

Stillwater Sunrise Rotary Board Meeting Minutes
August 17, 2017

- **Present:** - Barbara Tischart, Roger Ruetten, Wendy Heck, Rick Robbins, Craig Leiser, Mel Sullivan, Margie Horning, Jon Stillman, Laurie Cherry, Don Schuld, Ken McKinley, Steve Madsen, Bob Gray, Ted Nesse
- **Previous Board Minutes** - Margie Horning
 - a. July 13, 2017 minutes approved
- **Finance Report-** –Roger Ruetten
 - a. Finance Report – Financials as presented were approved
 - b. Budget for 2017-18 Presented by Barbara and Roger. Highlights were discussed. Budget was approved as presented.
- **Grants Committees (District, Club local and non-local)** - Margie Horning
 - a. We approved (by electronic vote) a contribution of \$750 to the New Brighton/Mounds View ECHO project.
 - b. Hudson Daybreak requested a contribution of \$500 for their Guatemala stove project. Several of their club members traveled to Guatemala to participate in building some of the stoves for village homes. They came back very excited about the health and environmental benefits of the smoke-free stoves. We approved the \$500 contribution.
 - c. We will reserve some of our available funds for District Grants for clubs who are smaller and less financially affluent.
 - d. We received a very nice report on the Remember Niger Hamsa Girls' School project we supported with a contribution of \$2,000. Margie will try to post the report to the new website.
 - e. We have requested contributions for our club's district grant proposal to hire a consultant to figure out how to address homeless and runaway youth in Washington County. Lake Elmo, New Brighton/Mounds View, Woodbury and Stillwater are considering participating.
- **Membership Report-** Laurie Cherry
 - a. We voted to accept David Waldschmidt as a new member.
 - b. Matt Fiebelkorn will be transferring his membership from the Stillwater Noon club to the Stillwater Sunrise club.
 - c. Laurie attended the Chamber mixer to reach out to members and introduce them to Rotary.
 - d. She attended a Twin City Rotaract event to get to know them better. They could be a good pool to recruit new members and/or help with our events.
 - e. She is also looking at the St. Croix Valley Rotaract – they have an event coming up on September 15th from 6-9:30 at Troy Burne in Hudson – cost \$40
 - f. The reach out should be more intimate. Going beyond Tuesday mornings with more social events may be a way for members to get to know each other better. Casual social events could possibly take place at members' homes.
 - g. We will look at assigning mentors for new members
 - h. Mel will send Laurie the member directory
 - i. New member orientation will be planned by Barbara and Laurie

- **Youth Exchange Report** – Wendy Heck
 - a. Ellinor from Sweden has arrived. The first host family is in place, second host family still not confirmed, third host family confirmed.
 - b. Wendy will ask for help to handle the in-coming student next year. Our club is the lead club for the 2018-19 school years.

- **Foundation Report**- Bob Gray
 - a. Bob is working on vendors for new EREY cans.

- **Literacy Chair Report**- Don Schuld
 - a. The paddleboard is on track.
 - b. Mary Parchetta is looking into an auto mechanic experience for some of the ALC students. There would be no cost to our club for this.
 - c. Denise Pontrelli seems on board with exploring setting up an Interact club in the near future.

- **PR Report**- Eli Quiett
 - a. We are looking for a leader and team members for the PR committee

- **President's Report**- Barbara Tischart
 - a. The SCVCF holds the funds for the Partnership Plan and the Mary Jo Weingarten Endowment is part of that fund.
 - i. Current value is about \$136,000
 - ii. Each year about \$5,400 of the income is used to provide grants to teachers for projects that the school district cannot fund.
 - iii. Steve Madsen is on the grants committee and he assured the board that Rotary is recognized when the awards are given. Not sure if this is true, or if he said Mary Jo is recognized when awards are given, not Rotary.
 - iv. We will have Bev Petrie provide a program on the Endowment fund on October 17th.
 - v. As SSR contributions have been on-going for 16 years with no sunset clause, Barbara would like to have our Club provide a recommendation for either better visibility to this donation or another method. Craig offered to be involved in this effort. Barbara will take the next steps in putting this together.
 - b. Website –
 - i. Ted Nesse has been instrumental in moving our website information to Club Runner. He emailed the members introducing them to the site. Members will be able to update their bio and personal information.
 - ii. We need a volunteer to “own” the responsibility to update the website with notes from the weekly meetings.
 - iii. Ted will be backup if any member has a problem with navigating the website.
 - c. We would also like to move to using social media as a recruiting and informational tool.

- **Old Business**- Barbara Tischart
 - a. Membership Directory update – Mel – Directory is 89% complete. Ted will upload the directory to the website.
 - b. World Affairs Seminar

- i. Jon Stillman is getting an early start on this seminar June 23-29, 2018.
 - ii. Students must be between the ages of 16-18
 - iii. This will be open to children and grandchildren of Rotarians.
 - iv. Jon will talk to Brent about presenting the opportunity to the STRIVE/AVID kids.
- c. Roger will send RI \$200 for Polio Plus in Craig and Jon's name. This is a reimbursement to them for attending the International Conference in Atlanta.

- **New Business**- All Board

- a. Mel is working on a Kindness project with Lake Elmo and Woodbury

- **Upcoming Events:** Hearts and Hammers – August 19th
Vocational Visit SAHS – new addition August 22nd
District Governor at Lake Elmo Event Center August 29th

Next Board Meeting- Thursday, September 14, 2017 from 7-8 AM at Family Means)

Submitted by Margie Horning