



Rotary Club of Highland Park/Highwood
Board Meeting Minutes
1:00 PM, In Person Meeting
9/22/2021

Attendance. Board members attending in person: Karen Dennis, Len Tenner, Doris Xie, Phil Lazarus, Mike Babian, Neil Dahlmann. Also attending, Mary Beth Bretzlauf

Board members not attending: Dale Mugler Martha Gray, Paul Clements, Eric Ephraim, Sandra Bast, Ghida Neukirch, Scott Coren.

1. **Welcome.** President Dennis welcomed everyone and commenced the meeting at 1:04 p.m.
2. **Minutes.** The minutes from the last Board meeting were presented.
3. **Financial Report.** The financial reports were reviewed. It was noted that financial commitments to Rotary International and The Rotary Foundation were not reflected in the reports. District dues have been paid.

4. **Old Business.**

Gala: Mike Babian reported he is still working with Exmoor on the price of the meal and estimated attendees number before we sign a contract. Tickets are ready to be sent with a letter reminding members they are responsible for selling at least 4 raffle tickets. Invitations are going out this week.

5. **New Business.** Mary Beth Bretzlauf brought up the need to establish Stripe and Sage payment accounts to promote quicker responses on future programs, projects, events and fundraisers. Setting up these accounts is a task for the treasurer. Sage would allow members and other people to RSVP and pay for events through Clubrunner, and Stripe would allow us to have virtual fundraisers and such on websites designed for non-profits.

6. **Committees. Committee Goals and Updates:**

Programs: In communications with Karen and Mary Beth, Paul Clements is waiting for a few responses to his invitations to speak.

Rotary Foundation: Doris Xie reported that the RI President-Elect Jennifer Jones is hoping to speak at Clubs in the area when she comes to RI headquarters in the near future. Doris will keep us informed. Inviting other Clubs to attend would be great.

With a few newer members, Doris suggested we urge them to become Paul Harris Fellows. There are points available to augment contributions as needed to the current \$1000 goal.

World Polio Day is October 23rd and 24th. The Rotary Foundation is again in negotiations with the Gates Foundation to determine matching funds.

Fellowship: Mike will seek out opportunities for members to socialize again soon. An evening at 28 Mile Vodka Company was briefly discussed.

Interact: Len Tenner suggested we increase the stipend for Interact Sponsors from \$6,300 to \$6,800. The matter was discussed. There has not been an increase to this stipend in several years. These sponsors are go-getters and we are very fortunate to have them. He made a motion for the increase, Neil Dahlmann seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Interact received over 100 applications, and 70 were accepted.

HPHS will not allow us to use their buses free of charge. We are awaiting a quote from them, and we are evaluating other options.. HPHS is returning the approximately \$4800 that the Interact Club had collected to support its activities. Right now the students will drive in their own cars for events or projects that take place in Highland Park and Highwood only, because of liability concerns.

Interact will have a few social events on their calendar like an ice cream social which Len said he would cover that expense.

The Interact members also won a pizza party for their first place window painting at HPBT.

7. Adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 1:57 p.m.

Submitted by: Mary Beth Bretzlauf, Stand-in Secretary
Reviewed by: Karen Dennis, President