



2011 – 2012 CHAPTER OFFICERS

Julie Bradish – President
Jodi Regis – Vice President
Jason Laroche – Treasurer
Peg Gilbert – Secretary

MINUTES OF CHAPTER MEETING Wednesday, January 11th 2012

Today's meeting was called to order today @ 10:05 @ Syracuse City School District transportation department. There were 25 members present. Special thanks to Pat Bailey for providing our meeting space and for the donuts and coffee. Another special thank you to First Student, for providing us with sandwiches for lunch.

Secretary's Report

A motion was made by Pat Bailey, seconded by Lynea Lemke, to accept the minutes from our last meeting. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

A motion was made by Carol Hawk, seconded by Matt Conti, to accept the treasurers report with a balance carried forward of \$2505.67 in our checking account and a balance carried forward of \$1807.53 in our Professional Development Fund. Motion carried.

Correspondence

None to report

Committee Reports:

Poster Committee:

Linda Robinson handed out brochures on the 2012 School Bus Safety Poster Contest.

Roadeo Committee:

None to report

Old Business

None reported

New Business

At the last meeting, there was some discussion about enriching our meetings with pertinent presentations or speakers that could deliver information that we could bring back to our operations and use. Today, Jodi has introduced us to a guest speaker from the Rochester Police Department. His name is Moses Robertson and this is his story....

Moses comes to us from the City of Rochester, where he has been a Law Enforcement Officer for the past 26 years. 18 of those years have been spent in the Rochester City School District as a resource officer. He spoke to us today about bullying and violence in schools. Mr. Robertson is very passionate about the school community and the bus ride when it pertains to our youth. Ever since he has been in the school system, he has had the very unfortunate experience

to have had to bury 15 students due to violence. 80% of all attacks of terrorist violence were discovered and foiled by tips and clues made citizens or school staff. This is why it is so important to be aware of bullying and identify it early so that steps can be taken to prevent it BEFORE it happens. Engaging students in conversation or greetings can build a vital relationship with them which leads to a solid foundation of prevention against violence and bullying. Staff must be properly trained to identify, approach, take action, and follow up on issues surrounding potential violence and bullying in school. Unfortunately, when budget numbers are tight and cuts are inevitable, training is usually one of the first things to be eliminated when districts have to balance the budget. This leads to a negative impact relating to bullying training which can therefore lead to gangs in some situations for lack of attention. Moses brought to light a very disturbing reality, when he mentioned that during the Columbine shooting, 50% of the staff left the building, leaving students to fend for themselves. If adults do not feel safe in a building, how do we expect our students to feel safe?

Mr. Robertson is available to do training seminars geared towards Transportation professionals and discussion took place as to when, where, and how we could get him to come and put something on for our folks in the CNYAPT region. At the next meeting, any member that can set something up will share that info with the rest of the chapter.

Discussion took place about training for transportation and how the state mandated refreshers are just not enough to get all the information we want to our employees. Also talk was made about building relevant relationships with our school communities and maybe sitting in on classrooms to see just how teachers build their relationships so that it could be then carried onto the school bus.

Carol Hawk informed us that the Cayuga/Onondaga county BOCES is bringing in guest speaker Barbara Colorado and that everyone was invited to attend. She will be there Thursday, February 9th.

Jodi Regis informed us that First Student West will be offering a 30 hour basic course and that there is room left for anyone interested. It will be held Monday through Thursday, February 20 – 23.

Round Table

No round table today.

50-50 today was won by Carol Hawk for a total of \$21.00 Congratulations!

Adjournment & next meeting information

The next meeting will be Wednesday, February 8th at East Syracuse Minoa Transportation Center. A Motion was made by Diane Watkins and seconded by Tye Worrell to adjourn the meeting at 11:30. Motion carried.

Thanks very much to Jason for taking the minutes for me!

**Respectfully submitted:
Jason Laroche (for Peg Gilbert)**