

SIoux FALLS SCHOOLS TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMITTEE



PATH COMMITTEE MEETING

March 8, 2012

8:30 AM

IPC Building, Boardroom 2-3

I. CALL TO ORDER/ ATTENDANCE

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Michelle Wolf, John Snobeck, Heath Hoftiezer, Marilyn Buskohl, Teresa Boysen, Sharon Chontos, Jerome Miller, Lisa Lewis-Huemoeller, Bob Draeger, Keith Gries, Todd Vik

MEMBERS ABSENT

Craig Smith, Karen Nash-Claycomb, Susan Foster, Doug Morrison, Brandi Kowalczyk, Kerry Larson, Diane Hall

GUESTS PRESENT

Eric Erickson

II. INTRODUCTIONS

III. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF JANUARY MINUTES

Teresa Boysen moved to approve the January minutes. Motion was approved by John Snobeck and seconded by Michelle Wolf. Motion passed unanimously.

IV. PUBLIC INPUT

V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- *Police Department:* No report
- *City Engineering:* Heath Hoftiezer stated that he has been to JFK School and looked at the signs. He will also be looking at three other sign issues that were brought up by people in that neighborhood. These people feel there are signs that are missing in the area.

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- *Private Schools:* Sharon Chontos and Eric Erickson discussed the crossing guard surveys done at Harvey Dunn, St Mary and Holy Spirit schools. Combined results were done for all three schools showing the percentages on how the students responded. A summary report was done that included more detailed information and also showed student comments. Questions number one through seven, should have the highest percentage under “Most of the Time”. The remaining questions should have the highest percentage listed under “Never or Not a Lot”. It was discussed that the crossing guards could use more training. The students could also use more training in listening to the crossing guards. The comments showed that some crossing spots are safer than others and that parents are parking in the wrong spots making the crossing guard’s job more difficult. Distracted driving by parents was also commented on. Students would like to have more visibility, like brighter vests, etc. It is also felt that parents should set good examples for the students.

Sharon stated that the crossing guard training should be done more than once a year. It currently is done at the beginning of the school year. The students only do the crossing guard duty for 2 weeks out of the year so refresher training would be a good idea. Currently high school students from O’Gorman High School, who need service hours, are working on a “You Tube” video for crossing guards. It will show how to be a safe crossing guard and the crossing guard rules. The video can be shown to the crossing guards at the beginning of their crossing week as a safety rule reminder. The link to the “You Tube” video is:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QLIU1bkWWEk>

Sharon also looked into grants that might pay for a public safety announcement. Currently she has not found any that would cover the announcement. Heath mentioned the “Strategic Highway Safety Plan”. Cross walk issues could be brought up to them for grant funding. The following is a list of grants that Sharon has found:

Grant opportunities. The following are potential grants that address safety or exercise for schools:

*Strong potential for giving.

>Potentially will be more difficult to obtain funding, but still remains a possibility.

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***Option 1:** Safe Routes Mini-grants - <http://saferoutesinfo.org/funding-portal/mini-grants/eligible-activities>

- This grant program offers 25 mini-grants of \$1,000 per school or organization. The grant's focus is on improving safety, increasing walking and biking to school, emphasizing physical activity and health, exploring environmental concerns, and participating in civic discussion. Application deadline is not available, but for 2011 the deadline October 19th. The St. Mary's/Safe Routes project appears to be eligible.

***Option 2:** The Wellmark Foundation - <http://fconline.foundationcenter.org>

- Wellmark supports Iowa and South Dakota health. Specifically, it has a focus on preventing obesity and promoting physical activity in children.

Option 3: The San Diego Foundation - <http://www.sdfoundation.org/> - <http://fconline.foundationcenter.org>

- The San Diego Foundation has given to organizations nationwide including in Iowa and Nebraska. The organization has given to a similarly sized private school in Sioux City, IA (Sacred Heart- \$4,000 in 2011).

Initial approach: Submit online application and proposal

Board meeting date(s): Bimonthly beginning July through May

Deadline(s): Varies

Option 4: Verizon Foundation - foundation.verizon.com - <http://fconline.foundationcenter.org>

- Giving occurs nationwide with an emphasis on health care and health care information services.

