

Rotary Club of Portland

Special Board Meeting

Friday, May 11, 2018 1:30-2:35 pm

Clarion Hotel, Portland ME

Present: Don Zillman, Scott Blakeslee, Amy Chipman, John Curan, Kathleen Grammer, Ellen Niewoehner, Dave Putnam, Dave Small, Bill Blount, Bob Martin, Liz Fagan, Mike Fortunato, Elise Hodgkins

A special meeting was called to discuss the venue for lunch meetings, increased price, the number of members attending meetings and not purchasing meals, possible change in venues, charging a meal fee for those who choose not to eat, raising dues.

Scott Blakeslee reported a budget shortfall of \$2400+ for meals to date. In addition Int'l and District dues increased.

All fundraising activities monies goes into the Charitable account and cannot be used for operations. Operations according to the by-laws draws 10% from Charitable for administrative work.

Discussion ensued regarding possible change in venue, staying on the peninsula vs. off the peninsula, asking HIBB owner to consider a lower rate, change in menu, exploring city's Gateway with Jon Jennings. Other venues were mentioned.

Action steps determined:

1. Dave Small will talk with Dan Lafayette re: HIBB
2. Mike Fortunato will talk with Jon Jennings
3. Elise will work with the Clarion (who said they would have us full time-more details needed)
4. Don Zillman will survey membership and will include questions regarding on or off Peninsula, increased dues, meeting fee of \$5 if not eating

Based on the outcomes of these four items, the board will make a decision next week at their regular meeting on how to proceed.

Elise indicated that over a two year period, membership attendance at regular meetings has declined. She anticipated that 10-12 people would resign at the end of this year. Follow-up is needed with these members via phone calls or letters.