Lake Zurich Rotary Minutes

June 29, 2020

Present: Petra Croneigh, Mike Rein, Nancy Shepherdson, AG Mark Gibson, Dale Perrin, John Croneigh, Eric Corzine, Larry Ginsberg, Beth Slaughter, Nancy Shepherdson

Guest: Jorie Schaffer

Meeting called to order 7:15 p.m.

Minutes: Approval of June 22 meeting postponed to next meeting because Petra didn’t email them.

Scholarships: All seniors received Lake Zurich High School Senior Honors Night booklet which contained our scholarship winners. Dale also sent letters to all four recipients last week on Rotary letterhead. Nancy will ask them to attend the July 6 meeting or later. Petra will create and mail certificates for them.

Fundraising Committee will meet Thursday July 9 at 7 p.m. at La Hacienda. Any member is welcome to come.

Treasurer’s Report: A list of outstanding invoices was shared with Petra and will be followed up on. We will removed Larry Windell, Ravi Radu, Steve Callahan and Tom Lutz from membership at their request. Tom may return after we can meet in person again. Currently have 21 members and 17 active.

Bylaws: received enough votes to pass today. Nancy will post on website. All new members will receive them in their packets.

Octoberfest: Petra is meeting with president of LG Rotary and owner of Buffalo Creek Brewery. This will be our only fundraiser for the foreseeable future. Petra asked if each of us can sell $300 in raffle tickets at $10 each of 3 for $20. (Sales will be before and during event.) Prize is $2000 in cash. Winner will be pulled at the event; not required to be present. Most of the members present said yes. Any member can attend the committee meetings for this at Buffalo Creek Brewery every Tuesday at 6 p.m. Join the marketing, logistics, sponsorship, etc., committees.

Speaker, Eric Corzine, president, library board, a few highlights of his talk: Eric wants all of us to share the “joy of discovery” at the Ela Library. Library is named for George Ela, the first postmaster in the Lake Zurich area. The library itself was first housed in the St. Francis de Sales church basement, where we serve meals sometimes. A referendum passed by 419 votes in 1980 to build the library building where we now distribute books at the food pantry.

Matt Womack pushed to abolish library fines. Some people on board voted against it but it saves us money and now books are returned quicker, in fact. Adult reference area reports to board about interesting questions they get, including the patron who brought a bug for identification. 35,000 questions last year, 109 staff, 125 volunteers, 77000 interlibrary loans, 3200 passport filings.

Kids really excited about the Dinosaur exhibit; 3-4 years in the making. Had Paul Serano as a guest speaker – famous paleontologist (rock star) from UofC. Things like this could be life changing for kids. In May we had 2700 people attend virtual programs.

People should know that the library has a lot of electronic reference databases that anyone can use to find facts. All on our website. The Forge is for adults and kids who want to make stuff – many people missing that.

Stuff to rent includes gopro cameras, fishing poles, mobile hot spots, watt detectives (what appliances draw in electricity), robotics, telescopes. Library gives out passes for area museums, gardens, zoos, legoland.

Libraries want to get back to business fully, but not allowed yet. You can request materials now (even fishing poles!) and pick them up at drive-through window during hours listed on the website. We are shooting for July 6 to be open for 50 people at a time to grab and go.

Currently in the interview process for a new executive director. We want find a truly qualified person and are taking our time.

Volunteers are needed for tasks like delivering books to the home bound. High school kids needed, too.

Meeting adjourned: 8:25 p.m.

Nancy Shepherdson

Co-secretary