March 2025 VHSA Board Meeting Minutes

Date: March 13, 2025
Time: 9AM-10:30
Location: Virtual Meeting

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1. Opening and Introductions
- Meeting commenced with greetings from Daniel Goodman, who welcomed all attendees.
Daniel Goodman shared that he has taken over the chair position following the passing of Al Fortin, stressing the need for continuity within the organization. Al made a major impact in my life in the short time I knew him. I know he was a force in Vermont. Not just in Traffic Safety, but within his community within the entire state, there weren't many people who were so involved in all aspects of Traffic Safety, from CPS to occupant protection to the rollover impaired driving.
He was just an amazing, amazing person.
A huge loss.
To the state, to the alliance, to so many people.
So I just want to take a brief, you know, sack in a moment of silence.

2. Treasurer Updates
Dan shared, We are very, very lucky to have Jamie Lee, especially in the treasure position. We deal with a lot of big, big money over here in the alliance, so having someone with Jamie Lee's expertise, we're super lucky and I also will acknowledge that we now have a an open position with the Executive Board, the Vice Chair. So if anyone interested please let me know. I'd be happy to touch base with you offline.
Bank Account: Checking-$37,674.18 and Savings-$50.63
Darren shared, We're also working on one last invoice from our previous grant cycle, the Alliance Highway safety for the work that they did.
Developing our Vermont Highway Safety Alliance strategic plan on a video that goes with that so. We'll be processing payment to alliance for that work.
Goodman.Daniel
If you haven't seen the video, it's a great video that they produced that was in the last newsletter. That a really nice job putting that together.
Motion to accept Treasure Report: Stephanie 1st and Allison 2nd

**3. Director Updates-
Darren McIntyre thanked John Flannigan for preparing the presentation.
* VHSA Grant Update
    * Anticipate 2-weeks for processing and 1 more week for invoicing
* Traffic Safety Events/Outreach

* Thunder Road and Devil's Bowl Speedway
* Vermont Dairy Fest–Enosburg
* Wilkins Harley Davidson July 19th Bike Show

Allison shared, Darren, this is exactly what like our drivers Ed assessment and our motorcycle assessment was looking for.
So this is fantastic. And Stephanie is right. A lot of volunteers are going to be needed to fill spots. Hopefully some law enforcement can fill gaps with their education grants that they already have with us.
To great.
Great stuff.
Just wanted to mention that and also I've been we're making sure that we are taking care of the Chittenden County Sheriff's Department.
They had a huge grant with us and they're looking as far as I know, they haven't hired somebody to step in to administer the grant at this point, but.
They did confirm that they're still in the process of purchasing a second rollover, I believe is what, Rob, I know Rob is on the call.
Bigelow, Robert
John Marcou will be taking Al spot for Chittenden County. That has been decided.
He's from Shelburne PD.

* PSA Contest
    * Theme of Distracted Driving for Month of April (NHTSA Put the phone away or pay)
    * Timeline for Youtube video entries April 7- April 30
    * Review entries week of May 5th
    * Tentative Statehouse Celebration May 16th
* Board Member Check-In Meetings
* Newsletters (collect ideas/resources by 4th Wednesday; send out 1st Wednesday of each month)
* Board Presentations (please send me your ideas for guest speakers)
* Conference Planning Updates
    * Quotes Requested from 2 Event Planners and will be shared with our Executive Board for review.
    * Anticipate September 2025 Date

Access Issues**
- Maureen Johnson expressed difficulties in accessing the agenda through Google Docs.
- A consensus was reached to provide meeting agendas in multiple formats (Word or PDF) in the future to ensure accessibility for all members.

