

**"DRAFT COPY"**

Maine Driver and Traffic Safety Education Association  
Board of Directors June Meeting  
Called to Order 9:00 AM

In Attendance: Carl Joy - President, Carleton Sanborn - Vice President, Betty Vigue -Treasurer, Anthony Vine - Executive Secretary, Board Members: Mike Shepard, Gerald Clifford, Jarrod Sproul, Marvin Campbell; MEDSTA Members: Bob Mullins, Sally King; From the office of the Secretary of State; Secretary of State Charles Summers, Eric Bellavance & Ron Lewberg, Absent, Board Members: David Bethaliume, Cathy Dumais

Public comment for items on the agenda, none,

Prior to approval of the agenda Carl Joy suggests we move item 11 to the top of the agenda Moved and passed unanimously.

ITEM 11: Letter of resignation of David Bethaliume from the board letter dated May 16, 2011.

ITEM 11b: Letter of resignation of Betty Vigue as Treasurer dated June 10, 2011, she would very much like to stay on as a board member.

Carl thought it was in the power of the President to appoint board members, but it is not clearly defined in the constitution, so short of a full blown business meeting the highest authority of this association is this board of directors.

Mike Shepard nominates Sally as the replacement for David Bethaliume's board position, seconded by Carleton Sanborn, all in favor, approved.

Carleton Sanborn nominates Marvin Campbell as Treasurer seconded, passed unanimously.

Betty Vigue nominated as a board member to replace Marvin Campbell's position, seconded passed unanimously.

Minutes from previous meeting read by Executive Secretary to the board

Amendments to the minutes: adjournment changed from 12:00 pm to 12:10 pm

Motion to approve minutes Marvin Campbell seconded by Carleton Sanborn motion carried.

Finance committee report:

Current balance of \$495.44 in bank accounts. Sally King moves to accept Treasurers report as read, seconded by Gerry Clifford, passed unanimously.

Presidents report:

Carl thanks board for their time and service. He reiterated previous statement regarding the profession and the need to be viewed in a positive light. The President commented on the fact that we have many certified school teachers on our board. We have education pretty well covered. Who is the future of the industry? Why aren't younger teachers getting involved in this industry? I believe this board is moving forward in the right direction. Written into our constitution is an executive committee which acts as the nominating committee for the association.

This will ensure that qualified good individuals will be holding office. We have an excellent board. It is important that the members of this board be from professional schools.

#### Fund Raising:

Sally - OUI stats, drinking and driving is still a huge problem here in Maine. As an association we wish to increase the general public's awareness of the OUI problem. She has created a bumper sticker program that the Maine Sherriff's Association would like to endorse, this a way to educate the public and raise money for MEDTSA.

Another idea for a fund raiser, similar to the shamrocks to raise awareness of OUI's in Maine. *Think before you drink.*

Suggestions were regarding font size, a window decal instead of bumper sticker, partnering with Universities? Compensating Sally King for her time with a percentage of sales...

Eric Baxter from channel 5 and channel 7, would help us create public access videos for public safety.

Continued to next board meeting

#### SPRING CONFERENCE:

Sally proposes the next conference be held at Hollywood Slots in Bangor.

Each member would get a buffet ticket and our section would be roped off. This is the one place that our membership would see the slot machines. Carl Joy: "Hollywood slots has one of the best conference facilities around

Betty Vigue offers to donate the \$300.00 deposit for the conference at Hollywood slots.

Carl Joy moves we have the spring conference at Hollywood Slots, Carleton Sanborn seconds. Passed unanimously

Sally is given the authority to sign this specific contract with Hollywood slots

#### ONLINE DRIVER EDUCATION:

Pearsons Drive Right textbook is the curriculum that ADTSEA uses for its online program.

Carl Joy - the ADTSEA program is boring, not much different than other online programs. It is what it is.

ADTSEA is willing to customize its program to meet Maine's requirement.

Cost is \$20 per student, ten for the school and ten for the DMV to be able to access the student's participation.

Charlie Summers, Secretary of State Maine, "I encourage everyone to get ahead of this rather than get run over by it. Similar to a NAVY online class part is done online and part in the class room. I have suggested a hybrid, part of it online and part of it in the classroom. A few months ago I suggested that there be a prep class online prior to the classroom portion. You won't waste time getting them up to speed. But the bulk of the class must be done in the classroom. Any program will have to meet State of Maine's current requirements. I do not know what the final answer is or what it would look like. And that is why I wanted to come out and meet with you today, But online driver education is coming. We need an answer that helps better educate the student first and foremost but also with an eye to the small business owner here in Maine.

I would strongly suggest that there will be another bill in front of the legislature regarding online driver's education and I would suggest that you make sure it's your bill.

Eric Bellavance: "The Secretary of State does have the power to adopt a program,

Charlie Summers: "Perhaps a pilot program"

Eric Bellavance Under 29-A section 1354 #6 paragraph B, the secretary of state shall establish a review panel to develop instructor training... "these were adopted through rule making. It's much easier to change rules then to go through the legislature. It can go through one way and come out very different.

