**Stillwater Sunrise Rotary Board Meeting**

**April 28 ,2022**

**7:00 am at Family Means**

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

President Wendy Heck called the meeting to order. A quorum was established.

* **March Board Meeting Minutes -** 
  1. Jeanne moved to approve the Minutes from the March 24, 2022 Board Meeting. The motion was seconded, voted and approved.

* **Finance Report - Roger Ruetten** 
  1. **Financial Review** – Roger provided the current financial update including a review of the P&L, and the Balance Sheet. Some discussion was held regarding SSR’s contribution to the District Fast for Hope program. While the program was initially set up by the District to ask Clubs to skip one meal at year at a Rotary meeting and instead pay that money to the Fast For Hope District program. Today, the amount asked for FFH is $15 per person (SSR 51 members x $15 = $765). In SSR, we traditionally raise the money from Hoops for Hope and a special ask to reach our $15 per person, but we often pay $2000 or $2500 from Club funds overall. Barbara moved to contribute $2500 from Club funds to the District Fast For Hope fund**.** The motion was seconded, voted on, and approved with strong support. Roger will send in our contribution.
  2. Some discussion was had regarding our funds held at St. Croix Valley Foundation, which is where contributors desiring a 501(c)3 account are able to send their contribution. Because this money can only be used for 501(c)3 projects, the money that individuals put into this fund for the El Corozo Water Projects cannot come directly from this account, so efforts will be made to use this money where possible for our 501(c)3 projects to exactly offset the El Corozo Water Project contributions allowing the El Corozo project to be sent funds from our Club account.
* **Old Business**
  1. **SSR Meetings with both in-person and Zoom attendees** – new equipment was tried out at this week’s meeting with good success.
  2. **Shark Tank** is supported by SSR and Janis will be our “shark” if this program takes place this year. There is some question due to low participation of those clubs signing up to seek grant funding under this program which was established to provide immediate funding support to those Clubs who have not submitted a grant in some time.
  3. **Mary Parchetta Memorial –** Don Schuld completed his investigation of the best place to send a memorial and recommends St. Croix Valley Area Learning Center. Per Don’s recommendation and discussion with Mary Tuciu, Principal at this Learning Center, Jeanne moved to approve $1000 for ALC to be dedicated to student work exploration and work experience with a focus on science, technology, engineering, art and math (STEAM). Use of funds will include books, materials, and events. Eli seconded the motion. It was voted on and passed.
  4. **Local Grants Committee –** Mark reported SSR had approved Local Grant requests of $2350 against a budget of $2400. Local Grants can be approved up to $500 per grant. Eli moved to make another $1000 available yet this fiscal year. Jeanne seconded, and the motion passed.
* **New Business**
  1. **Approval of Next Year’s Board –** Rick read through the updated Board planned for July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023. Barbara moved to approve, Lonny seconded the motion. The motion was voted on and passed.
  2. **Carl Penttilla** submitted his application for membership. Jeanne moved to approve, Nancy seconded the motion, which was then voted on and passed. Welcome Carl!
  3. **Fireworks Funding Request** was received asking to support the July 4th fireworks in Stillwater. Since this does not support our mission, we did not approve any funds for this purpose.
  4. **Request for Sponsorship of 2022 North Star Institute -**had been received. There were questions regarding this Rotary event. Ed had input as to the “building leaders in Rotary” nature of this multi-Zone event to be held in Bloomington MN. Any funded is on hold as we learn more about this planned event.
  5. **Possible District Grant Project –** while we would like to do a District Grant this year, the submission due date is June 3, 2022. Ted talked about a possible opportunity with Pune India with whom he has worked before on a successful grant. Ted suggested putting together a team of 3-4 to investigate projects and asked for Board support to pursue a project. Barbara moved to do so, the motion was seconded, voted on and passed. Ed and Wendy both volunteered to be on this committee. It was suggested that they pursue adding one of our new members to this group, possibly Peggy Perry who has been a member for 9 months.
  6. **District Grant for 2023** was brought up. Lonny offered the Club’s Foundation Committee to spearhead the investigation of projects, certainly using those suggested in the brainstorming session he held recently.
* **Upcoming Events**
  1. **April 30 Road Clean-up**
  2. **Hike and Thirsty Thursday –** this is being planned for May 19th.
* **Committee Chairs**
  1. **End Human Trafficking –** Eli reported on this District initiative that there is little leadership from the District for this initiative.She recommended we continue our support of ending human trafficking through our notable work with youth, including STRIVE, ALC, and the Drop In Center, but we remove this as a formal committee from within SSR. A motion was made, seconded, voted on and approved to do this. Eli stated that she would continue to support and collect items for the Drop In Center. Our Club will now include the Drop In Center support under Service Projects.
  2. **District 5960 new Signature Project 2021 Recognition Award submission** – Dave submitted our VESL (Volunteers for Elementary School Literacy) project for this Recognition Award. Dave reviewed some details of the program and talked of the value this is bringing to the school as well as how rewarding it is to the volunteer. Ed commented that within the District Literacy Committee, Dave is considered a ”rock star.” We all agreed!
  3. **Youth Exchange (YE)** – Kris stated that we have first 3 month host families for our student from Spain and our student from Japan. We need 2 more families for each student. Ted has put our YE info on our website. Kris also worked with Peach Jar to have this request distributed through the school system and was able to get Peach Jar to do this at no cost. The Peach Jar message went out this week.
  4. **Fundraising –** Nancy reported commitments from Bridge the Valley Bike Rally sponsors is over $20,000! Nancy also showed a sign for our sponsors that they can place in their business showing their support and sponsorship.
  5. **Public Image** – Mark stated that he is continuing to collect the “lives impacted” totals that Lonny started at last year’s picnic. He will be using this for Public Image and Brand Recognition.
  6. **Foundation celebration –** Lonny talked about having a Club Foundation Celebration for our club members, guests, and community members. The purpose would be to celebrate the good in the world that we are able to do through contributions of dollars to the Rotary Foundation, and through volunteer hours. When we make financial donations to the Foundation, we also received “Club Points” which allow us to award Paul Harris awards to people who have provided invaluable service to our mission. This would be an opportunity to celebrate all! Lonny is working with the Foundation Committee and will get back to the Board with a plan and budget.

Lonny also stated we have $39,000 in Foundation donations including the $20,000 from Arba-Della. We also have every member (51) giving which makes us an ERAY (Every Rotarian Ever Year) Club this year!

* 1. **5/24 a Club Assembly on Brand and Image will be held.**

The meeting ended with a motion to adjourn, a second was provided, a vote was taken and the meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by Barbara Tischart  
SSR Secretary