**Rotary Club of Portland**

Board of Directors

Meeting Minutes

April 28 2023 at 1:30 PM

**Board members in attendance:**

Bruce Jones – President, Dick Hall – President Elect and Treasurer, Ellen Niewoehner – Immediate Past President, Bill Blount – Secretary, John Thompson – 2nd Vice President, Jake Bourdeau - Sgt-At-Arms, Bob Clark – Director, Quinn Slayton – Director

**Absent:** Patty Byers – 1st Vice President, Ben Millick – Director

**Guests:** Bowen Depke, Amy Chipman, Alan Nye

**Business:**

The regular meeting of the Rotary Club of Portland, Maine was called to order on April 28, 2023 at 1:30 PM by President Bruce Jones and a quorum was established.

**Approval of Minutes:**

The Minutes of the March 28, 2023 board meeting were approved, as-is.

**Treasurer’s Report:** *Hall*

Dick Hall (Club Treasurer) reviewed the highlights of the Club’s finances, as detailed in the previously distributed Treasurer’s Report dated April 26, 2023. Specifically discussed:

* There is a correction to Operating Account final balance for period April 26th. Will end year in Operating Account at -$1,500 which is ahead of -$3,000 that was full year budget. Why not in the black? – Club dues came in $1,000 under budget and Satellite Club dues $400 under budget
* Both Operating and Charitable cash positions are strong
* $18,000 of Satellite Club monies still available for use to fund programs
* Total fundraising fiscal YTD below target. General initiatives include Flags for Heros, Clink, Mud Sale. Other initiatives raise funds specifically “earmarked” for international service programs
* Global Eyeserve 2.0 $2,000 grant is now delayed until next fiscal year 2023-2024.
* A motion was made to accept treasurer’s report as-is, and it was approved.

**Set New Dues for '23-24***: Hall*

* Discussion ensured about adjusting dues level for 2023-2024
* Dick ran analysis at $200, $210, $220 dues levels.
* It was moved to set the ’23-24 dues at $220 for regular members and $155 for Satellite members and Under 40 members and to change to one time dues billing. Motion was seconded and approved.
* Dues Invoices to be sent May 15th to be paid in advance of FY start on June 15th.

**Andrews Sq update; signage/dedication ceremony:** *Jones/Chipman*

Timing still TBD whether dedication ceremony to occur at end of May or start of June. Will check with Roxanne. Discussion about signage options including the two available locations (on bench slats or in ground), whether to include dates, Rotary emblem and the words “service sbove self”. Rotary Emblem is already in granite base of statue from prior club work years ago. Discussion concluded with the choice of words “Rotary + wheel symbol. Service above self” to be branded in the bench slats on each of the three benches being donated by Portland Rotary. Charitable endowment has paid the $10,000 cost, but funds have not yet been moved to the Club’s Operating Account.

**Funding for Bayside Trees:** *Hall*

For FY ‘23-24 the desire is to plant 20 trees x $400 each = $8,000. Roxanne volunteered to lead external fundraising effort for up to $4,000 to defer up to 50% of cost. City needs 90 trees to finish project. These new 20 tress will be planted on the length of Bayside Trail behind the UHaul going towards the water. Current cash balance at Bangor Savings Charitable account is $45,000. It was moved and approved to fund $8,000 for next fiscal year for 20 trees. NOTE: However, the new board in the 2023-2024 Rotary fiscal year will need to RE-approve the funding.

**Funds for Learning Works:** *Slayton*

Satellite club has had a long relationship with Learning Works. Their request is to give $4,000 to Learning Works for their graduation ceremony this spring. It was moved and approved to donate $4,000 from Satellite club funds for the graduation event. The donated funds will go towards purchasing tools for graduates.

**District Training recap:** *Hall*

162 attendees with 5 attending from Portland Club. 2023 attendance beat 2022 attendance. However, Portland Club attendance was lower. How do we get more Portland Club attendees? District Training drops a lot of great knowledge and is best for members in leadership roles (Board members + committee chairs). One idea discussed to promote it: Have Club alumni from prior District Training recap what they learned to stimulate interest in other club members.

**Other Business; Check-In on Social Media Postings & Website Content**

Emily Crowley has left club, was incoming director and chair of social media, due to current professional and family conditions. Bylaws don’t cover how to fill a prospective Board member’s seat. Bowen volunteered to be a clearing house for potential names for director replacement for upcoming ’23-24 year with current board members sending him names to consider.

From our website came a request for funds from West End Whales (Gale Force Education) for $1,250 to pay for their travel and lodging for 4 students to compete at the national level in the KidWind (STEM) Challenge. They are seeking $5,000 in total to pay for their trip. West End Wales is comprised of 4 students from Casco Bay HS and Portland HS won the state competition. It was moved and approved that the club donate $1,000 to support their trip to nationals. They will where T-shirts with their sponsors, including Portland Rotary, printed on the back. They will also be invited to one of our future, weekly meetings to report on their experiences.

**Piano Donation at Jetport**: Alan Nye spoke to the Portland Jetport authority about installation of a piano at the Jetport. His proposal was considered, however, the airport operates on a “quiet airport/terminal” basis and there were concerns about the noise generated by the piano conflicting with announcements and an aging population and their ability to clearly hear and respond to airport announcements.

**Club Protection:** *Alan Nye*

Each club must vote annually on accepting District Protection Policy or develop one of their own. It was discussed and agreed that Alan send out Nan’s prior Club Protection Policy for board members to review and then vote to accept at the May Board meeting

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned by President Bruce Jones at 2:38 PM. The next board meeting will be on Meeting on May 19, 2023 at 1:30 PM at the IHC.

Minutes submitted by: John Thompson, 2nd Vice President

Approved by: Bruce Jones, President