



WestShore Rotary Sunrise March 23, 2017

Attending: Bonnie Keleher, Allan Pederson, Alex Martin, Lew Pilkington, Hugh Robertson, Maureen Hobbs, Lorne Olson, Jim tenHove, Russ Lazaruk, Mike Wedekind

Guests: Arielle Houghton, Disaster Aid

President: Lew Pilkington
O Canada
Prayer

Thank you to Alex Martin for making the coffee and everyone who assisted with set up.

President, Lew Pilkington, provided a bit of history of our club explaining that we began as the Colwood Rotary Club in 1972.

Business

1. Our club has not yet paid the annual dues to the (Project Unity Committee) PUC. We hope to apply for another PUC grant for the Haiti Orphanage.

Motion: To pay the \$600 2017 dues to Project Unity. *Carried.*

2. Bob Beckett has paid Stephen Andrew \$1050 to develop a PowerPoint presentation for the Haiti Orphanage fundraising. He has requested that he be reimbursed by the Rotary Foundation funds. There was discussion on funds being spent without being budgeted or prior approval, as the Haiti funds remaining wasn't currently known. Club has expressed that any future foundation funds be approved prior to committee for an expenditure.

Motion: It was moved to reimburse Bob Beckett the \$1050 paid for the PowerPoint out of the Foundation funds. *Carried.*

3. Gaming Funds – There will be \$7000 available for scholarships from the Gaming funds. \$3000 goes to each of the two secondary schools – Royal Bay and Belmont, and \$1000 is earmarked for the Westshore Learning Centre. If, however, no students apply from WLC as in the past, there will be an additional \$1000 available. This cannot go to RRU for the endowment. However, this money might be applied to a one-time scholarship for 2017. To be discussed further.

Reports / Updates

Bob Beckett's Retirement Party/Haiti fundraiser

The date for this is June 10th at the Colwood Golf Club, 7:00 – 9:00 pm. Entry is by donation. All donations go to Haiti Orphanage fund. No tickets or fees. Tax receipts will be provided for any donation over \$25. They hope that the costs will be covered by Westshore Sunrise Rotary, City of Langford and the Langford Firefighters.

Action: Club executive will discuss this and make recommendation on the amount to approve.

Westshore Sunrise Rotary website

The new domain www.wssrotary.org is now active. Please direct any Rotary information to this domain.

RYLA Update – Jim tenHove updated the club on the RYLA conference. Over 120 young people were in attendance. 12 were from the Island. Alex, who was the student our club sponsored was voted the top male participant of the conference. Congratulations Alex!

Alex will come on April 6th to speak with our club.

Presentation

Arielle Houghton – Disaster Aid, Soap for Hope Program

Arielle started with Disaster Aid when she was doing a project for her program at Camosun College. At that time she volunteered in a hygiene room at Rock Bay Landing. From there she and other students generated the “Soap for Hope” program, creating hygiene packets for the homeless and individuals accessing the food banks.

People who don’t have enough money for food, generally will not have access to hygiene items such as shampoo and soap, either.

“Soap for Hope” began in 2015. Since then it has grown 400%. They now serve over 30 shelters and are expanding to Duncan, Campbell River and Nanaimo. They are 99% volunteer based.

They have partnered with a number of hotels who provide left-over shampoos, soaps, lotions which they are unable to reuse. The soaps are cleaned and sealed and the shampoos are poured into containers. This saves on the hotels disposing of a huge number of small plastic containers and recycling these instead to those who could use these items.

The “Soap for Hope” program also is providing hygiene kits for the Disaster Aid relief kits which go overseas.

They continue to reach out to additional hotels and hope to also create a program to provide old hotel mattress to homeless shelters.

Their program is also reaching out to at risk children to teach them proper hygiene – handwashing, etc. Of course they are dependent on grants to maintain the program. Individuals can help by donating old shampoo and conditioner bottles.

They do over 8400 hygiene kits per month.

Sergeant of Arms - Jim tenHove

Superdraw: Maureen Hobbs

Paul Harris: Hugh Robertson

Meeting adjourned.