

Rotary Club of Portland
Board of Directors
Meeting Minutes
September 27, 2024 at 1:30 PM

Board members in attendance: President - Patty Byers, President-Elect - John Thompson, Vice President – Justin Lamontagne, Treasurer & Immediate Past President - Dick Hall, Secretary - Tom Nickerson, Director 23-25: Zach Newell, and Director 24-26 - Nannette Ranger-Duncanson

Absent: Sgt-at-Arms - Jake Bourdeau, Directors 23-25 - David Ertz, Maggie McGauley, Directors-24-26 - Art Howe.

Guests: Roger Fagan and Erik Greven

Regular Meeting: President - Patty Byers, with quorum present, called the meeting to order at 1:30 PM.

Minutes: Tom Nickerson reported that the August 23rd minutes were approved by email.

New Member Approval: Patty Byers reported that new member Joseph Minard was approved by email.

Treasurer Report:

Treasurer - Dick Hall reported that the Operating and Charitable accounts are in line with budgets and no major concerns. Fundraisers are on track; charitable expenditures will follow fundraising success. The board reviewed and discussed the report. Five (5) members are in arrears in their dues payments but members are following up. We expect payments from all but one (1) member.

Action – Patty Byers moved to terminate Abdullahi Ali for non-payment. Dick Hall seconded. The board approved unanimously. Nannette Ranger-Duncanson moved to approve the Treasurer's Report; Justin Lamontagne seconded. Motion approved unanimously.

Discussion of DR Hearing Global Grant:

Patty Byers and Dick Hall reported that earlier this month, The Rotary Foundation notified us that the Good Samaritan Hospital and Moises Sifren cannot participated in Rotary Foundation programs. As a result of this initial notification, we thought that we were not in a position to proceed with the Global Grant. However, in a subsequent email, the foundation advised us that the ban against the hospital expires in November 2024.

After much discussion, it was clear that the Board continues to support Roger and his work 100%, either with a Global Grant or continuing as in the past. The Board hopes to move forward with the grant, as there are options for completing the project within the guidelines of Global Grants. We will use the next several months to better understand the circumstances surrounding

The Rotary Foundation's action, and working with the Foundation, we will make recommended adjustments, so we are in a position to submit the grant after the ban expires.

Dick Hall reported that approximately \$42,000 (\$28K in cash and \$14K in pledges) has been raised for the DR Global Grant. All donated funds have been maintained in a separate account and can be returned to any donor who requests.

Actions – The Board decided that the Club would pause on the Global Grant Application until we receive more information from Rotary International. Patty Byers will inform the Club by email about the grant process and the sanctions. Furthermore, Patty Byers will notify all donors about the information we have received from The Rotary Foundation and offer to return funds if requested. Dick Hall moved the question and accepted the amendment from Justin Lamontagne. John Thompson seconded. The Board approved unanimously.

Fundraising Update:

John Thompson gave a summary of the current status of the Lobster Raffle event. Club volunteer response has been strong and the shifts have been fun. John is working on getting more information on the cruise ships to better target our shifts.

Long Term Youth Exchange support:

Zach Newell reported that the Exchange Student has arrived and will attend meetings when feasible; the club has two host families and is looking for a third.

Old Business: The Board thanked Jake Bourdeau for convening an ad hoc committee to review the room setup at the Elks Lodge. Any member suggestions should go to Jake for consideration.

New Business: None

Next Board Meeting: The next board meeting is scheduled for October 25, 2024 at 1:30 PM at the Elks Lodge.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 PM (Dick Hall moved the question; John Thompson seconded; motion passed unanimously.)

Minutes submitted by: Tom Nickerson, Secretary

Approved by: Patty Byers, President