**Stillwater Sunrise Rotary Board Meeting**

**December 22, 2022**

**7:00 am via Zoom**

**Attendees:**  Rick Heidick, Barbara Tischart, Sara Letourneau, Wendy Heck, Mark Fisher, Jeanne Matlock, Ed Boeve, Greg Otsuka, Paula Williams, Lonny Stormo, Kris Bowditch, Nancy Lyner, Dave Waldschmidt, Ted Nesse.

President Rick Heidick called the meeting to order. A quorum was established.

* **Approval of Agenda –** feedback was asked regarding agenda updates. There were none.
* **November Board Meeting Minutes -** 
  1. A Motion was made to approve the Minutes from the November 2022 Board Meeting. Two edits were provided, and with those edits, a motion was ammended for approval, seconded, voted and approved.

* **Finance Report – Paula** 
  1. Financial Review– Paula stated overall we are good financial positions.
  2. ~$17k in checking account; ~$29k at First State Bank; ~$42.5k in El Corozo Global Grant; ~$22k in Foundation. November shows $2100 Net Loss, however some of November expected income came in October.
  3. Past due collections – Paula presented a list of past due commitments including membership dues and a pledge for the Bike Rally that has not been paid. Since Paula has already tried printing out statements for those over 60 days and distributing them at meetings, and we still have remaining open issues, Rick will contact members over 60 days past due, and the organization who made the $1,000 pledge (for Bike Rally) to determine their payment plans.
  4. Electronic payment options were discussed. Paula has looked into this and found that doing so through Quick Books adds 1% ($1.70) to each transaction. Dues statements are sent via email and a link can be included in the invoice for this payment method option. Paula presented another option of Auto Pay through Lake Elmo Bank at $0.50 per transaction; however, that option creates more work for the Treasurer as dues invoices change with other charges for raffle tickets, guest meals at events, etc. Other methods are either more expensive or do not work directly through Quick Books. After some discussion, Jeanne moved to offer an option to members of paying through Quick Books with the member paying the 1% fee if they choose to use this method. Barbara seconded the motion; it was voted upon and passed.
* **Old Business -** 
  1. **Club Brand Image –** Lonny spoke about creating flexibility in meeting options.A concept being discussed within the Brand Image Team is a satellite club. This concept will be fleshed out and presented at a future meeting.
  2. **Succession Planning (President Elect Nominee) –** As incoming president, Lonny has been leading a current/past presidents nomination team and Lonny announced Greg Otuska as candidate for Incoming President Elect. Because Greg serves on the Board, he left the Board meeting for our discussion. A short discussion included the question of gender diversity as we will then have 3 male presidents in a row and would new members not realize that we have had many women presidents. It was concluded that our Club is acting with diversity in leadership including 7 of 13 Board members are women. Greg’s nomination was voted upon and passed unanimously by the Board. Greg rejoined the meeting after the vote. Next step is the Club vote, which is planned to be held at the January 10th meeting.
  3. **Pune Global Grant –** Ted updated us on the status of this global grant project. We are partnered with Pune Rotary with both clubs each having 5 team members. This grant will support installing flush toilets and water purification for drinking for 4 schools in the Pune region. Grant is expected to be $40-60k. Pune is doing the local legwork on this project. We have past experience with the Pune Club with a successful grant some years ago. Ted will confirm SSR’s financial commitment but it is under $5k. Ted is working with Margie Horning to ensure our grant request is all in order.
  4. **Rotary Reef project –** Rick reported that of the $1,950 needed, $1,600 has been collected/pledged which leaves $350 yet to be contributed. It is believed that some members plan to contribute but the checks have not yet been received. A motion was made by Lonny to approve up to $350 from Club money to complete the project if needed. It was seconded, and a vote passed. We reported $1,000 to this Rotary Project which secured one of the Rotary Reefs while the remaining monies are collected.
* **New Business**
  1. **Club Meeting Venue –** Rick presented an option for our weekly meetings of The St. Croix Event Center. Key points are to improve accessibility over our current stairs and distance parking situation. Additional advantages desired are better food with more food variety, more reliable site usage, better audio. Also desirable are reusable dishware and utensils vs. the current plastic plates, etc. St. Croix Event Center offers ADA compliant space for 50 people with a buffet in the adjoining room, built-in speakers and sound system at the same price we currently pay. Rick has visited there twice, once with Jeanne, and both had favorable reports. We will be able to store our Rotary meeting badges and supply box, and will likely not need the room microphone and amp. Paula moved for Rick to follow-up on questions asked during discussion, and if satisfactory to Rick, then Rick to go forward with a contract with St. Croix Event Center. The motion had a second, a vote was taken and the motion passed.
* **Upcoming Events**
  1. **District Midterm –** Ed announced the Midterm District Meeting in January is available to attend in-person or on-line.
* **Director Updates** 
  1. **Foundation –** Lonny stated our Foundation donations this Rotary year are at $8,400, which is notably less than previous years. He is expecting this will increase in February during the “Share the Love” campaign.
  2. **Membership –** Sara will be following up with 2 potential new members.
  3. **Public Image –** 
     1. Mark spoke about Situation, Background, Assessment, Recommendation (SBAR). Mark is working with Rick Robbins and Margie Horning preparing for a Club presentation 2/21/2023 on SBAR management.
     2. Board members expressed appreciation for Mark’s Public Image efforts providing more structure and intentional focus for Public Image.
     3. Mark is working with Brent in engaging Woodbury and Lake Elmo Clubs in STRIVE as students in those locations attend Stillwater High School. Mark is also working with local businesses with a goal of sponsoring and/or participating in STRIVE.
  4. **Service –** Greg updated projects:
     1. Salvation Army Bell Ringing at the Cub location is happening now. Some discussion was held and a notable take-away of advice: if you are bell ringing be sure to bring a rug or cardboard to stand on as it is your feet that get the coldest especially if standing directly on concrete!
* **Committee/Projects Update**
  1. **Literacy & Youth Development–** Dave provided an update on the VESL program. We are currently at Stonebridge and Rutherford and will now be adding Anderson Elementary starting January 9th. Dave has (6) community volunteers for Anderson Elementary. Our new member, Bethany Cox has recruited (10) volunteers for STRIVE.
  2. **Climate and Environmental Action –** The Rotary Reef project was addressed earlier in the meeting and is covered by the notes above.
  3. **Youth Exchange –** Kris reported that the outbound student is being finalized.
  4. **Website –** Ted thanked everyone who has been sending him updates for our website and to keep the good news coming.
  5. **Other –** Nancy stated the Bridge the Valley Bike Rally planning team will start meeting in mid-January.

The meeting was adjourned.

**Note: Next Board Meeting is January 26th from 7 – 8:30 am. It will be held at Family Means.**

Submitted by Barbara Tischart  
SSR Secretary