

Florida D.A.R.E. Officer's Association 2008 Board Meeting Minutes

Saturday, February 23, 2008
Lake Placid, Florida

Members Present:

Larry Stripling-President	Veronica Osborne-Highlands Co. SO
Sal Anicito-Vice President	Brian Gigure-Highlands Co. SO
Chris Taylor-1 st Vice President	Marty McKee-Highlands Co. SO
Allison Swain-Secretary	Mark Hitchcock-Ft. Myers PD
Dennis Bowers-Treasurer	John McLaughlin-Miami-Dade PD
Rob Hogan-Sergeant at Arms	Sandra Doria-Collier Co. SO
Monica Sauls-Chaplain	Steve Mochen-Martin Co. SO
Martha Williams-Membership	Wayne Brooks-Collier Co. SO
Susan Mochen-Educational Advisor	Terry Allen-Lake Co. SO
Angelic Sanchez-Avon Park PD	Tom Ouverson-Highlands Co. SO
Kevin Megno-Avon Park PD	Nancy Thigpen-Orange Park PD
David Sass-Avon Park PD	Kevin Sapp-FDLE
Wilma Tindell-Sebring PD	
Michael Helms-Highlands Co. SO	

Meeting held in Lake Placid at the Sapp Residence. Meeting called to order at 0945 hours by President Stripling.

Invocation given by Chaplain Monica Sauls.
General Welcome by President Stripling.

Secretary's Report:

Swain began to read the minutes from the last meeting. Taylor made a motion to wave the minutes and Wayne Brooks seconded the motion. Unanimously approved. Copies are available on the website.

Treasurer's Report:

Bowers read the financial report for the 2007-2008 Second/Third Quarter.

Beginning Balance Checking: \$16,297.54
Ending Balance Checking: \$17,824.62

Beginning Balance Savings: \$380.94

Ending Balance Savings: \$381.14

Total Balance: \$18,205.76

Hard copies of the financial report were handed out. President Stripling made a motion to accept the report, Wayne Brooks seconded the motion. Motion carried

Sergeant at Arms Report:

Hogan advised that they were still working on the brochure for the 2008 FDOA Conference. Hogan brought a hard copy for all to look at and make any changes.

Hogan is working on T-shirts for the 2008 conference. We will have more information soon. Colors may be white or ash with prices ranging from \$4.25 to \$5.25.

Need to promote the scholarship. Information on website to change to include any active Law Enforcement Officer whose child is a senior in High School or beginning college. The topic for the essay is "How you were influenced by your D.A.R.E. Officer".

Looking for nominees for the "Lifetime Achievement Award".

Parking at the 2008 FDOA Conference will be \$8.00/day for unmarked patrol cars and personal vehicles and free for marked vehicles. This may change as we get closer.

OPEN DISCUSSIONS:

Open discussion about the resort tax of \$9.00 charged by the Hilton and the parking fee.

Stripling discussed how to bring in more educators to the conference.

Make sure everyone knows to get in nominations for D.A.R.E. Officer of the Year and Educator of the Year.

Stripling introduced Dr. Susan Mochen, our Educational Advisor. Dr. Susan gave a background on herself and discussed her role with FDOA. Dr. Susan advised that educators that attended the conference could receive 30 in service points. We can promote this in the brochure to get more educators to attend the conference. Monica Sauls advised that different agencies would hand deliver a hard copy of the brochure to Administrators and the proper people in the schools so they would know about the conference. This will be done along with an email.

Stripling advised that some counties do not have a D.A.R.E. program and we need to find them and reach out to them, get them involved.

Stripling talked about his meeting with other folks involved in D.A.R.E. from around the United States. This meeting was held in San Antonio, TX where he also met with John Lindsay from D.A.R.E. America.

Wayne Brooks brought up the issue of D.A.R.E. in the middle school being cut out in Collier County. The possibility of going to another program to replace D.A.R.E. This led to a discussion with all attendees.

Mike Helms from Highlands County SO talked about their Boot Camp. He invited everyone to come out to visit this program.

