



SOUTH CENTRAL SAFE COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

Pelican Room, South Central Planning and Development Commission
5058 West Main Street, Houma LA 70390

Minutes of the Meeting

Special Executive Board Meeting
Wednesday, January 11, 2012, 10:00-11:00 a.m.

In Attendance: (16)

Greg Hood Sr., ADAC
Rudynah Capone, SCPDC
Joshua Manning, SCPDC
Craig Poche, St. James SO
Earl Geason, St. James SO
Steve Tullis, NSU PD

Matt Trahan, LSP Troop C
Greg Maurin, St. John DA
Jamie Ainsworth, LHSC
Morris Beverly, LHSC
Jamey Fontenot, Thibodaux PD
Jason Kibodeaux, TPSO

Tina Ledet, Houma PD
Bobbie O'Bryan, Houma PD
Mark Adams, LPSO
Michael Creamer, LSPO

1. Call to Order

Chairman Greg Hood called the meeting to order at 10:00 o'clock in the morning.

2. Welcome & Introductions

Chairman Hood asked everyone to introduce themselves. There were sixteen (16) partners in attendance. A quorum was achieved.

3. Presentation of Safe Community Mini-Grant Applications

R. Capone presented the mini-grant applications for FFY 2012. Proposals were received from the following, with their corresponding programs and amount requested:

- 3.1 Alcohol & Drug Abuse Council (ADAC) for South Louisiana
Get in the Zone: Don't Drink & Drive - \$ 2,500
- 3.2 Assumption Sheriff's Office – Overtime DWI Enforcement - \$ 5,000
- 3.3 St. James Sheriff's Office – Occupant Protection Campaign - \$1,988
- 3.4 St. John District Attorney's Office – Harold Keller's DWI/Substance Abuse Classes _ \$2,000
- 3.5 Our Lady of the Sea General Hospital – Safety Circus - \$4,300
- 3.6 Bayou Region Motorcycle Awareness Campaign (MAC) – Distribution of Safety Commodities - \$5,000
- 3.7 ADAC also submitted a separate grant for the Regional Child Passenger Safety Initiative on behalf of the entire SCSCP - \$3,440

Three of the proposed programs are aimed on occupant protection while the other four are on alcohol. LHSC has only allocated a budget of \$13,440 for this year's mini-grants. The total amount of proposed mini-grants is \$24,728, which is almost double what we can spend.

R. Capone shared the goals, timeframe, communities served, project highlights and requested amount from each of the mini-grant applicants. G. Hood reiterated that an agency that has already been approved direct funding from LHSC is disqualified from getting the SCSCP mini-grant. Besides enforcement hours, safety commodity purchase and distribution is being proposed by the applicants.

Discussion ensued on the Child Passenger Safety. J. Ainsworth shared that improper use of child restraints is the biggest issue—misuse of 90-92% (infant to convertible to booster seats); non-use of 99% (infants) and around 70% of booster seats. Making the attempt to use them is pretty good but using them incorrectly is more often the problem. We kill very few kids in the state. The fitting station services are being promoted to increase proper installation. R. Capone emphasized that this year's funding priorities are on seatbelt and alcohol. She encouraged the committee to keep this criterion into huge consideration before deciding on which applicants to approve and how much funds to award.

After presenting all seven applications, she enumerated the criteria as follows: agency attendance in 2011 meetings, project priority, nature of the project, communities/audience served, and timeframe. All agencies complied with the attendance and timeframe criteria, and they only differed in the other three criteria, which the Executive Board members are to deliberate upon.

4. Deliberation and Approval of Mini-Grants

Deliberation of mini-grant applications ensued. Comments were expressed.

If equally divided among seven applicants, the mini-grant award would amount to \$1,920 for each agency. But this isn't the case. The Executive Board initially approved \$3,440 for the CPS mini-grant during the last SCSCP Meeting dated November 17, 2011.

R. Capone asked if the Board would want to retain the approved amount or reduce it. J. Ainsworth refreshed everyone's knowledge on what demographics our Action Plan is aiming on, which is 18-34 year-old- drivers. She encouraged all to think about where the commodities end up getting distributed to and how much education is given when these items share effectively.

The thought of wearing T-shirts that contain the message "I Got Caught... Wearing My Seatbelt", which is initiated by the LA State Police, is commended by the members. It was described to be a cool outreach initiative. M. Trahan suggested the idea of partnering with a food outlet (such as Papa John's or Domino's) to do some type of young drivers safety program via couponing incentive.

G. Maurin referred everyone to the notes and suggestions indicated on the 'Safe Communities Mini-Grants 2012" page found in the meeting packet. He encouraged the committee members to take a closer look at them. He found them to be reasonable.

G. Maurin made a motion to accept the recommendations as follows: CPS Event - \$3,440; Lady of the Sea GH- \$ 1,280; St. James SO - \$2,000 or (exact amount of \$1,988); ADAC - \$ 1,500; APSO - \$2,000; St. John DA - \$2,000 and MAC - \$1,220. B. O'Bryan seconded the said motion. Discussion ensued.

After careful deliberation, all above-mentioned amounts are approved except for CPS event, being only \$2000. J. Kibodeaux, M. Trahan and G. Maurin all suggested that the remaining \$1,440 be allocated as safety cushion (emergency) funds for whatever program that may come up between now and September 2012. M. Trahan said that every CPS event only needs at least 5 seats for distribution anyway.

