



# Minnesota Law Enforcement Explorer Association

**MLEEA Friday, April 30, 2010.**

## **Meeting Minutes**

**Location: The Double Tree Hotel, Rochester, MN**

**Meeting called to order by Chair Brandon Brugger at 1906 hrs.**

### **Present:**

Chair Brandon Brugger (MLEEA/ Minneapolis PD), Co-Chair Scott Kostohryz (MLEEA/ Moorhead PD), Treasurer DuWayne Dixon (MLEEA), Secretary Desiree Toninato (MLEEA Coon Rapids PD), Gary Cayo (MLEEA/ Minnetonka PD), Troy Pepin (MLEEA), Jenny Hedal (Northern Star Council), Nic Wolf (Apple Valley PD), Adam Tschida (Apple Valley P.D.), Angela Tschida (Maple Grove P.D.), Nick Gross (Maple Grove P.D.), Kal Jordby (Maple Grove P.D.), Teresa Frissora (Rochester P.D.), Lilly Murr (Hastings P.D.), Jeremy Jacobson (Hastings P.D.), Josh Cummings (Hastings P.D.), Jenny Torjun (Faribault P.D.), Brandon Gleim (Faribault P.D.), Josh Alexander (Faribault P.D.), Mark Belisle (Rochester P.D.), Ryan Manguson (Rochester P.D.), Adam Jacobson (Coon Rapids P.D.), Bill Hammes (Coon Rapids P.D.), Carlos Wong (St. Paul P.D.), Mike Peterson, (Brooklyn Center P.D.), Jeremy Whittenburg (Brooklyn Center P.D.), Matt Gottschalk (Mankato P.D.), Melissa Myers (Mankato P.D.), Catherine Lafontaine (Bloomington P.D.), Heather Potter (Bloomington P.D.), Jeff Zieske (Bloomington P.D.), Peter Anderley (Carver County), David Murphy (Carver County), John Herman (St. Louis Park P.D.), Brian Boekhoff (Eagan P.D.), Linda Myhre (Eagan P.D.), Dave Letourneau (Eagan P.D.), Julie Olson (Maplewood P.D.), Cheri Dexter (Washington County), Joe Tran (Maplewood P.D.), Jeff Snyder (Woodbury P.D.), Tim Fletcher (Dakota County), Dawonna Witt (Dakota County), Christie Nelson (MPLS P.D.), Dennis Kreft (MPLS P.D.), Melinda Inman (Northern Star Council), Ben Miller (Wright County), Dave Nysturen (Wright County), Krystal Kramer (Wright County), Jessica Miller (Wright County), Mary Bitzan (New Brighton DPS), Kathy Mcneely (New Brighton DPS), Adam Moore (Hennepin County), Pat Harding (Hennepin County), Jeanne Lawrie (Potawatomi Council BSA), Scoot Schermitzier (Wisconsin WLEEEA), Bren Olson (Wisconsin WLEEEA), Megan Buse (Oakdale P.D.), Michelle Stark (Oakdale P.D.),

Roll call was taken by Secretary Toninato and the following posts were present: Anoka Police Dept., Apple Valley Police Dept., Blaine Police Dept., Bloomington Police Dept., Brooklyn Center Police Dept., Brooklyn Park Police Dept., Carver County Sheriffs Office, Coon Rapids Police Dept., Crystal Police Dept., Dakota County Sheriffs Office, Eagan Police Dept., Edina/Eden Prairie Police Dept., Faribault Police Dept., Fridley Police Dept., Hastings Police Dept., Hennepin Sheriffs Office., Mankato Police Dept., Maplewood Police Dept., Minneapolis Police Dept., Minnesota State Patrol., Moorhead Police Dept., New Brighton PSD., Oakdale Police Dept., Plymouth Police Dept., Ramsey Sheriffs Office., Richfield Police Dept., Rochester Police Dept., St. Louis Park Police Dept., St. Paul Police Dept., Washington Sheriffs Office., Woodbury Police Dept., and Wright Sheriffs Office. **Total 33**

The following posts were absent: Anoka County Sheriffs Office, Champlin Police Dept., Chaska Police Dept., Duluth Police Dept., Hubbard County Sheriffs Office, Hudson Police Dept., Inver Grove Heights Police Dept., Lino Lakes Police Dept., Minnetonka Police Dept., Mound Police Dept., Owatonna Police Dept., Ramsey Police Dept. and Shakopee Police Dept. **Total 13.**

Chair Brugger requested an approval for the minutes dated March 10, 2010. Motioned to approve the minutes by Anoka P.D. and seconded by Blaine P.D. **MINUTES APPROVED.**

### **Committee Reports:**

#### **Treasurers report:**

Balance sheet and profit/loss reports dated April 30, 2010 were handed out and information was presented by Treasurer DuWayne Dixon. He explained that the investments are good and will cover the restricted balance of the scholarship fund. Treasury report motion to approve by Richfield Police Dept and seconded by Edina/Eden Prairie. **TREASURERS REPORT APPROVED.**

1951 Woodlane Drive, Woodbury, Minnesota, 55125

[www.mnleexplorer.org](http://www.mnleexplorer.org)



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## **Scholarships:**

Ted Berg advised he was going to do a mass mailing to all major corporations to solicit funds for the scholarship program. He requested data on previous explorers who have become police officers so he can include this information in a letter to the corporations.

