

Rotary Club of Topeka, Board of Directors Meeting

Minutes for meeting (on ZOOM), August 10, 2021

Call to Order: President Marie Pyko called the meeting to order at 4:03 p.m. with the following members present: Colleen Jamison, Steve Knoll, Shelley Woodard, Stan Martindell, Vince Fry, Joan Wagon, Allison Marker, Zach Ahrens, Glenda DuBoise, Bob Clawson, Karen Streeter, and Lee Morris. Also attending was John Wall, newly designated Assistant Treasurer.

Lee Morris agreed to take minutes for the meeting in the absence of the Secretary.

The minutes of the July 17, 2021 meeting were approved with minor corrections to one member's name, on a motion by Zach Ahrens and second from Glenda DuBoise.

Organizational Chart updated: President Pyko presented information on an update to the club's organizational chart including the addition of John Wall as the Assistant Treasurer and stronger connection between the Community Service, Membership and Social Justice committees.

Club Goals: Members were reminded of the importance of being familiar with and advised by the club's stated goals. She announced plans to send information to all Board members on accessing the RI website to allow ready review of the goals, and encouraged working to hold one another accountable for working consistently to fulfill these goals.

Grant Applications: Karen Streeter reported on progress in preparing and submitting District grant applications, noting that the process was almost complete, with expectation of submitting the applications later this week. Discussion followed details of the grant submissions: Karen's report included these details: 1. MOU completed and electronic signatures attached; 2. IRS Form 990 acquired; 3. Allocated Funds grant drafted and signatures attached for Covered in Coats project, total budget \$7719, with grant request of \$5119 and club match of \$2600; 4. Discretionary Grant drafted and signatures attached with questions re exact amount and purposes for this request. Discussion followed with consensus reached to request \$5000 (with \$2500 club match) with purpose of addressing "additional school identified needs" to allow maximum flexibility in meeting needs as they arise in the coming year.

Meetings, Programs and Socials: Active discussion and consideration initiated by President Pyko to determine plans for upcoming meeting, socials and other events. Consensus achieved to continue present quarter plan for alternating "in-person/ZOOM hybrid meetings" with ZOOM only meetings through the end of the current quarter, and then move to the hybrid type meetings every week beginning in October, 2021. Members will be required to wear masks at in person meetings when not seated at tables or when eating. This policy will remain in place until further Board action amends it. Marie and Zach will prepare and disburse educational information on this decision to all club members. Members were also requested to offer ideas/suggestions for Socials (usually planned for 5th Thursdays).

Committee chairs were reminded that Committee Charter documents should be completed and/or amended and submitted to Marie by 9/1/21.

Community Service Committee reported that new information on programs and service options would be provided in the near future, with a presentation at a club meeting planned, to include avenues for member input and suggestions on additional service projects.

New Member applications from Jonathan Noble and Brett Robinson were reviewed and unanimously approved on a motion by Stan Martindell, seconded by Shelley Woodard.

Social Justice Committee report was offered by Glenda DuBoise, noting ongoing process of reviewing club diversity and devising ways to integrate that information into plans for recruiting and retaining members. We will continue engagement in the “Rotary Cubed” cooperation with the Rotary clubs of Minneapolis and Harlem as a part of this initiative.

Public Relations Committee chair, Zach Ahrens, encouraged all committees to use the newly revived club newsletter as well as ClubRunner email system to keep the whole club advised of committee activities and plans. Member’ response to the recent announcement of the newsletter revival has been very positive and the rollout is underway for the first edition to be distributed on Sept. 2. Plans set for inclusion of new member biographies to be included. Ideas for other articles were discussed and input invited.

President Pyko announced upcoming “Disaster Trailer Event”, in which a Rotary project of the Kearney, NE club will bring their grant-funded trailer designed for providing meals during disaster events, to Topeka in the near future. We are asked to help by providing volunteers to help serve the meals they prepare. Consensus to support this project, with Marie to send out more information as soon as it is available.

Other business included a request from Vince as program chair for input from Board/Club members on ideas for future programs.

The meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent at 5:08 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Lee Morris, acting secretary