Initial approach: Complete online application form

Board meeting date(s): Annually

Deadline(s): Jan. 1 to Sept 30

***Option 5:** American Heart Association - www.heart.org - <http://fconline.foundationcenter.org>

- The association funds heart and stroke research, and supports community and professional education programs on a nationwide basis. The organization has a specific focus on addressing issues related to childhood obesity. Look at the Alliance for a Healthier Generation Program, specifically. See website for program application deadline.

>Option 6: John and Zelda Grubb Charitable Foundation - <http://fconline.foundationcenter.org>

- Based out of Des Moines, this organization gives primarily for health, children, and youth and social services. This organization gives primarily in Iowa, but has given in surrounding states. Unsolicited requests are not accepted, but it remains a possibility to reach out to the organization for funding.

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Option 7: Robert Johnson Wood Foundation - www.rwjf.org - <http://fconline.foundationcenter.org>

- Giving nationwide, this foundation is focused on health care, childhood obesity, and vulnerable populations (amongst other things).

Initial approach: Electronic brief proposal

Board meeting date(s): Quarterly

Deadline(s): None

Option 8: W.K. Kellogg Foundation - www.wkkf.org

- The Kellogg Foundation gives on a nationwide basis with a strong focus on neighborhood/community development and health care/well being. This foundation has substantial funding available. The foundation requires all proposals to be submitted via an initial process online. There are no deadlines and board meetings are held monthly.

>Option 9 - Hall Family Foundation - <http://www.hallfamilyfoundation.org/>

The Hall Foundation primarily gives to the Kansas City area, but has given elsewhere in the U.S. This organization gave over \$28 million last year and focuses its giving on child development, community development, youth services, human services, community services, and education. This may be difficult to obtain based on geographical considerations, but the purpose fits and appears to be worth asking for funding.

>Option 10 - General Mills Foundation -

http://www.genmills.com/en/Responsibility/Community_Engagement.aspx

General Mills' foundation has given throughout the U.S., including South Dakota, Iowa, and Minnesota. They have a specific program call "Champions for Healthy Kids" which awards grants to organizations and community-based groups with programs designed to develop creative ways to help young people ages 2 to 18 adopt a balanced diet and physically active lifestyle. Grants not accepted for 2012, but would definitely be worth re-visiting for 2013.

***Option 11** - Tom and Danielle Aman Foundation - contact: jgerdes@tdafoundation.com

The Tom and Danielle Aman Foundation supports community and human service programs in South Dakota and nearby states such as North Dakota and Montana. Initial approach is through a letter, there is no application deadline, and board meetings are held quarterly.

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***Option 12** - American Medical Association Foundation - <http://www.ama-assn.org/ama/pub/about-ama/ama-foundation/our-programs/public-health.page?>

The "Healthy Living" grant program provide critical funding that can jumpstart a project, affect change quickly, increase visibility for a project/organization, encourage collaboration and make a lasting difference in a community. This grant will be available in mid-May with a deadline of July 16th.

- *Public Schools:* No report.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

Voting for Chairman and Vice-Chairman: Heath stated that Steve is term limited so a new chairman needs to be elected. A new vice-chairman will also need to be elected.

Nominations for Chairman - Sharon Chontos was nominated by Teresa Boysen, Sharon Chontos was appointed unanimously.

Nominations for Vice-Chairman - Teresa Boysen was nominated by John Snobeck. Teresa Boysen was appointed unanimously.

- *Police Department:* No report.
- *City Engineering:* Included in the public schools report.
- *Private Schools:* No report.
- *Public Schools:* Todd Vik discussed the option of a traffic light being installed on Red Oak Dr. A new light will not be installed but asked if the current traffic light on Highland Ave could be moved. Another option would be placing an adult crossing guard at this location to help direct students to the underpass tunnel. The guard would work in the morning and the afternoon.

Another problem area is at 33rd and Sycamore Avenue. Looking at a possible cross walk being placed here. Heath stated that in the future, there will probably be a traffic signal placed here as well.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by John Snobeck to adjourn. Motion was seconded by Lisa Lewis-Huemoeller. Motion passed unanimously.

- The next meeting will be held May 10, 2012 at the IPC Building at 8:30 a.m.
- Meeting was adjourned at 9:00 a.m.