



Tampa Bay Area Chiefs of Police Education & Research Foundation, Inc.

**c/o Temple Terrace Police Department
11250 N. 56th St
Temple Terrace, FL 33617**

Minutes

Date: Wednesday, February 24th 2016

Time: 06:00 PM

**Location: Hooters Management Corporation – 2nd Floor Training Room
107 Hampton Rd.
Clearwater, FL**

1. Call to Order – President Greg Mertz at 6:05 PM
2. Board members present: President Greg Mertz, Julie Weintraub, Bob Passwaters, Bobby O’Neill, Brian Ford and General Council Casey Harrison.
3. Approval of Minutes – Greg motioned to approved, Bobby seconded the motion and the minutes from the December 9th 2015 board meeting was unanimously approved.
4. Guests – Starla Kuettner
5. Committee Reports-
 - a. Finance – Secretary/Treasurer Lee Bercaw – Account balance as of 2/19/16 is \$15,790.78.
 - i. This includes a private donation of \$100 from Stephanie Olivio-Schulte of Tampa
 - ii. Lebid Golf Tournament net to our Foundation was \$9,729.14
 - b. Greg motioned to approved, Bobby seconded the motion and the financial report was unanimously approved.
6. New Business
 - a. Welcome
 - b. Executive Board Members update:
 - i. President Greg Mertz
 1. Association membership applications to be mailed out to BOD by Greg
 2. Executive Board Spending: Casey reviewed bylaws and suggested there be a cap for spending. BOD approved anything over \$1000 needs BOD approval
 3. Flyer: Discussed the picture in the works of three chiefs (Ward, O’Connor, Kochen – Current president of Association)



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4. Asked for help finding a CPA for the foundation to manage the books. Lee Bercaw is currently managing the books but we want an official CPA. Julie offered to check with their CPA they use for HATB
 5. Membership to the Tampa Bay Area Chiefs of Police Assoc.
 - a. Here is the website: <http://www.tampabaychiefs.org/>, then click on JOIN US.
- ii. Chiefs Ball
1. Discussed Treasure Island Policeman's Ball, overall BOD weren't concerned
 2. Greg met with Julie and Dee to discuss ideas
 3. Location:
 - a. Greg went to 5 locations and met with event planners. Pepin, Sheraton at Sand Key, Tropicana Field, Waterside Marriott and TradeWinds.
 - b. A cost comparison was provided to the BOD.
 - i. Waterside was ruled out due to the high deposit.
 - ii. Sheraton was ruled out due to the guest max and the overall atmosphere wasn't ideal for a black tie event.
 - iii. Tropicana was ruled out based on available dates.
 - iv. Pepin and TradeWinds were discussed at length by the BOD during this meeting. Pros and cons are as follows:
 - v. TradeWinds Pros
 - a. Hotel Rooms available.
 - b. Law enforcement wouldn't want to drive after such an event.
 - c. Larger meeting space for the event to grow
 - d. Location opens up event to Pinellas county
 - vi. Pepin Pros
 - a. Longtime supporter of TBACPA
 - b. Familiarity
 - c. Available dates: 10/8, 10/15, 10/29
 - vii. Pepin Cons
 - a. Max guest 500
 - b. No nearby hotels
 - c. Pepin longtime supporter (yes this is a pro and a con, Greg mentioned how many times do we want to hold our hand out to them)



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- viii. TradeWinds Cons
 - a. Far from the Tampa side
 - b. Limited dates available: 9/10, 11/5
 - ix. The overall majority went to TradeWinds
4. Date:
- a. TradeWinds: 9/10, 11/5 (Julie would not be able to attend on 11/5)
 - b. Bucs schedule not out until April
 - c. Rays away game on 9/10 NYY
 - d. There was concern with the 9/10 date due to the possibility of events going on the next day or even the day 9/10.
 - e. Discussed parlaying of the 9/11. Some might be reminded of the LEO lives lost in this event and want to attend.
 - f. Discussed holding off on the entire event until May, LE appreciation month, for the reason that corporations budgets are planned in October for the following year and they may not be able to sponsor the event.
 - g. The date agreed upon by the Board was 9/10 at TradeWinds. SAVE the Date. We need to deconflict the date, please let us know if there are any issues with this date.
5. Name:
- a. We discussed what to call the event. No final decision made. Chiefs Gala, Chiefs Ball, Police Chiefs Ball, Chiefs of Police Ball. We liked Chiefs of Police Ball because it contained the acronym COP. Bob P suggested Soiree in place of Ball for the combined acronym COPS. Possible to call it the event The Chiefs of Police Soiree (COPS)
6. Price:
- a. Greg presented the BOD with multiple sponsorship prices, table prices and individual ticket prices.
 - b. Overall the board agreed on the following price lists
 - c. COPS Presenting Sponsor 15K
 - d. Chiefs/Sheriffs Sponsor 10K
 - e. Deputy Chief Sponsor 5K
 - f. Major Sponsor 2.5K



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- g. Captain Sponsor 1.5K
 - h. \$150 Individual Tickets
 - i. As far as what the sponsorships will include this is TBD.
For our first annual COPS we discussed not selling a Presenting Sponsorship. If we sell it at 15K this year the same sponsor might not agree pay 25K next year for example. Bob P suggested making the flyers/invitations look like subpoenas.

- 7.** Awards:
 - a. We don't want to take away from the Sykes luncheon in May with awards but feel that some awards are necessary.
 - b. Suggestions were have a Chiefs/Sheriffs Award, present a scholarship, a Citizen's Hero award, and a supportive company award

- 8.** Attire:
 - a. All in agreement to make it black tie optional.
 - b. Julie suggested getting Sacino's Formalwear as a sponsor and have them donate or highly discount tuxedos rentals for LEOs that might not be able to afford a tux.
 - c. There is also a dress rental option with other dress companies. (\$50-\$100)

- 9.** Photos:
 - a. Photo ops were discussed. Greg suggested having LEO vehicles, motorcycles on display with lighting for guest to pose with for pictures. Bob F agreed that we needed to have a professional photographer there and a red carpet-like set up for guests to have their photos taken. Photos would be printed onsite and given to the guests to take home. Having banners printed with sponsor logos as the red carpet backdrop was mentioned. Bob F has a contact he will reach out to for the photographer.

- 10.** Centerpieces:
 - a. Discussed buying or having donated a football, baseball and hockey puck and having these items signed by players from the Bucs, Rays and Lightning and using them as centerpieces and then also auctioning them off.

- 11.** Program:



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- a. Opening remarks
- b. 5-7 minute video of cops doing good things.
- c. Awards
- d. Speakers – Mayors?, Warrick Dunn, John Walsh
- e. Potential Sponsors: TV Stations, Tampa General

12. Outreach:

- a. 46 LE entities are members of the Association. Having these entities reach out to large businesses in their communities to sponsor the event.

7. Old Business

8. Roundtable

9. Adjourn – 7:40 PM