**John Flannigan Provided DRE Presentation

**Other Updates
Dan, So just a quick update from AAA. We have a we developed a new distracted driving video that's being released on the beginning of April, April first.
We did a survey of young 16 to 40 year olds and some focus groups on how to best message them and so we have a a distracted driving video that concentrates on the action of putting the do not disturb function on your phone.
I can share it with the group, but it it'll be going on TV and social media at the beginning of April for distracted driving Awareness Month.
We're pretty excited about that.
Stephanie, We have several different new car seat technician classes that are starting and that are scheduled including in a couple weeks up in Orleans. I can send the links for them if folks are interested.
The new Vermont Young Adult Survey results came out, so it's a lot, a lot of it's focused around kind of like substance, various substance use and I can share a link if folks are interested.
In, but it has statewide and then broken down by county. And if at some point in the future, if there's an interest in us presenting on or I could acquire one of my data people.
Yellow dot campaign working to raise promote that.
Allison: So last weekend I was asked to attend and present the Championship basketball awards for divisions one through 4 for men's basketball at UVM and at the very auditorium sold out games.
It's televised through a subscription program had all kinds of PR. And then we do with Alliance Highway.
Safety and the Vermont Principles Association Traffic Safety as a team sport messaging throughout.
We're working on those education grants trying to get them out.
I apologize for the lateness of them and we're doing everything that we can to get them out.
13 grants once they come back to us, and they're done. We're moving fast.
As fast as we can and to get those.
Invoices open up for partners.
So 13 enforcement grants, which includes the occupant protection, the impaired driving.
We are working on a share of the road message.
Rachel Noyes is working on that from our office. She was just also out in California, at the Lifesavers conference. She presented Drive Well Vermont.
Super proud of her work out there and doing that and will be rolling out that share the road message to watch out for bikes and pedestrians.
Bill: After the distracted driving campaign in May will be the buckle up campaign which used to be clicker ticket, we rebranded as Buckle up a couple few years ago.
Now that'll run from May 19th through June 1st. It'll be hopefully a press conference on the 19th. The plan is to have it at the Fair Haven Rest area.
Over on Route 4, usually we partner with New York State Police.
Pat: The motorcycle program is starting to get the season going.
We will have our first classes in April.
We have seven people right now lined up to become new instructors.
They'll be certified in May.
Last year we had the motorcycle assessment done with the help of Hwy. safety Office.
One of the things they mentioned was getting a quality assurance program in line.

Myself, Justin McLain and Frederick Gaudette were certified by the Motorcycle Safety Foundation as policy insurance specialist.
Our hope is to get this with all of our instructors
a couple pieces of legislation that I've been looking at.
One is allowing the home school students to be taught drivers Ed by their parents.
Not through a a school.
Another one deals with red lights or red light cameras on school buses.
One of the main things with this is it would allow or would mandate a police officer issue a ticket based on the on the video as well as the drivers statement.
However, what it also does is takes the points away from the.
Passing the school bus, which basically now reduces it to a parking ticket.
Because there's no point assessment to it.
Another one would require anybody over the age of 70 to get their an eye exam at DMV prior to renewing their license.
And then the final one would require anybody that is getting an RV to have training in that type of vehicle.
Which potentially actually we would require some depending on the configuration and we're speaking weight rating would require them to get a CDL.
Jonathon: Hey, everyone, Jonathan Weber here with local motion. Give a quick update on our activities.
We've got bikesmart, our bike education program rolling out to schools next week, so we'll be in 17 schools this spring before we kick off our summer season.
We are sending a staff person.
To Connecticut in April to become a League of American Bicyclists certified skills instructor.
So really help us to improve the sort of gravitas behind our bike safety.
D courses and improve our education program in general.
So that's super exciting.
And then event planning is well underway. So we'll work planned to be given out helmets and reflective gear.
At Burlington High School, events and then at a Kids Fest event, also in Burlington next month, will be in Williston in early May and we're looking at planning for events in Rutland.
And Essex already for later in the summer. So I'm sure lots more of them.
Jamie: So very briefly just here at the police Academy, we currently have 30 Level 3 recruits, so 30 new people going through to become.
Full time law enforcement officers.
1st right now our Level 2 school is going on.
So these are officers who have a more limited scope of work that they're able to work with, and there's 21 of those going through right now.
Tanya: I should note that we got a notification yesterday for a crash that happened on March 6th involving a pedestrian.
That was not counted on Tuesday because I didn't know about it, but so far we so we have 11 fatalities from 9:00 or from 10.
Fatal crashes.
So we're a little bit of ahead, a little bit ahead of the last two years.
But not looking terrible so far.
We've only received toxicology for January so far.
So that will be updated.

Within the next week or so with February numbers, but on the lower side of things for alcohol and drugs, which is great, hopefully that keeps going.
Yeah, low speeding numbers, which is fantastic.

Motion of Adjournment:
- 1st Barb, 2nd Allison
Minutes Prepared By: Darren McIntyre
Date: March 13, 2025
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