Break @ 1055 hours

Meeting re-adjourned @ 1120 hours

Marty McKee (Highlands County SO) gave a report on the instructors/presenters that have signed up for the conference. We are still looking for instructors, so contact McKee if you are interested or know someone that is. McKee handed out hard copies of the list of instructors and some basic information on the classes we have so far. Stripling appointed McKee in charge of the Curriculum for the conference. Monica Sauls will assist with this process. McKee will be traveling to Russia to introduce the D.A.R.E. program to them.

Conference Talk:

General discussion about the conference and how it will run.

Sunday, registration from 3pm to 5pm, hospitality night 6:30pm to 8:30pm.

Monday morning breakfast buffet

Monday night: President's reception, 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm

Tuesday night: Karaoke night, 6:30 pm to ?????

Wednesday night: Family night on your own

Thursday night: Awards banquet 6:30 pm to 9:30 pm

Wayne Brooks is in charge of contacting vendors for the conference.

Welcomed Lt. John McLaughlin from Miami-Dade PD. He discussed the D.A.R.E. program in his area and its success.

Fundraisers:

Bobby Thigpen will have a Golf Tournament in Jacksonville, April 11th.

Stripling advised of a FDOA golf tournament in May...More information to come.

Sal Anicito discussed the St. Lucie County D.A.R.E. carnival April 10th – 13th, would like to have an FDOA table set up for display.

Marty McKee and Monica Sauls spoke of a golf tournament on April 19th. We will have more information.

First Vice President's Report:

Taylor discussed the D.A.R.E. Officer practitioner and that new practitioners will be announced at the conference and presented their certificates and pins. Any questions please contact Chris Taylor.

Remember nominations for D.A.R.E. Officer of the year. Please bring in items for the silent auction to be held at the conference.

Taylor discussed open positions for FDOA District Representatives that need to be filled. Open positions are as follows:

District 1c: Taylor, Madison, Hamilton, Suwannee, Lafayette, Dixie, Columbia.

District 3b: Orange, Osceola.

District 4b: Pinellas, Hillsborough, Polk.

District 5a: Palm Beach

District 5b: Broward

District 5c: Dade, Monroe

Break @ 1225 hours

Meeting re-adjourned @ 1345 hours

Stripling brought discussion to change the terms of the FDOA Executive Board. The new terms will be for 2 years. The term of office will commence at the conclusion of the FDOA Annual conference. At the conclusion of the 2 year term, the officer holding that position can elect to run again for that position or any other. During any election year any member of FDOA can run for any position up for re-election. The Executive Board positions will come up as follows:

President, 1st Vice President, and Secretary will be elected every 2 years on the odd number years.

Vice President, Treasurer, and Sergeant at Arms will be elected every 2 years on the even number years.

There will no longer be a progression of positions.

Stripling made a motion to change the bylaws; the motion was seconded by Wayne Brooks. Unanimously accepted.

Kevin Sapp talked about FDLE canceling the upcoming DOT training and the future of the DOT training program. Sapp advised that FDLE is losing federal funds that supplement the DOT training program. Sapp suggested that agencies send their officers out of state to be trained. Stripling opened a discussion that

FDOA is not sitting back and waiting, we are going ahead to find a way to train new D.A.R.E. officers. Stripling advised that many things are in the works. Stripling and Taylor may be going to Chicago to meet with D.A.R.E. America representatives.

Stripling brought the idea of a combined Annual conference with Florida Association of School Resource Officers and FDOA. This is in the works for 2010 in Naples.

Sapp talked about a 31 ft. trailer that his FDLE office got for the Child Abduction Response Team. Due to budget cuts they were unable to use it. They had an old ambulance donated to them for a command post and challenged FDOA to donate \$500.00 to help get it painted. FDOA donated the money and they are now challenging FASRO to donate \$500.00 to assist. On the back of the truck will be say "partners with" and will have our logo along with other sponsors. Sapp will try to bring the finished command post to the FDOA conference for all to see.

Taylor made a motion for Lt. John McLaughlin to take the District 5C representative position. Lt McLaughlin accepted the position; the motion was seconded by Wayne Brooks.

Stripling made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Wayne Brooks seconded the motion.

Meeting was adjourned at 1425 hours.

***The Board would like to extend its sincere gratitude to the Sapp Family and the Highlands County SO School Resource Officers for their hospitality shown for this meeting. Their dedication to FDOA goes above and beyond!

Respectfully Submitted,
Cpl. Allison Swain, FDOA Secretary