



Board of Directors Minutes
Tuesday, April 12, 2022
Zoom Meeting

In attendance: Cynthia Fournier, Karen Holden, Emo Chynoweth, Howard Anderson, Terry Crotty, Tim Eldridge, Su Brobst, Joanne Waterhouse, Maryann Belanger. **Absent:** Marc Raposo, Laurie Young, Tom Sutton, Sandy Rowe, Winfried Feneberg **Guest:** Trooper First Class Gregory Hildreth **Staff:** Mike Dennehy and Matt Gatzke

Call to order: Meeting was called to order at 10:42 a.m. with remarks first made by guest Trooper First Class Gregory Hildreth (Quorum met by 10:45 a.m.) Trooper Greg commented that the student transportation rules will be reviewed and rewritten in 2023. He would like to invite committee of NHSTA to work in tandem with the Dept. After situation in Bradford with propane buses, need to focus on new technologies and how the rules need to include for the new equipment. Also change for industry to provide input on what needs to be changed, added, deleted, etc. Looking to remove hurdles that were experienced during the pandemic and which required an executive order from the Governor to enable the Dept. to make needed changes or waivers, etc. Let them know what rules seem obsolete or that continue to cause conflicts (RSAs vs Admin. Rules). Also, the new DMV director is seeking to continue the regular meetings with NHSTA representatives. It was commented by Terry that when generating the current rules, the authority of DMV to waiver rules was taken away from the director. We would like to see it returned to the rules. Might provide more flexibility to the department.

Acceptance of Secretary's Report of March 8 Board Meeting: Review was made of the February meeting minutes. Motion was made and seconded. Correction was requested to edit status of Anewkum's in the minutes. Motion was approved.

Review of the March 31, 2022 Finance Report: Emo gave a quick overview of the finances. Accounts receivables drastically reduced. Emo and Matt to work on next year's budget. On the AR report, the top items were all received with one exception. Some open invoices for First Student to be addressed this week. More revenue expected to be reflected in May report. Motion was made, seconded, no further discussion was heard and motion was adopted.

In-Service Training Committee: April instructor course is all set. Making final arrangements. Cynthia has contacted all participants. May 14 at Bow High School is definite. Adding a special needs segment. Railroad crossing segment not an option as no staff from Operation Safe Stop certified to teach.

Legislative Committee: Howard reported that the background check change is completed. In terms of the statewide roster, Trooper Hildreth agreed when you fill out the roster, where it says SAU, you enter the SAU # and "and all others". HB 1202 passed the House with a hearing on March 15 Educ. Meeting, but nothing has come out of that which indicates some concerns. Email into Steve Appleby about question related to Special Needs transition services (post-secondary goals in IEPs that includes such topics as job and daily living skill training. Take students outside of the school system for hands-on learning and experience. Need to learn more about what this might mean for providers.

Rules and Safety Committee: No report from Sandy, but Matt will let her know there will be a committee put together to review and work on the rules. Cynthia asked who would be a part of the rules committee. Karen, Tim, Maryann would join Cynthia. Need to get a sense of a timetable of when to begin meeting.

Bylaws Committee: No changes or update offered at this time, but all should review them.

Awards Banquet Committee: Matt trying to work on pins and plaques needed to send out to participating fleets.

Public Relations Committee: Nothing to report.

Scholarship Committee: Scholarship application received from one applicant.

Membership Strategies Committee: Laurie not on the call and Cynthia was not a part of it. Matt commented that we need a full committee to meet. One of the goals was to look at our dues levels. Terry asked if someone was interested in becoming a member what avenue should they take. Terry will send Anukem's contact information to Matt.

Old Business: Tim asked about getting the minutes onto the website. Matt to check on this as he thought that they were there already. They are not in a members-only area, so no worry about non-members reading the minutes. Only approved minutes to appear.

New Business: Matt reported that we are holding space at the Common Man. He also ran through names of those board members and their terms, including those who expire in 2022. At least four expiring. Nominating Committee needs to work on this. Also long-standing vacant position is still open. Need to have this in place by the May meeting.

Mike alerted all to the issue of needing to restore the NHSTA tax status. IRS claims three years were missing so they pulled our status. Mike working on this actively. The 2016, 2017 and 2018 were not received. Mike redoing those years and applying for renewed tax status. We don't have a copy of the original letter of incorporation. Will need signature of treasurer. We will file like normal for current year.

Discussion ensued about making both Marc and Howard honorary members. Howard departed so that board could discuss thoughts about making both honorary members and how to do so within the current bylaws. Two motions to be made. One, make them honorary members. Two, amend bylaws to allow honorary members to be board members and vote as such. Suggested language for a by-law change that would allow an honorary member to be a board member. One-year term. Would be able to vote and constitute a quorum. They could not be an officer. Cynthia offered a motion to make both Howard Anderson and Marc Raposo honorary members of the association. Motion was moved and seconded. No discussion and motion carried. Terry has a concern about them having voting status when they are no longer active in the industry. Matt asked for other comments or thoughts. Matt was asked to send around proposed language for a motion of a bylaw change. Mike suggested advantages and disadvantages. Terry suggested reducing the number to constitute a quorum. Tim offered that under membership section 6, we would just change last sentence to allow them to hold office. Allowing them to vote gives them a sense of ownership. Would rather change the bylaws to keep them engaged.

Adjourn: Motion was made at 11:27a.m. to adjourn. Motion seconded and passed.