

**Rotary Club of Portland**  
Board of Directors  
Meeting Minutes  
March 29, 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, Maggie McGauley – Director, and Zach Newell – Director.

**Absent:** Ben Millick – Director

**Guests:** Nannette Ranger-Duncanson (Director elect) and Jim Willey

**Business:**

With a quorum established, President Dick Hall called the regular meeting of the Board of Rotary Club of Portland, Maine to order at 1:30 PM.

**Approval of Minutes:**

President Dick Hall reported that the Minutes of the February 23, 2024 board meeting were approved by email and posted to the website.

**Treasurer's Report:** *Hall*

Dick Hall (Club Treasurer) reported that the March Treasurer report was sent by email.

The club's operating fund remains in good shape, but fundraising is behind and we have upcoming commitments of approximately \$2,000 that will need to be covered. The Milestone gift has been delivered and we are working on the plaque. The Ribbon Cutting will be on April 5, 2024.

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

**New Member Approvals:**

Dick Hall reported that there are no new members to approve at this time.

**Foundation Update:**

Patty Byers reported that we are on target for fundraising goals. She reminded the Board Members that 100% giving participation is the expectation.

**International Long-term Youth Exchange:**

Zach Newell reported that one host family has been approved and we are working on finding two additional families.

**Fundraising Update:** John Thompson reported that the Lobster Raffle is a viable option with the City and more planning and coordination with Luke's Lobster will continue.

**Non budgeted Funding Requests:**

The Board reviewed and discussed requests:

- to support a member's district trip to Poland
- travel for a Rotary Learning Institute (RLI) Event in PA
- to subsidize the meal price at the Sea Dogs event

The board agreed to contribute \$250 toward the District Trip. (Zach Newell moved the question, John Thompson seconded. The motion was approved with 1 abstention). The other requests were not funded.

**International Grant Requests:**

Amy Chipman asked the board to consider supporting an Eyeserve 3.0 Global Grant request. The board declined to support the request at this time due to prior Breathing Life grant reports not yet submitted in full to Portland Rotary.

The board reviewed a request for a Global Grant to raise funds for a center in the Dominican Republic. The board deferred action until a fundraising plan is developed.

**Salvation Army Honor:**

Jim Willey informed the board that the Portland Rotary Club will be honored with the "Other" Award this September. This is the Salvation Army's highest award. Jim asked for the Board to consider making the award luncheon at the Salvation Army the regular meeting for that week. The Board agreed and Patty Byers will schedule the date with Jim Willey and the Program Committee.

**Membership Attendance Review:**

The Board reviewed the attendance data and discussed ways to encourage increased attendance. Many members are not achieving 50% attendance. The Board discussed ideas to establish attendance recognition, change the meeting schedule and organization, promotion of the satellite club, mentorship opportunities, and more Web/Zoom meetings. Action was tabled until one or more Board members volunteer to work on these ideas.

**Other Business:** None

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned by President Dick Hall at 3:00 PM. The next Board meeting will be on April 27, 2024 at 1:30 PM at the IHC.

Minutes submitted by: Tom Nickerson, Secretary

Approved by: Dick Hall, President