



**Rotary Club of Highland Park/Highwood**  
**Board Meeting Minutes**  
**10:00 AM, Highland Park Country Club**  
**8/5/19**

**Attendance.** Board members attending were: Paul Munk, Dale Mugler, Len Tenner, Manu Khodadad, Carrie Callas, Eric Ephraim

Board members not in attendance: Scott Coren, Jeff Colman, Jon Levey, Ghida Neukirch, Richard Stone

**Welcome**

President Munk welcomed everyone and the meeting commenced at 10:05am. President Munk introduced District Governor Suzanne Gibson and Associate Governor Don Gwinn. He then asked for minutes of 7-15-2019 meeting to be approved. Board Member Khodadad made the motion to approve, and Board Member Mugler seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved. The focus of the Board meeting was to share our successes and challenges with District Governor Gibson and to discuss how the District can support our club. District Governor Gibson provided a list of questions to guide the discussion.

**1. What does your club do best?**

Investment in the youth in our community - Charities, Scholarships, Interact, RYLA, Northwood Gives Back, TABU, SaLT all support this focus. Board Member provided specific details behind the Club's Charities and Interact programs. President Munk elaborated on the Scholarship initiatives and the plans to go forward with Northwood Gives Back as well as TABU initiatives

There was a discussion led by Board Member Khodadad about the Club's large investment of over \$1M in the Rotary Foundation since the Club's inception. DG Gibson congratulated the Club on this success.

**2. What will you do new or different in 2019-20?**

Board Member Ephraim informed DG Gibson that we have formed a committee to look at fresh methods for attracting new members (targeting mid-career working professionals). We are looking to juggle the meeting schedule, and possibly change the membership structure to make the club more attractive to this group. Growing membership is of critical importance to the long-term health of the Club.

DG Gibson explained that we could adopt a satellite club model, which can be 8+ people, and can meet separately from the Club but still remain a part of the parent club.

**3. How can the district help?**

Support our experimental approach to getting new members, and respond to any requests in timely fashion. It was also discussed that the District could help with messaging on why someone should join

Rotary, more information on the international projects it supports, and that polio eradication no longer resonates with current and potential members.

#### **4. How can you connect with another person/committee chair in the club to benefit both of you?**

This does not really apply to our club, as the Board is virtually in constant communication with each other, and strives for complete transparency with membership at large.

#### **5. How could you connect with a neighboring club?**

Support neighboring club fundraisers and participate in joint projects. Jeff Kaplan of Deerfield Rotary will be our guest next week to share information regarding Walk to End Alzheimer's event.

#### **6. Identify District Conference Contact Person**

Len Tenner volunteered to be the point person for the District communications.

#### **7. Identify Scholarships given by club in past five years**

\$107,750 given in scholarships over the last 5 years, \$50,000 last 2 years alone. Successfully bifurcated need-based and merit-based scholarships. Partnered with College Bound opportunities (CBO) to provide mentoring throughout college years. 2019-2020 budgets \$22,000 for scholarships; this may be adjusted upward depending on the success in fundraising.

There was a brief discussion about vocational scholarships and how the Club has done promoting them. It was shared that there is no interest from the HPHS students in these scholarships.

#### **8. Updated from the District**

DG Gibson updated the Board on the following:

1. In order to involve Rotarian families more in the Club, the District is hosting a day at Richardson Farm on 9/15 from 2-6pm.
2. The District Conference is scheduled for April 24-25.
3. Encouraged members to add the ClubRunner app to their phones for access to member directories and information.
4. The Rotary International Convention will be held in Hawaii. Attendance is capped due to the size of the island and reservations need to be made by the end of August.
5. The deadline for ordering Rotary District t-shirts is August 15, but it may be extended.
6. In November, DG Gibson and a few others are participating in the "Ride to End Polio" a bike ride to raise funds. Members can pledge on the District website and any contributions will be credited back to the Club.

#### **Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 11:21am.

Submitted by: Carrie Callas, Secretary

Reviewed by: Paul Munk, President