as they may be mounted to the wall and don't require a trophy case. What do you think? Please E Mail a member of the board with your suggestions.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:30 P.M.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Marcus Bruning.