

Minutes of Board Meeting  
Athens Rotary Club  
October 10, 2022

Present: President Mark Hutchinson, Bill Beamish, Dominick Brook, Otis Crockron, Dave Diggle, Tom Gibbs, Diane McVey, Sheila Mark, Anne Paulins, Don Woods

**Secretary's Report:** Minutes of previous meeting were not available and it was noted that a full time secretary is really needed. It was suggested that we ask Ken Edwards or Tracey Midkiff, reminding them that a benefit of the secretary's position is that they are not billed for lunches.

Louis Wright has resigned. It was decided to make him an honorary member so he will continue to receive the magazine. Candy Kemmerer has decided to resign. Anne Paulins made a motion to accept Candy's resignation. Sheila 2nded the motion, which passed unanimously.

**Treasurer's Report:** See the Financial Summary. Treasurer Dave Diggle states that the bills just went out to the members, explaining the \$19,201.81 in outstanding member accounts. There is a \$36,396.42 in the checking account. There was an addition of \$114 from Happy Bucks. The \$0 amount for International Conference is because Past President Susan Barga did not attend the conference and pledged that money to Mario's project in Ecuador. The amounts of \$770 and \$1,079 in Athens Rotary Foundation reflect member donations. There is \$750 for polio in the 125 Club, reflecting 30 members. The yard sale equity of \$2,948.25 (from a past fundraiser) is used to back up expenses or pledges when necessary. The \$5,000 in Belle Marie comes from the \$2,000 not used for the International Conference and from \$3,000 the Club usually gives each year to the Athens Rotary Foundation. In addition, the Athens Rotary Foundation is holding \$9111 for the project. This money is a combination of donations from Club members and concession stand volunteer proceeds. Split-the-Pot was won on August 27th: \$491 was paid to the winners and \$492 was paid to the Gawande Scholarship Fund. Mario pledged (not paid) \$1000 so we're at the \$15K needed. Split the Pot balance: \$491 paid to winners and \$492 paid to the Gawande Scholarship.

**Peace Committee:** No Report

**Vocational:** No report

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**Dictionary Project:** The dictionary project was discussed. It was noted that before the pandemic, Rotarians took the dictionaries into the 3rd grade classrooms to present the dictionaries and explain Rotary. The question was raised whether the students actually need dictionaries. Mark suggested we consider purchasing books and perhaps sponsor a book fair. Anne reports that teachers have told her they use the dictionaries in their curriculum. Tom indicated that the Athens students may use more digital resources. He also endorses the Imagination Library. Diane reminded us that the school libraries also need support. The idea of a story path was mentioned and Sheila suggested we might collaborate with the Girl Scouts, as they have worked on a story path this year. Anne will contact teachers to research their recommendations, find out the number of students this year, and ask about a Scholastic book fair. It was decided to go ahead with the dictionaries this year.

A discussion was held regarding the upcoming 100 year anniversary of our club. It was suggested that we have a budget similar to our annual holiday party - a total of \$6,000 with \$3,000 income. A date later than February, 2023 will be set. Several venues and types of events were suggested. It was suggested that we form a committee to do a proposal. Diane McVey agreed to chair the committee. Other members who have offered to be on this committee include Otis Crockron, Tom Gibbs, John Miller, Art Marinelli, Dave Diggle, and Susan Barga.

Holiday Party: Mark has had a conversation with Dave Palmer who has chaired the holiday party for many years. It was emphasized that we previously decided we did not want music during the social hour.

President Mark has done a lot of work regarding change of venue for our weekly meetings. Besides visiting a couple of churches, he has gotten proposals from Athens Country Club and the American Legion. After some discussion Anne made a motion to stay at the O.U. Inn. Tom seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Sheila reported that she heard the suggestion that we bill the members monthly rather than quarterly so that the amount seemed more manageable. It was decided to table this idea until the next Board meeting.

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Bill Beamish has applied to the Athens Foundation for a grant for a project to help the homeless. These funds need to go to a 501C3. Our Club is a 501C4. The Athens Rotary Foundation is a 501C3. Mark will talk to Channing McAllister to see if they would consider accepting these funds.

Betsy Baringer needs support for the Thanksgiving Basket grant. Diane reports that Betsy will do the training to be certified to sign off on a grant, but she does not want to write the grant.

**President's Report:** President Mark will speak to Mario about when the project in Ecuador will be done.

President Mark would like to contribute to a project in Guatemala that is endorsed by DG Price Finley. No amount has been decided.

Sheila forwarded an email to Mark that she received from Dr. Raut in India, asking us to partner with them for a Global Grant. She will forward this email to the Board.

We need a Foundation Chair to replace Calvin James, as he has not been active. Sheila will send an email to the membership, asking for volunteers to fill the roles of Foundation Chair and Secretary.

Our next meeting is Monday, November 14, 2022 at 1:00 PM, after our regular meeting.