



2009-2011 CHAPTER OFFICERS

Chuck Paquette – President/Director

Julie Bradish – Vice President/Alt Director

James Dark – Treasurer

Peg Gilbert – Secretary

MINUTES OF CHAPTER MEETING Wednesday, December 9, 2009

Today's meeting was held at Barbagallo's. After an hour delay due to weather - President Chuck Paquette called the meeting to order at 11:20 a.m. We were led in the Pledge of Allegiance. There were 27 members present. Thank you very much to Rich and Cindy Denison from Bus Parts Warehouse for sponsoring today's meeting and for a wonderful lunch!

Secretary's Report

A motion was made by Carol Hawk, seconded by Terri Smith, to accept the minutes from our last meeting. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

A motion was made by Bob Peters, seconded by Dave Deuel, to accept the Treasurer's Report from the last meeting with a balance carried forward of \$2,871.48. The balance carried forward in our Professional Development fund is \$1,123.93. Motion carried.

Correspondence

Peter Manella and John McCormick could not make it to today's meeting but they wish all of us a very Happy Holiday Season.

Committee Reports:

Julie Bradish was at the Board Meeting this time instead of Chuck on Saturday. She said it was certainly a "Learning Experience!"

Communications Committee:

NYAPT will now have a new provider for the website. (Albany IT) It will prove to be much more interactive and are developing a new marketing packet to promote membership. A new welcome letter is being drawn up for new members. Part of the new website will be for parents to get information about frequently asked questions. Kathy Furneau is developing a ½ hour presentation about why it is so important to become a member of NYAPT.

Legislative Committee:

There was a conference call in October and there are 36 topics to discuss and narrow down from this past year. Talked about UPK and Cindy Gallager from NYSED came in to talk about State Aide. May 4, 2010 is Lobby Day this year – Please try to be involved! The more involved the better!

Long Range Planning and Professional Development:

Met to Discuss where they are and where they want to go from here.

Professional development discussed the Law Course – several discussions about when they were advertising it they should have explained better who was putting it on and the importance it would have to all of us. They are

hoping that by having the Law Course instead of the Winter Workshop it will raise more funds for NYAPT. They also noted that the interest has dropped about the MVCC courses – so they are looking at ways to maybe coordinate them better with transportation. They are looking at re-developing the dispatcher course – It will be 8 hours for \$75 and they are looking to have dates when school is not in session.

Membership Committee:

They are in the process of calling Chapters – many members have now retired so that accounts for some of the numbers being down. Others are saying – why should we become involved - what does NYAPT do for us? The committee wants to send out a survey. They are also considering creating another membership tier for non-management people. NYAPT is down 116 members from last year. They also lost one of their presidential sponsors this past year which monetarily meant losing \$12,500 out of the original budget. They have however gotten 37 new members since September so that is good news. We are all hoping to make a “rally!”

Art Shock Award:

Please nominate people now.

Operation Safe Stop:

Want numbers on this committee to increase – so they are looking at the possibility of the chapter presidents become active members on the committee. They are making a video in partner with Utica Mutual. They also want to include more Troopers for this day. They are now taking nominations for the Law Enforcement Award.

Poster Contest Committee:

They have updated the brochure and the rules and regulations. 3 winners from NYS made it to the nationals and won placements. Their names and placements will be listed in the new brochure. The Board just has to approve the brochure so it can be sent out to districts. Thanks to Deb Stevens for all her hard work advertising and publicizing to contest!! She has really turned it around!

Road-ee:

Site will be at Saratoga Springs MS. It is still unclear where the Tech-Mech will be held. Possibly at their garage. But they would like to keep them together in one spot. Judges will most likely now have to pay to attend the banquet if they want to attend. They will be discussing this further at next meeting.

Special Needs: No Report at this time.

Non – Public Bell Times: No report at this time.

Pupil Safety Committee:

Talked about UPK and the 55/65 Speed Limit. As far as the 55/65 speed limit – it has been on the table for a long time and a decision needs to be made about whether to go to the legislative committee and have them push for the 55 or 65 for buses. They want some facts and statistics to know which way to go with this.

CYR Foundation:

(The “not for profit” education part of NYAPT – a 501C3 foundation – if you donate you can claim it on taxes) Bob Peters handed forms out to anyone interested. Any questions can be addressed to Bob Peters at bpeters@liverpool.k12.ny.us

The committee is looking at long term goals. They are looking closely at NYAPT’S financial state. Bill Hoosty’s wife has joined the committee as a consultant as she has a solid background in fund raising. Bob Peters was a re-elected to the board as was Joanne Martin.

Safety Camp:

It is moving ahead – they are just waiting to hear from the finance committee about a definite cost per person to attend. They are looking at a possible sponsorship to offset part of the cost in hopes of keeping it reasonably priced so people can afford to come. As soon as Chuck hears – he will update the registration material and get them posted on the website.

SBDI/MI Advisory: No report at this time.

Old Business

- No Old Business

New Business

The Law Course proves to be AMAZING! Julie has info on the course which she will hand out. The Course is being developed by attorneys for the School Boards Association for the CYR Foundation and NYAPT. It is an 8-hour course with 8 sub-sections. Anybody and everybody who has anything to do with school transportation is invited to attend. There are 5 Locations – Feb 18, 2010 in Albany; March 18, 2010 in Rochester; March 23, 2010 in Long Island; April 20, 2010 in Utica and May 14, 2010 in Goshen. Cost for a member will be \$125. For 8 hours of an attorney's time that is a pretty cheap way to be brought up to date with all the changes!! I will have our Webmaster post this info on our CNYAPT website along with the registration form. It is suggested that you share this information with your Superintendents. You can mail the registration forms to NYAPT or fax them to the NYAPT office at (518) 463-8743 - attn: Peter Mannella

We broke to eat at 12:15 p.m. – the meeting will resume after lunch!

