

**Rotary Club of Portland
Board of Directors
Meeting Minutes
January 26, 2024 at 1:30 PM**

Board members in attendance:

Dick Hall – President and Treasurer, Patty Byers – President Elect, John Thompson – Vice President, Bruce Jones – Immediate Past President, Tom Nickerson – Secretary, Jake Bourdeau - Sgt-At-Arms, Quinn Slayton – Director, David Ertz – Director, and Zach Newell – Director, Maggie McGauley – Director

Board Members Absent: Ben Millick – Director

Club Rotarians Present: Justin Lamontagne – 2nd Vice President, Bowen Depke, and Roger Fagan

Business:

With a quorum established, President Dick Hall called the regular meeting of the Board of Rotary Club of Portland, Maine to order at 1:35 PM.

President Dick Hall reported that the Minutes of the December 15, 2023 board meeting were approved by email and posted to the website. Dick Hall reported that Cort Hepler was approved for membership via email.

Treasurer's Report: Hall

Dick Hall (Club Treasurer) reported that the Treasurer report was sent out by email. There are no significant concerns regarding the operating fund.

The club is not planning to send a member to RI in Singapore, which will result in saving. The member dues revenue is under budget due to fewer new members than planned and resignations after the budget was approved. Two members remain behind in dues; outreach is continuing.

Charitable Fund raising will not meet the budget. This will impact community giving. The District grant report was completed by David Small and filed on time.

The Treasurer report was accepted as distributed. (Patty Byers moved, Bruce Jones seconded; unanimous approval)

International Service Funding:

Dick Hall shared that the Club received a letter from John Curran advising that Centro de Protesis received IRS approval for their application for 501c3 charitable status. The letter included a request to transfer all remaining funds to Centro De Protesis. The board discussed the request to transfer the remaining \$19,712.43; to forward any future funds that may come in; to immediately transfer any funds that come in over \$2,000; and to forward all requests for

payments or invoices to Centro de Protesis. Patty Byers moved the question; Bruce Jones seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

Reconsideration of Milestone Recovery Funding Request:

The board discussed the Milestone Funding Request of \$25,000. As a member of the team that was instrumental in the creation of the Charitable Endowment Fund in 2016 Bowen Depke reviewed his interpretation of the Charitable Fund and the Investment and Giving guidelines. He expressed caution in making large withdrawals greater than 4% and advised against making an additional major gift in this fiscal year. Bowen did, however, clearly state that the Investment and Giving guidelines gave the Board fully authority to dispense funds as approved.

The Board reviewed the history of fund disbursements and reflected on the fact that in recent years no charitable giving occurred. The Board felt it was important to continue to use the Charitable funds on community projects. After discussion, the board voted to have a two-step approval process for this funding request. If the Board approved the request, a communication would go out to the membership explaining the board decision and asking for input before the next meeting. At the February Board meeting, the Board would finalize its decision to approve or reject the funding request. Jake Bourdeau moved the question of approval and communication to the membership for a final decision in February; Bruce Jones seconded the question and the Board unanimously approved the question. Dick Hall agreed to send out communication to the membership before the February meeting.

Quinn Slayton moved to approve the request from Milestone for \$25,000, using funds from the Endowment to help complete its expansion of its Detox program. The funds would be used to purchase 14 new platform beds and mattresses. Patty Byers seconded – unanimous vote to approve.

International Long-term Youth Exchange:

The board discussed a request to support a long term youth exchange program and the projected cost of \$1,500. The board voted to support the idea. John Thompson moved the question; Zach Newell seconded. Passed unanimously.

Fundraising Update:

Bruce Jones shared that in addition to the Shedding Fundraiser led by Larry Gross, he proposes a team event to scale the new highest building in Portland. The Board expressed its support for continued planning with Redfern Properties.

Visioning Update:

Patty Byers confirmed that the Club Visioning event will take place at the IHC on February 15, 2024. The board is close to recruiting a diverse group of 30 members for the event.

US Flag Project at the Rowe School:

Dick Hall updated the Board that Nanette is coordinating with the school and looking for a late April timeframe. The estimated cost is \$350.

Other Business: None

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned by President Dick Hall at 3:00 PM. The next board meeting will be on Meeting on February 23, 2024 at 1:30 PM at the IHC.

Minutes submitted by: Tom Nickerson, Secretary

Approved by: Dick Hall, President