J. Ainsworth said that the cushion money may come in handy later on when a good program idea for a certain target population (for instance, young male drivers), pops up especially around the national mobilization periods. By then, the Executive Board can approve it on a separate occasion. There's no mandate from LHSC that the mini-grant funds get expended right now, for as long as they don't go beyond SCSCP's mini-grant deadline of September 14, 2012. There's a chance for adding an April campaign for pick-up truck drivers, so the cushion may be of valuable use. G. Hood reiterated the amounts approved.

C. Poche made a motion to approve the mini-grant award amounts for Occupant Protection as follows: CPS event - \$2,000, LOSGH - \$1,280 and St. James SO – \$2,000 or exactly \$1,988. The amount of \$1,440 is deemed as cushion funding. C. Poche also made a motion to approve the mini-grant awards for Alcohol Impaired Driving as follows: ADAC - \$1,500, APSO- \$2,000, St. John DA - \$2,000 and MAC - \$1,220. Both motions were seconded by J. Kibodeaux. Motion was carried.

M. Beverly asked about APSO's final decision on whether or not to push through with their DWI enforcement mini-grant through SCSCP or LHSC directly. The Executive Board decided to tentatively approve the \$2,000 mini-grant now and later amend the decision if APSO decides to apply for direct funding from LHSC. If these funds end up to be not used by APSO, they get added to our cushion money.

5. LHSC Remarks

J. Ainsworth suggested that the coalition members, especially those newly approved mini-grantees with open-ended programs, focus their implementation efforts around the Click It or Ticket Mobilization in May and Drive Sober Labor Day in September as required in our LHSC Safe Communities Grant. Our add-on campaign this year gears toward the 18-34 year old population who often drive pickup trucks on rural two-lane roads. She announced that LHSC does not foresee our highway safety programs stopping because they've planned for it. Nobody's expecting a new transportation bill before or after the Presidential Elections 2012. State grant applications for 2013 will open by February or early March.

6. Safety Commodities/Equipment Update

R. Capone announced that all safety commodities—3,500 ink pens, 1,500 PVC zipper bags, 50 T-shirts and 2,000 drawstring backpacks—have all been purchased and delivered. They've been segregated for agencies to pick up. She encouraged the partners to ensure that these items end up in the right audience and that they are distributed in the right direction, not in the trash.

She also announced that she has ordered for 20 reflective seatbelt enforcement decals to be used and shared by law enforcement agencies during daytime and nighttime seatbelt checkpoints. They should be delivered in two weeks.

Discussion ensued on how the agencies can share these decals. M. Beverly and G. Hood suggested that R. Capone check with the local PD's and sheriff's offices that have existing decals. Otherwise, focus giving them to those that have not.

Discussion ensued on how the existing child seats (stored at ADAC office on Belanger Street in Houma) can be distributed effectively. CPS technicians were encouraged to arrange with Alicia Toups or any ADAC staff a schedule to pick up some seats.

R. Capone also presented the Safe Community brochure that she put together and asked for comments. J. Ainsworth suggested that the newly approved mini-grants be included in the brochure. G. Hood recommended printing by batch, say 25 copies each agency. S. Tullis asked if the file could be sent electronically to the agencies so that they could do their individual printing. Discussion ensued.

G. Maurin made a motion to approve printing of the SCSCP brochure, seconded by B. O'Bryan. No further comments. Motion passed.

7. Comments from Members

B. O'Bryan invited the agencies to spread the word and participate in the upcoming Teen Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Event scheduled on June 25-29, 2012 at the Cecil Picard Educational and Recreational Center in Bunkie, Louisiana. It's a weeklong camp for 13-19 year old youth participants to learn disaster preparedness, highway safety and teambuilding. Recreational activities are in store.

He passed around an event packet for all to take a look at. He proudly shared that the Louisiana Teen CERT emerged second place in the nationwide best Teen CERT initiatives. It was in 2010 that this event was piloted in Louisiana, and it was last year (2011) when highway safety was integrated into the event. He hoped to incorporate some highway safety programs such as Sudden Impact and seatbelt rollover simulator this year. The camp is free but space is very limited. He requested R. Capone to email the Teen CERT applications to our coalition members via the bimonthly press release.

Short discussion ensued.

8. Other Business

Traffic Safety Summit 2012 Update

G. Hood announced that the Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government Council has approved to waive the rental & technical fees for usage of Terrebonne Houma Civic Center for our Traffic Safety Summit on September 27, 2012.

CPS Techs Briefing on February 16, 2012

R. Capone encouraged the agencies to send their CPS technicians to the CPS Technicians Briefing, which will take place right after our next scheduled meeting on February 16, 2012. LA Passenger Task Force coordinator Bridget Gardner will be joining us.

Lafourche SO's CPS class participation

M. Adams confirmed that they're sending four officers to the CPS class scheduled in St. Martin and possibly two more officers for the Baton Rouge class. G. Maurin said they might send a participant from St. John Parish, too.

9. Adjournment

C. Poche made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:02 a.m., seconded by B. O'Bryan. Motion carried.

The next meeting is scheduled on February 16, 2012 at 9:30-11:00 a.m.

These minutes were approved at the succeeding meeting on February 16, 2012.