It was a great lunch Rich (Barbagallo's too) ! It was awesome! Thanks for letting us shift our time around today because of the snow delay most of us had.

New Business Resumed

Last month we had The National Safety Council here with us at our meeting as our guest speakers. Chuck had further discussion with them about offering a PIRP program at Safety Camp this year instead of the advanced course. Chuck began looking at the school bus component part of the safety class that the National Safety Council offers but it is not a PIRP curriculum. So they discussed other avenues – such as some of us becoming “trained” to defensive driving course instructors through National Safety Council and have those people teach it as a PIRP Course at Safety Camp. It would be of great benefit to anyone who does get certified to teach the defensive driving course. They also discussed CNYAPT becoming a delivery agency. It would be a source of revenue and the benefits to an agency that has instructors on demand would be endless! National Safety Council will offer a course for anyone in our group (and districts) interested in becoming defensive driving course instructor at the cost of \$300 per trainee (will include 3 teaching kits for our agency to share) – the usual cost is \$400 per trainee plus another \$300 per trainee for the training kit. It is a 3day class – the 1st day being the course itself (The 6 Hour Course) so we can observe how it is delivered properly according to National Safety Council Standards. The 2nd and 3rd days are the logistics' of the course, paper work, etc. It is exciting news – we would also like to see if we could coordinate with the on line course – so there are many possibilities. Also as an added bonus – you will also be certified to teach the “Alive at 25” Program that many High Schools are now offering (ESM does, Lafayette does....) If you are interested – you need to let Chuck know. You need at least a 2-year “clean” driving record, with no suspensions or DWI's. There is a resume to fill out and send in to apply and we will be looked upon favorably with our driving records, SBDI certifications, etc. They are thinking about a February class – 3 days to be worked around our schedule. We can have 12 people maximum. Four people have already expressed an interest. (Carol Hawk, Pat Bailey, Chuck Paquette and Karen Coward) Chuck will email any further information. They will also have more info at our February meeting.

The Central & Western New York Chapter of the National Safety Council has us a check for dues and an invoice and asked if they could become members of our Chapter. They liked us and what we stood for!

PTSI has now come up with a Workbook to accompany the 30 Hour Basic Course. They are \$7.95 each. Chuck is using them for the 1st time during the course he is doing this month. The drivers seem to love them. Call PTSI is interested.

Chapter News and Notes was handed out. Lots of Information!!

We need to form a committee to go over the nominations for awards at the end of the year. Karen Doucette, Dave and Judy used to do it. We now need a new committee. Chuck will chair it and Dave Deuel, Laura D’Arcangelis, Diane Watkins and Jason Laroche will be on it as well. They will also need to go over any nominations the Chapter has for the State Level Awards. Please be thinking of nominees for awards at each level. It’s not too early to start!

NYAPT’s financial situation is very bleak – Mike Janisch made a motion, seconded by Pat Bailey to donate \$500 as the founding chapter of NYAPT, to help the current “state of affairs.” Motion carried.

We know of one other chapter downstate to also donate to help off set the cost of operations.

Round Table

Karen Coward	Cazenovia, like many others had a 2-hour delay today. Good call! Happy Holidays!
Susan Stearns	Nothing is new at Marcellus but they do have a new garage! It’s nice!
Bobbie Jo Eastman	They have lost their supervisor – so things are busy! Happy Holidays!
Ty Worrell	They have been “dodging bee bees” in the City recently!
Shelly O’Reilly	Happy Holidays everyone.
Bob Peters	He wishes everyone a Safe and Happy Holiday!
Diane Watkins	She wishes everyone a Safe and Happy Holiday!
Jason Laroche	Things are going well. Happy Holidays!
Dave Deuell	F-M Girls Cross Country did GREAT again this year! Congratulations!
Laura D’Arcangelis	We did pretty well this year – this is our 1st day of snow and it is December! Happy Holidays!
Mike Janisch	The 2-hour delay today was an excellent call! Happy Holidays!
Terri Bush	Happy Holidays!
Barbara Biddlecome	Happy Holidays!
Jeri Burke	Happy Holidays!
Pat Bailey	So far so good! The Bee Bees have given us quite a scare! She is very proud to be part of this chapter! Happy Holidays!
Terri Kuss	Happy Holidays!
Ted Finlayson-Schueler	Next month he is sponsoring and helping with an integrated driver training program put on by School Bus Safety Company. The final draft for this year’s PDS will be sent to SED January 1st. The Basic Course Curriculum is on track! Happy Holidays!
Cindy Denison	Thanks to all of you for coming! Rich and she are very happy to be part of our group. Happy Holidays!
Rich Denison	Thanks to all for coming! He shared some info on his new hand cleaner – it kills 99% of germs in 15 seconds and comes in 3 different sizes. Happy Holidays to everybody!
Brenda Bach	Happy Holidays!
Al Humbert	Happy Holidays! Have a safe season!
Peg Gilbert	Happy Holidays! Thanks very much to Rich and Cindy for a wonderful lunch!!
Julie Bradish	Happy Holidays – See everyone in January!
James Dark	Jerry will be out of work all of January and February - so James will be acting in his stead.
Chuck Paquette	Thanks everyone for moving to donate \$500 to NYAPT - Be safe! Happy Holidays!

Adjournment & next meeting information

A motion was made by Chuck Paquette, seconded by Julie Bradish to adjourn today's meeting at 1:00 PM. Motion carried.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, January 13, 2010 at 10 a.m. at the North Syracuse CSD Transportation Center, 3500 E. Taft Road. Safety Rules is sponsoring this meeting, and lunch will be provided.

**Respectfully submitted:
Peg Gilbert**