

Associate Advisory Committee Meeting
Thursday, September 19, 2019
AASP-MN Office

Meeting Recap

Present: Dave Bock, Patrick McKinney, Shane Kelly, Scott Lindner, Tony Tucci, Carol Keyes, Loren Feldkamp, Andrea Ossowski, Judell Anderson, Tom Kluver

I. WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER

The Associate Advisory Committee meeting was called to order by Loren Feldkamp, who noted the cell phone policy. Those present introduced themselves. A committee roster was distributed and the committee objective was reviewed.

II. BRIEFING: ISSUES/INITIATIVES

Collision Division/Legislative

The Association's top legislative priority during the 2019 Session – and in the coming year – is to pass legislation which would require insurance companies to pay for repair procedures that are called for by automobile manufacturers. The bill would make it an unfair claims practice for an insurer to deny payment for repair operations and procedures performed in accordance with the original vehicle manufacturer's documented technical procedures. (It would not change current law regarding the types of parts to be used in the repair of a damaged vehicle.)

In renewing our efforts for 2020, we have been meeting with our bill authors and other allies and have re-engaged in conversation with the insurance industry to see whether the public safety argument pushes them to come to terms on recognizing recommended procedures for safe repairs. The 2020 Legislature convenes on February 11 and it is our goal to have this issue properly framed for consideration by the House and Senate Commerce Committees as we start the new Session.

A hot topic in the industry right now is ADAS and other new and emerging vehicle technologies. "Simple" repairs are becoming a thing of the past. The increasing complexity of vehicles will impact virtually every aspect of auto service and collision repair businesses, from the ability to recruit, retain and train employees to customer satisfaction, business liability and overhead costs.

Mechanical Division

The 2019 *Get to Know Your Neighborhood Auto Repair Pro™* campaign is winding down. No other "hot topics" are in play right now.

MNCARS (Minnesota Careers in Auto Repair & Service) Update

MNCARS has created new video resources to expand its outreach and raise awareness of career opportunities in the automotive service and collision repair industry. The new videos feature students who are currently enrolled in automotive programs telling their stories about how they got there and what they love about the industry. The videos and other updated materials support the 2019 campaign message of "Turn Your Passion into a Career". In addition to refreshing the campaign's look and feel and adding text message/SMS marketing capabilities, MNCARS will be advertising on the YouTube platform to reach students with automotive-related interests. The videos will also be utilized on MNCARS' Instagram and Facebook pages.

III. MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Tom Kliver is back as the Alliance's membership coordinator! Judell reported that AASP-MN achieved a 90% retention rate for 2019 renewals and is working hard to recruit new members and maintain a strong membership base. Loren encouraged committee members to recruit more associate members into the association.

IV. OTHER OLD/NEW BUSINESS

- The 2019 year-long sponsorship offerings were reviewed. Those present agreed that no significant changes were needed.
- The 2020 Annual Meeting and Leadership Conference will take place on April 23rd at Delta Hotels by Marriott Minneapolis Northeast. No significant changes are planned for the event's agenda. Committee members did indicate that the 4 – 6 pm vendor showcase was sufficient and that the 1:30 – 2:00 pm block was not necessary.
- Carol Keyes reported that MNOSHA is expected to enact significant penalty increases in the near future. In light of the new air quality regulations, the MPCA is encouraging collision shops to void their existing air quality permits.

V. UPCOMING EVENTS

- GM Clinics: Beyond the Four Strokes (mechanical) and Advanced Safety Systems (collision), October 16 & 17, EP Auto, Tire & Glass, Eden Prairie
- Mech XChange: October 30, TGK Auto, Hugo
- SEMA/AAPEX: November 4 – 8, Las Vegas
- Race for Automotive Education: January 14, 15 & 16, ProKart Indoor Racing, Burnsville
- 2020 Annual Meeting & Leadership Conference: April 23, Delta Hotels by Marriott Minneapolis Northeast, Minneapolis

There being no further business, the meeting was duly adjourned.