# Board of Directors Virtual Zoom and live Meeting Minutes

# September 23, 2022 at 1:30 pm

## Board Members in Attendance:

Bruce Jones, President, Jake Bourdeau, Sgt-At-Arms, Ellen Niewoehner, Immediate Past President, Patty Byers 1st Vice President, Directors Bob Clark, John Thompson, Ben Millick, Quinn Slayton\* (\* via zoom ), Dick Hall Treasurer and President Elect

## Absent

Bill Blount, Secretary

**Guests**Bowen Depke, Larry Gross

## Business

The regular meeting of the Rotary Club of Portland, Maine was called to order on September 23, 2022 at 1:30 pm by President Bruce Jones and a quorum was established.

## Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the August 19, 2022, board meeting were approved as is.

**Charitable Foundation; follow up Q's: Depke**Bowen attended to provide some history, process, Q&A. Charitable Endowment Fund is a permanent fund to receive, use and distribute funds as the Board sees fit.

Used to be held in different 501C3. Subsumed by club to add visibility and simplify management for club. If funds used for Rotary mission tax deductible activities no tax implementation. Rewritten policy guidelines more relaxed in use of funds, maintains “youth” as a focus of use of funds but not required.

Use since inception has been to fund the Youth Scholarship awards to Portland high schoolers every year. At set-up time with Schwab, the Rotary Operating/Charitable fund loaned money to the Endowment Fund to meet a $250K min amount. Loan was repaid. Both funds have same Tax ID. Charitable Endowment Fund is a Board “temporarily restricted” fund that is modifiable at any time by Board. The principal of this fund is at risk over time given its long term orientation.

Fund held in Schwab account for 7 years. Current investment policy guidelines could be modified and approved by Board if necessary. Board discussed continuing to formalize the investment policy and the spending policy of the charitable endowment fund.

Bowen still has a painting from George Crocket donated to the Portland Rotary club. Original intent is to auction it and donate proceeds to club. No action was decided on.

## Treasurer’s Report: Hall

Treasurers report from August meeting sent to Board for review. One member paid past dues last month, another member committed to paying dues this month. Board accepted Treasurers Report as is.

Scott Blakely still doing tax return and has copy of Treasurers Report.

**Foundation Update/World Polio Day: Byers**Pints for Polio bridge walk over Casco Bay Bridge scheduled for October 20th. Cooperating with South Portland/Cape Elizabeth club. Intend to meet halfway over Casco Bay Bridge and then walk to Sea Dog Brewing on Broadway in South Portland.

Board authorized $500 for World Polio Day T Shirts for members.

**Outstanding Dues report: Hall**Ellen reported some progress. Quinn working on Satellite Club members’ dues.

**Roster Deliveries: Jones**Too expensive to mail. Continue to distribute in person at Friday meetings and at social and service events.

**CLYNK funds: Hall**Set-up historically to help with home heating. 2013 purpose changed to general charitable needs. Board discussed donating the funds to a Maine heating fund. $2,800ish current balance available.

**Nominating Committee Update; VP and Treas. suggestions: Niewoehner**Ellen will announce proposed candidates to club on Oct 28th. Looking to assemble same group from the past. Treasurer is the position with no obvious nominee. If no nominee surfaces, position can be hired out to specialist. Board should research this option before year end 2022. Quinn may also have a potential person from the satellite club.

**Other Business: Banners, IHC contacts, Socials, Frequency of meetings**Bruce shared that our club’s IHC contact (GM) has left and we now have a new temporary point of contact, Vicki Dunn. IHC is hiring new GM position. David Putnam has spoken with IHC and they are happy with hosting our Friday club meetings. Bruce will discuss with them the malfunctioning microphone.

Socials: Sea Dog Bowling Alley only brought 12-15 people. One idea proposed is to reduce frequency to one time per quarter. We should remember to contact facility prior to event to plan better. Someone needs to own prepping the socials and planning an activity.

Flags Update: Generated about $11,000. A third of balance to go to Ukrainian Relief. via the World Central Kitchen. Christian Hayes, Yarmouth chef, is the POC for WCK and will receive a presentation of funds at a future Club meeting.

Veterans Day Luncheon: Vet organizations indicated that COVID still a concern for major gatherings. Club decided to forgo the Luncheon this year. Idea is to ask club members to invite a Vet to the meeting aon Nov 11th. Club would pay for the guest lunches - $400 cost or so. Board supports this idea.

Signature Community Service Project for year: Club has done several statue renovations in the past, service dog to Portland Police, dedicate rooms at hospitals, etc… One idea is a COVID memorial to the doctors and nurses who served our local community during the pandemic. A topic to discuss further at future Board Meetings.

Other business: Maintain hybrid or not? Dick is not always available. Attendees online have declined to 1-2 per meeting versus 7-8 in the past. However, as some members go south for winter we may want to maintain hybrid. Bruce will talk with some members. Board decided NOT to do hybrid on Oct 14 for District Governor visit.

## Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 pm by President Bruce Jones. The next general meeting will be at October 28, 2022 at 1:30 at the IHC and on Zoom.

| Minutes submitted by: | John Thompson, Director |
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| Approved by: | Bruce Jones, President |