## **Conference:**

**Photos:** Photos are requested by 1600 tomorrow to put together a slide show.

**What's going right:** The Speaker Lt. Grossman was great. The Job interview was a great event. The rooms at the Kahler were better this year – no twin beds.

An advisor said the conference is running better than last year. It is much more progressive and positive from last year. She thanked the board for all their hard work.

**Complaints:** Mpls – Kristi: 2 years ago we were sold on the idea that it would be a better rooming system. They had one female from their post have to share a room with three others from another post. The explorers want to go back to Breezy. They don't feel safe here too much other public contact. Wanted separate rooms for the posts not sharing.  
Lino Lakes: Safety issue – not safe here walking around.

Chair Brugger addressed the issues of housing with the following: In an effort to house 860 people it is far easier in Rochester. We still have to have 3 to 4 explorers to a room and 2 posts possibly will have to room together. One explorer will not get a room by themselves unless they pay extra. This is to keep our rates low. If we elected to go back to Breezy we would have to set limitations on the number of teams each post could bring. There are not enough rooms and we would have to have the banquet offsite (which did not work out on the last attempt). Cragans wanted to charge us approximately \$2000.00 to have the banquet.

Mpls – Dennis suggested he believes that the kids would be fine with paying extra not to be housed with other explorers from other posts as long as we could let them know right away to get the money. He said his female explorer was crying because she had to share a room with people she didn't know.

Dewey suggested that when filling out the registration paper work next year and you have an extra person or two to indicate if they want to pay the extra money.

Mpls – Dennis – Give them the choice a head of time.

A complaint about the Kahler was they had rooms that were not ready, the check-in staff was unorganized and freaked out, so that at times there were numerous people waiting to check in.

In addition there were still "sick" people housed between explorers.

Dewey Dickson advised that the Kahler attempted to move patients but some refused to leave. Some of the rooms are contracted by the Mayo clinic. Also next year the 7<sup>th</sup> floor will be available.

Chair Brugger advised these issues would be addressed with the Kahler group.

There was a complaint about the shoot: the advisor was not happy with using the guns provided by Fond Du Lac. They practice all year with their own guns and then have to shoot unfamiliar ones. He was unhappy with their shoot results.

Chair Brugger advised that they were the same guns as last year and the information had been sent out earlier about using these guns. He said he would check with Dan Meyer about possibly allowing posts to bring in their own guns.



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A second registration table was requested for the events possible at the convention center. Gary Cayo addressed this and said it would be too difficult and require two people to staff it. Dewey advised the table is now located in a central location at the Double Tree.

St. Paul requested the use of the radio to obtain their next event so they would not have to be running back and forth and maybe prepare a little for the next event.

Chair Brugger addressed this and said that last year the radios were tried and not enough people used them also you don't know who it is. He advised that any person from your post can get your event and then phone you with it.

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An advisor stated they were under the impression only one of the team members could get their event.

Chair Brugger advised that can be changed.

There was a request for better signage for the bike course. The explorers really liked this event. A person had to walk through the Taylor Arena to get to it. It will be moved next year to a more convenient location.

St. Paul addressed that their post had the event Crime Prevention to many times.

Brugger advised the events are chosen by a lottery.

## **Nationals:**

Dewey advised the T-shirts are \$8.00 each and he will get the information sent out soon via email.

Jenny Hedel advised that there is still room at Nationals.

## **New Business:**

**By Law Changes** - simplification of the scholarship language.

Dewey advised currently the procedure is a request written on letterhead, a paid fees statement and/or transcript of a Law Enforcement related class.

Several advisors had issues with limiting the money to specifically Law Enforcement classes only. An example was given that they had a six year explorer who wants to be an attorney and his specific team has won an event every year. Therefore the individual post should be able to decide how and who the money should be awarded to.

Dewey advised historically, the funds had come from donations from Suburban Law Enforcement and there had been specific rules on how the money was used. The DON's had set the rules up involving scholarships only for Criminal Justice Programs. He further advised it is the posts money and the posts should be able to decide where it went.

Ted Berg advised that with sending out information to possibly Medtronic – medical field – for scholarships other than Law Enforcement they (the business's) might be more likely to donate funds and potentially open up more scholarships.



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After further discussion it was decided to put specific language into the bi-laws about the scholarship program specifically addressing language that the post advisor would make the final decision on awarding the funds. Still to be required would be a letter on letterhead paper from the advisor, a paid fee statement from an accredited college, and a letter from the explorer.

**This change was voted on and it was passed unanimously.**

**Advisor Photo:** An advisor photo will be taken tomorrow evening at 1815 hrs right before the awards dinner.

**Looking for FATS system for next year:** It is needed for next years conference for the Street Decisions event.

Michelle Rassmussen advised they could share theirs with advance notice.

Next meeting date set for June 16, 2010. Location:

Chair Brugger asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 2025 hrs.

Motion by Anoka and seconded by Rochester.