

BOARD REPORT

TO: Board of Directors
SUBMITTED BY: Jane Blums on Behalf of Speakers Committee
DATE: August 21,, 2017
SUBJECT: Guidelines for Speakers

Intention: **Why is this REPORT being presented?** (Check one of the boxes below):

- Information Report:** Intended for the Board of Directors or Members. It requires no discussion.
- Input Requested:** Requires discussion for the purpose of providing input in support of the Committee / Board completing work, on behalf of the Rotary Club of Hamilton AM.
- For Decision:** Provides required information for a decision by the Committee/Board/Members.

Committee Mandate/Goal(s) (description of the authorization for the Committee/Board activity):

None

Recommendation(s)/Input Requested:

Approval for Guidelines for Speakers and posting of Guidelines on Club Runner.

Guidelines for Speakers

- Choose a speaker with a topic of informational, educational, motivational or entertainment value that will be of general interest to club members, with attention to topics of specific relevance to our Club Mandate.
- **Avoid controversial topics or volatile issues** that could arouse anger and division among members. Refer to the Four-Way Test when considering speakers and topics.
- **Avoid repetition or sameness.** Look for a speaker we haven't heard before, unless there is an update, for example a presentation about a project we have funded.
- **Avoid political or religious topics.** Rotary International is a non-political and non-religious organization. As a matter of policy, Rotary Clubs do not take positions on public questions including political or international issues.
- **Give special guidance to local representatives of non-profit organizations.** Consider such speakers only if they have a unique topic that is not a sales pitch for funding. Never allow requests for funding unless the request has been formally approved in advance by the club board of directors.
- **Avoid product or service promotion.** Advise company representatives who are invited to speak to deal with issues that affect their industry and the community and how they cope with them. **They should not use the Rotary podium to promote their products or services.**

- **Background Observations / Discoveries / Conclusions:**

None

Does the report fulfill Rotary Club of Hamilton AM Mission and Vision statements? YES