



The Fortarian

Jan 24, 2024

Rotary Club of Thunder Bay (Fort William)

2022/2023 Board of Directors

President: Irene Sottile
Secretary: Stephen Margarit
Assistant Secretary: Cindy Levanto
Treasurer: Dawn Sebasta
President Elect: Glenn Craig
Past President: Fhara Pottinger
Meets: 3rd Tuesday of each month,
Zoom: 6.30pm

Website www.fwrotary.ca

Directors:
Therese Lim
Cindy Levanto
Joseph Osei Ababio
Dave Knutson
Stephen Margarit
Mary Ann Breton

Allocations Committee

Chair: Bob Hookham
Meets: 2nd Tuesday of each month,
Zoom 12 noon.

Rotary House Lottery Committee

Chair: Dave Knutson
Meets: 1st Tuesday of each month,
Zoom 12 noon.

Semi-monthly Zoom Meetings

Wednesday at 5:30 p.m.
Meetings are on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday

Mailing Address

PO Box 10061
Thunder Bay, ON
Canada P7B 6T6

Newsletter Editors

Erle Wheatley & Brian Phillips

THE FORTARIAN

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President Irene called the hybrid meeting to order at 6:20 pm and welcomed Mark and Diane (zoom) both Honourary Members.

Everyone stood to sing the National Anthem. Sharon made the toast to His Majesty King Charles III and Mary Ann read the Land Acknowledgment.

Fellow Rotarian, Mandi O'Conner, is very involved with our local Rotary Shelter House and felt our club needed an update. She volunteers at Shelter House every 2nd Sunday and every holiday and the need for meals is staggering – from 150 meals per day pre-pandemic to 300-350 today! The Shelter House board seems to be absent and there is no Executive Director employed at the moment. She also said that Shelter House is in a constant state of reaction. Many questions were asked and much discussion occurred. It was agreed that because Rotary's name is closely associated with the Shelter House it's in Rotary's best interest to see positive outcomes. Jody and Irene agreed to initiate a conversation with Shelter House together. Mandi plans to be at Shelter House on February 4th 10 am to 3 pm and she will send out dates for other volunteer times.

Dawn happily reported on the following:

1. The Santa Claus Parade was a big success with 57 floats! She will now be working towards have a stand-alone website for the parade for east of float registrations etc.
2. Valentine Dinner – Tuesday, February 13 @ 5:30 (Fort William Curling Club)

Dawn also thanked the club for their thoughtfulness with her dad's recent passing and the birth of her grandbabies!

Stephen stated that the list of approved charities has been submitted with the 2024 lottery license application.

Cindy advised the membership that the lottery license application has been submitted and that the house construction is slightly behind; however, Triad is doing their best to catch up.

Irene sadly announced that Caesar has left our club as he has relocated to Red Deer, Alberta. She also read a thank you note from the Salvation Army as they

raised \$5,867.00 with their local Kettle Bell campaign. Irene also spoke about the environmental project which will be a tri-club initiative.

Irene has been in search of a mental health project for the club. Gail from St. Joseph's Foundation suggested that our club could buy a cart and fill it with helpful items for clients – it would be a nice way for our club to interact with the community. Irene will discuss this idea at the next board meeting (Jan 30).

Brian entertained everyone with his lighter side providing some very funny scenarios on how to start a fight – great job Brian!

Dawn collected happy dollars 😊

President Irene adjourned the club meeting at 7:33 pm.

Editor Erle

Scribe Cindy

Theme 2023-2024