Carl Joy, what we need to do is create a detailed plan. But remember that legislation trumps rules. Legislation would force the Secretary of State to adopt new rules for driver's education. Ohio dealt with online driver's education by requiring a classroom component and that seems to drive the online companies out of the state.

Whatever we are able to do, I would like to have something that works for the Secretary of State and MEDTSA. Working together...

Charlie Summers:

I will be blunt, I want to see the students in the seats, nothing replaces the classroom. While I am Secretary of State I am not going to sign off on anything that replaces the classroom, however it's critically important that we as a group come up with something that shows we are responding" I suggest a pilot program that 50 kids participate in and then have results to show. One thing that needs to be brought into this discussion, I was struck by the number of kids who wait until they are 18 and do not have to take drivers education, due to cost.

Carl Joy:

"Maine is #1 in teenager fatalities. Every year we are in the top 5."

Charlie Summers:

I have an open door, if you have an issue please contact me. Eric is my representative here and please work with him as you would work with me. Let's come up with a hybrid that will be good for our kids and our business's. The have take drivers education and the have not's wait until they are 18."

Carl Joy - would you be open to a joint committee with your office and MEDTSA?

Charlie Summers - We have to hear from all sides.

Education Committee:

Dave is gone and that leaves Sally, who would like to work on this committee with Sally and work with the secretary of state? Mike Shepard and Bob Mullins volunteer to be on the education committee. National Drivers Education Standards is an excellent resource. Look at this and let's use this as a foundation why reinvent the wheel.

We need to be ready by this December for an online driver education bill.

Suggested we work with Secretary of State (Eric Bellavance) and be a consultant to them.

Mike Shepard and Bob Mullins volunteer to work with Sally and Eric on this issue/legislation.

Fall Event:

Been on the phone with Pat Moody of AAA, and he is working on a fall event and Pat is open to working with us on this training event.

Business Improvement:

Need to standardize or set a minimum fee for driver's education in Maine.

More and more difficult to make this a viable/profitable business, very challenging to keep business ongoing... Demographics are dropping.

We need to raise our prices. Highest price in central Maine \$525 lowest price \$385, it is up to \$600 in places where there is no competition. Unless we get it up toward \$800 we may not be able to survive.

LD 748:

The amendment to the bill passed the house and the senate as attached to... if it survives today we are home free. It's a little thing but a big first step.

School Bus Education:

Working on a video and progressing on that.

Board meeting and Schedule:

Next meeting where and when there will be no meeting in July. We need to support the two Maine's, if it's going to be held in Bangor then the next meeting would need to be held in the southern part of the state. A motion by Sally to hold the meeting at the BMV office in Augusta, was seconded by Betty Vigue, and passed unanimously.

Next meeting to be held in BMV offices in Augusta Friday August 12 9:00 AM

Reissue a check for membership to ADTSEA

New Business:

Standards and Rule making:

Addressing the 10 hour maximum per week, especially during holidays and winter when we lose time to the weather. Perhaps at the next meeting we can discuss these issues.

Inappropriate conduct by driving educators a policy regarding keeping two kids in the car each time to protect driving schools and students would be a good idea. Background checks after the initial check really do little to nothing to accomplish safety for anyone.

Carl recently purchased a video camera for in the car it's about \$175 and it records audio and video record for 18 hours at a time. Download it onto computer and would be stored for a period of time like 30 days available for any investigation as to what happened in a car with a student might be another way to better serve the public and protect instructors.

We should serious look at repealing the rule that lack of payment is not grounds for holding back a Permit or certificate of completion.

Focus on 2 - 3 things that are key issues for our profession so we can move forward at our next meeting.

BMV UPDATE

Nothing today

The Constitution does not specify that the representative of the Secretary of State's office does not have voting authority. Is his position a consultant or a voting member?

All members of the board give opinions...

Consensus of the board is that the position is a voting member, so be it.

MEDTSEA is a 501c(3) non-profit corp. We must file with the government we have 23 months before this must be done legally,

Title 29: tabled today

Nominate Ray Weed as an honorary member of our organization. He has been involved in this profession since the 1950's. He is a past president of MEDEA. LD741 is a direct result of his ideas. Voted and approved unanimously.

ALL BOARD MEMBERS please review the next newsletter prior to publication, handed out the copies of the proposed newsletter, approved by consensus unanimously.

Carl bought a new printer to save the association in printing fees. He asks to be reimbursed for the paper needed to print the newsletters, and in the future the ink as well. The newsletter will be a color publication. Board unanimously approves such expenditure.

The Next conference: Proposed title for the conference:  
Keep in mind the conference is not entirely comprised of Driving School Educators.

Round Table evaluation of meeting: No comments

Move to adjourn Sally King and seconded by Carleton Sanborn at 12:15