



# Dutchess County Traffic Safety Board

Minutes  
March 14, 2016  
1:00pm

## Members present:

Emily Dozier	Todd King	Ann Rush
Norm Fenichel	Christine Lopez	Anthony Russo
Stephen Gill	John McKinney	Joe Ryan
Todd Jicha	James Rapoli	Robert Simpson

- Called /could not attend: Vince Bellino, Paul Bonfiglio, Michael Dampf, John Healy, and William Steenbergh

Staff: William Johnson, Adrianna Frazier

## Minutes:

Steve Gill motioned to accept the minutes as written from the February 8<sup>th</sup> meeting. Seconded by Anthony Russo. Motion carried.

\*\* Bill Johnson called the meeting to order at 1:05pm\*\*

## On-going Items:

- ❖ **2016 TSB Membership & Officer Re-Elections:** W. Johnson said ballots were emailed to all TSB members. Ballots were also made available at the meeting. The results of the ballots are Vince Bellino – Chairman (9) and Steve Gill – Vice Chairman (8). James Rapoli will continue to serve as Secretary. W. Johnson will identify TSB members needing to be re-appointed and submit the list to the County Executive’s Office along with the officer appointments, and the new member appointments of Todd King (C/Poughkeepsie PD) and Matthew Henneka (CIA) to the TSB.
- ❖ **2016 GTSC Grant Package:**  
**MAPE:** W. Johnson said award letters were sent to all participating agencies. He will follow up in the next two to three months to make sure funds are being expended rather than waiting to August and September.

## Injury Prevention:

School Bus Driver of the Year - W. Johnson stated that the “School Bus Driver of the Year” winner for Dutchess County is Heather McCaffrey from Arlington Central School District. She has 29 years of driving experience with a good safety record. There were nominees from Beacon City SD and Pine Plains CSD. The winner for Ulster County is Andrea Whittaker with 27 years of experience. Operation Safe Stop Day is on Thursday, April 21<sup>st</sup>. Law enforcement can use some of their Multi-Agency Police Enforcement (MAPE) grant funding to do enforcement details. The Dutchess County press conference will be held on Tuesday, April 19<sup>th</sup> at Arlington High School. W. Johnson notified the County Executive’s Office of the change of date. Ulster County will hold their press conference on Wednesday, April 20<sup>th</sup>. He sent a letter to Neil Garrison at the Culinary

Institute of America asking for their support/donation for the winner. W. Johnson said if anyone else has a contact to solicit an award or prize for the winner please let him know.

Bicycle Helmet Safety - W. Johnson said we received an email notice on February 25<sup>th</sup> from GTSC indicating that federal funds cannot be used to purchase promotional items. Effective immediately promotional items are not an allowable cost. If these items were not purchased by March 4<sup>th</sup> they would not be reimbursed. We have \$1,000 approved for reflective items and \$1,200 for older driver promotional items. He said we hurried to get approval from GTSC on items previously purchased to get the items ordered quickly. E. Dozier asked how are they defining promotional items versus educational. W. Johnson said a pen is promotional even if it has a safety message whereas printed materials (pamphlets, coloring books, etc.) are educational.

W. Johnson said we have \$2,000 to spend on helmets. He will inventory the helmets on hand to determine what to purchase through Safe Kids Bell Sports. We're waiting for a 2016 price list from Bell Sports. W. Johnson received a request from Noxon Road Elementary School to host a bike rodeo in May. Hagan Elementary is deeply committed to doing their annual 3<sup>rd</sup> grade bike rodeo on "Bike to School Day." Each year Hagan Elementary does a full day bike rodeo for the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade class. He has spoken with Sue Ymbras, the school nurse, who said she had a meeting with the school health committee. They would also like to include ACES (All Children Exercise Simultaneously) as part of the "Bike to School Day" event. W. Johnson stated that they were thinking of picking a couple of locations away from the school where kids can bike or walk into school. There will be adults there to help supervise. W. Johnson said it's been the TSB's goal to do something on "Bike to School Day." He said there will be a school meeting scheduled to give an update. W. Johnson said to T. Jicha that it would be a good idea to have one of the T/Poughkeepsie PD bike patrol officers at the event if possible.

W. Johnson said there is an upcoming Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Training for Law Enforcement Course from March 31 – April 1, 2016. The two day training is exclusively for law enforcement agencies. The course will focus on pedestrian and bicycle crashes and safety issues, and implementation of effective education and enforcement countermeasures. It will be held at the C/Poughkeepsie Public Safety Building. The deadline for registering is Friday, March 18<sup>th</sup>. E. Dozier said it is a former police officer who teaches the course. She will send the email to the TSB law enforcement contacts to make them aware of the event so that there will be good support.

- ❖ **Child Passenger Safety:** W. Johnson said there was a CPS Coalition meeting on Thursday, April 26<sup>th</sup>. Dutchess County is approved to hold a CPS Technician Certification Class. Prior to the meeting W. Johnson received a phone call from, Keshia Healey, Regional Representative State Advisory Child Passenger Safety Committee, informing him that effective with the 2017 grant there will be no funding to purchase car seats. When W. Johnson informed the Coalition the atmosphere quickly changed. The program's mantra has been children leave safer than when they came. There is concern among the fire stations and police departments if a person comes in with a car seat to be fitted and it needs to be replaced, yet there are none available, what is the liability in sending them away empty handed and a car accident should occur before they can purchase a seat to be installed. The fire stations and police departments will check with their legal departments. Under the 2017 grant there will also be a 95% reduction in car seats purchased under the low income seat program. W. Johnson stated that the GTSC representative said we'll need to think outside the box to identify local funding to purchase car seats. A. Russo said there must be private companies willing to contribute. J. Ryan said W. Johnson can speak with him regarding receiving donations to purchase car seats. W. Johnson stated that at the Coalition meeting they did come to an agreement to hold the CPS Technician Certification Class from May 4 – 7, 2016 (8:00am –

5:00pm). It is open to 20 - 25 students. A location is yet to be determined. The class was registered on National Safe Kids. All will be notified.

