**Our Mission: Stillwater Sunrise Rotary is a diverse group of leaders committed to making our local and global communities a better place to live.**

**Stillwater Sunrise Rotary Board Minutes**

**February 25, 2021 at 7:00 a.m.**

**via Zoom**

* **Attendees:** Ed Boeve, Margie Horning, Roger Ruetten, Wendy Heck, Janis Donnelly, Don Schuld, Kris Bowditch, Ted Nesse, Lonny Stormo, Brent Voight, Dave Waldschmidt, Jon Stillman, Mark Fisher, Rick Heidick, Sara Letourneau, Mel Sullivan, Bob Gray, and Jeanne Matlock
* **January Board Meeting Minutes - Margie Horning** 
  1. Minutes from the January 28, 2021 Board meeting approved
* **Finance Report** - **Roger Ruetten** 
  1. **Balance Sheet –** Report dated 2/23/2021 presented and discussed
  2. **Income Statement –** Report dated 2/23/2021 presented and discussed
* **Spending Requests** 
  1. **Remember Niger Coalition – Solar-powered electrical project** – Margie presented a request from the New Brighton Mounds View and the Montgomery Village of MD Rotary clubs for us to help fund a solar system for the school for deaf children in Niamey Niger. As a club we have supported two other projects for the Remember Niger Coalition. They are good stewards of the funding. The Board approved a $400 contribution to the project.
  2. **Rochester Global Grant** – Motion to contribute $1,000 to the Connected Via Innovation and Bridged Through Tele-EducationGGH2121131. This grant is phase II of the Rochester Rotary Club’s district grant that we funded via Shark Tank last year. The funds will be requested in the 2021-2022 Rotary year and Roger will accrue the commitment on the SSR balance sheet.
  3. **District/Global Grant** Rick Heidick requested that the club support a district grant for the 2021-2022 Rotary year to fund the piping and prep work for a well in our FFH village of El Corozo Nicaragua. The funding will also help with community organization and development of a water commission and management of the water usage. The Board voted to approve funding of $3,000 for the district grant project which will have a budget in the $20,000 range. In conjunction with the DG, Rick will be working on a global grant to complete the drilling of the well and work out the details for the management and sustainability of the project with the community members. No funds were committed at this time. But the Board was in favor of Rick moving forward with the GG. Budget for the GG is in the $40,000 - $45,000 range.
  4. **Shelter Box (Ed Boeve)** – There was a motion and approval for an additional $500 contribution to Shelter Box this Rotary year. Roger will send them a check. That will bring our total contribution to $1,000.

* **“Quick Items”** 
  1. **Membership** – Jennifer Cherry’s application was approved via e-vote. She has been entered into the RI system and our Club Runner. Jennifer will be formally welcomed into the club next week. There is one more application in the wings – the applicant has to decide if the Stillwater club or our club will be a better fit with her work schedule.
  2. **New Membership Chair** – The Board welcomed our new membership chair Sara Letourneau. Sara will be taking over for Laurie Cherry for the remainder of this Rotary year. Margie will set get her set up as membership chair on the RI website and Club Runner. The Board thanked Laurie for her service and looks forward to working with Sara.
  3. **Visioning Plan Progress Report** - Rick Heidick presented a slide showing the progress of our visioning action plan – all areas seem to be on track.
  4. **Club Grants Update** – Lonny reported that Team that approves local grants approved two $500 grants – Respectacle and the Arcola Mills Historical Society
* **Discussion for Resuming In-Person Meetings (Wendy Heck)** 
  1. Wendy will have a few weekly polls for the club members asking for feedback on in-person meetings, hybrid meetings or virtual meetings. She proposed this schedule for future meetings -- two Zoom meetings per month, one in-person meeting a month with no food and one social or service project meeting a month.
  2. The Team working on hybrid meetings would need a lead time of several weeks to get the technology working properly. They will work with clubs who are having hybrid meetings to pick up tips and things to avoid when setting up the meetings.
  3. Brent thought that younger members would not necessarily be in favor of all virtual meetings.
* **End Human Trafficking District Committee Update (Jeanne M)**
* Arden Hills Shoreview Rotary club will be hosting a webinar on human trafficking April 15th. Currently, the meeting is open to the local public.
* **Visibility Team Update (Mark Fisher)**
  1. The Visibility Team is working on 4 vignettes – Literacy headed by Dave Waldschmidt, Pollinator garden headed by Don Schuld, Company based SSR memberships headed by Rick Robbins and Bike Rally headed by Jerry O’Connell.
  2. They will be rolling out the details for the club on March 3rd and asking for members to support the many efforts to maximize visibility of the club.
  3. The costs for the program have not been determined.
  4. See attached document for details.
* **Other Updates / Concerns** 
  1. **Fundraising Team (Nancy L.)** Brewers Bazaar will be October 2, 2021. It will most likely be a smaller event because many brewers went out of business during the pandemic. The Team is contacting brewers to gauge their interest in participating.
  2. **Youth Exchange (Kris B.)** Nothing new happening with youth exchange for the upcoming school year.
  3. **Membership (Sara L.)** As the new chair, Sara will be digging into our current membership roster and using reports and support generated by RI to assist her in the new role.
  4. **Literacy Committee (Dave, Mary, Don, et.al.)** Dave Waldschmidt reported that the reading program will not resume this year and he is waiting for an update from the school district on the media room project.
  5. **Climate Action (Don S.)** Waiting for Spring to “dig” into the pollinator garden. The EV charging station in Stillwater idea in on hold for now. There may be opportunities for club members to adopt additional storm drains this year. Don is checking with the group to see if that is possible.
  6. **Strive (Brent V.)** The AVID teachers miss the STRIVE mentors. They are promoting the scholarship opportunity. The students’ who are participating will hand in their projects in April. Our Scholarship Evaluating Team will review the projects and decide on the winners. Scholarships will be presented in early May. STRIVE will resume in-person this fall.
* **Old Business** - None
* **Upcoming Events**
  1. **Receptacle Volunteer Opportunity –** February 25th and March 6th
  2. **Visibility Team Meeting on March 2nd following meeting**