The NHTSA Region 2 Child Passenger Safety Technical Conference will be held from May 10 – 12, 2016 at Lake Placid NY. The conference registration fee is \$175. On Tuesday, May 10<sup>th</sup> there will be a workshop on CPS Restraints on School Buses. The registration fee is \$125. P. Bonfiglio will attend the conference, as well as, the workshop. W. Johnson said there is also a pre-conference workshop on CarFit. W. Johnson stated that lodging is provided under a grant from the NYS Association of Traffic Safety Boards. He said there is funding in our CPS grant for registration fees, mileage, and meals. He would like for technicians to register prior to April 10<sup>th</sup> to avoid paying an additional late registration fee of \$25.

W. Johnson said Ulster, Orange, and Dutchess Counties are interested in hosting a regional school bus safety seat restraints course at the end of the school year. He stated that the venue will probably be at the New Paltz transportation office. This course will provide information on NHTSA's recommendation of three point harnesses on school buses.

W. Johnson stated that there is a Technician Update Refresher Class in Ulster County on Tuesday, March 15<sup>th</sup> from 8:30 – 3:30pm. This course satisfies the minimum 6 CEU requirement for recertification purposes.

- ❖ **2017 GTSC Grant Package:** W. Johnson said he sent out multiple memos/notices to the law enforcement agencies regarding the upcoming grant policy changes for the 2017 Police Traffic Services Grant. In the memo's he offered to provide assistance, with the grant applications, to all who need help. The due date for 2017 grant applications was moved up two weeks to May 1, 2016.

W. Johnson said besides not being able to purchase car seats under the Child Passenger Safety grant in 2017 we will no longer be able to purchase helmets under the Local Grant. These items will no longer be reimbursable. He stated that under the Alcohol Crack Down block grant there will be no funding available for STOP-DWI to distribute to law enforcement agencies in 2017.

### **Additions:**

- ❖ **Transportation Council/Updates:**

**Bike to School Day:** E. Dozier said she met with the Poughkeepsie City School District's Wellness Committee lead by Cornell Cooperative Extension to suggest participation in "Bike to School Day" as an activity they could undertake. They'll have to decide what they want to do whether it is a helmet check, bike rodeo, or other event. Consideration will also have to be given to whether the event is held before, during, or after school. E. Dozier said she will follow up. She will also send A. Rush the information so that an event could perhaps be held in the Northern Dutchess area.

**Traffic Count Program:** E. Dozier stated that the Transportation Council will be starting its' traffic count program, which runs from April to November. They have contacted highway superintendents, mayors, and town supervisors for feedback on a list of count locations. She said generally counts are done at 250-300 locations around the County every year. The Transportation Council will be collecting volume, speed, and class data. All the police agencies will be notified ahead of time. The Transportation Council is finalizing the list of locations based on feedback from the municipalities. E. Dozier stated that the contractor will notify municipalities and police agencies before each weekly count.

**Sidewalks:** E. Dozier said the Transportation Council is working on a Pedestrian Plan for the Arlington Town Center in the Town of Poughkeepsie. They are working with a local task force which includes members of the business improvement district. There will be a kick-off meeting at the end of this month. Field work will be done to inventory all the sidewalks and other amenities, and then recommendations will be developed to make the Town Center as walkable as possible. The study area is bounded by Springside Ave./Parkview Terr. to the north, Fulton Ave./Collegeview Ave. to the south, S. Grand Ave. to the west, and Fairmont Ave./Taft Ave. to the east.

**Speed Study:** E. Dozier said the Transportation Council is looking at all their traffic count data from the last four years. They are pulling out corridors or segments that have a pattern of high end speeding (85<sup>th</sup> percentile speeds of 10 mph or more over the posted limited). W. Johnson said could that be shared with police agencies that are putting together grant information. E. Dozier said yes she can make it available. It will not include every local road. She stated that they are doing this study to help local and County public works departments target locations for engineering improvements and/or increases enforcement.

- ❖ **Opiate Heroine Forums:** W. Johnson said there will be three Opiate Forums in April throughout the Harlem Valley (Dover HS, Pine Plains HS, and Amenia Town Hall). The forums will also include Narcan training for the community. STOP-DWI has been asked to coordinate prescription drug collection at each event. The forums are hosted by the Council on Addiction, Prevention, and Education (CAPE) and Senators Sue Serino and Terrence Murphy.

W. Johnson stated that the V. Millerton PD and DCSO Substation in Pawling will soon be receiving drug collection bins.

- ❖ **Senior Picnics:** J. Ryan will provide W. Johnson with a list of the summer senior picnics. W. Johnson asked if they will want to do prescription drug collection again. J. Ryan said he's sure the County Executive's Office will want to do it again.

N. Fenichel motioned to adjourn the meeting at 1:55 p.m. J. Rapoli seconded. All in favor.

**NEXT MEETING:**

April 11<sup>th</sup> 2016 @ 1:00pm.

**\*626 Dutchess Turnpike, First Floor\***