

# Westbrook-Gorham Rotary Board Meeting Minutes

## March 12 , 2025

**Present:** President Phil Spiller, PE Kim Carignan, Treasurer Karen Arnold, Secretary Christine Johnson, Youth Services Kathi Perkins, Vocational Service Judith Reidman, Eli Small, VP Jessica Pate. Member: Deb McPhail. Absent: Foundation Chair Steve Rand, Immediate Past President Crystal Brown,.

Meeting called to order about 9:00 AM by Kim. Phil and Christine joined about 9:05AM.

**Approval of Minutes:** Minutes of the February 12, 2024 meeting. Approved.

**New Members:** No new Applications this month

### Club Items

**Club Master Calendar:** The “master calendar” is available on our shared drive [Master Calendar](#) and Phil shared the month of March in the Agenda. We have completed most items for March.

**Speakers:** We have lined up programs through July with only a couple of exceptions. We need to set a date in May for the Bee Planter Project dedication. Possibly May 20 in lieu of Club Assembly or May 13 since IDEXX has not responded to a request for them to speak.

**Dues status:** Two not paid for second half. Christine will reach out to Wayne. Sarah has also not paid dues this half. Phil has been reaching out to her regularly.

**BOD Elections:** Nominations were called at the meeting on February 11. Voting by the club will be on March 18 when the slate will be presented. Eli Small VP; Directors Kathi Perkins, Steve Rand, Deb McPhail and Judith Reidman; Christine Johnson Secretary; Karen Arnold Treasure. Once the new Board is approved. Kim should set a meeting to start discussion on the 2025-26 budget for approval at the May Club Assembly or around that time.

**International Project Proposal** - Portland Rotary Hearing Clinic – Patty Buyers and Dr Roger Fagen presented to our cub on this project in September 2024. Subsequently, the project was revamped and is no longer a Global Grant. Phase 1 of the project includes the installation of a large sound booth, equipped with a clinical audiometer. This equipment will be permanently housed in Good Samaritan Hospital and known as The Rotary Hearing Clinic. Total cost is \$38,000 for Phase I, with \$5200 remaining to be raised. They hope to have a Phase 2 as funding permits to add equipment. There were continuing concerns about stewardship of the project in country. Phil had Roger and Patty join us for additional questions. Roger has worked with this hospital for over 20 years and has never had issues with equipment and supply security. He has also worked with and is familiar with a local Rotary Club. Roger will be going down on April 19 to secure the space that has been offered. It was moved by Kathi to donate \$500 now and review for additional funding in the future. Seconded by Eli and approved.

### Projects/Fundraisers

**Golf:** Database of emails will be updated in March with the goal to send a Save-the-Date email for 2025 by the first of April.

**Wreaths & Trees:** A “missing” payment of \$230 was identified and all customers are confirmed paid for 2024. We can obtain wreaths and trees from Fox Brands, the company we have been obtaining wreaths from, a Canadian company. The question remains whether we should look for a source in Maine again.

Christine will pursue Steve for contacts from our last Maine-based company. Kathi made a motion to proceed to order the trees in April IF: we have a sight to sell, a plan to fix the trailer, have identified the cost to the club, have chair for the project, and know all of this by the next board meeting. Kim seconded. Approved.

**Youth Services:** \*Interact: Remains active in both clubs. \*GATY continues to meet and is hopeful for their requested grant. \*RYLA: 5 students from Gorham and 3 from Westbrook have been interviewed and registered. There are another 3 students from Westbrook who have been interviewed. We have one out-of-district relative of a member who has expressed interest but has not applied yet. We have approval for 10 and Kathi has requested approval for an additional 3 students. Eli made a motion to send up to 13 students. Kathi seconded. Approved. \*Relay for Life: Kathi will find out if GHS and/or WHS Interact will be participating.

**House:** Deb Atripaldi shared some photos in February. Christine will continue to compile an album on the shared drive. Christine will try to get some updated pictures this week. Trees have not been removed; the tree guy now wants to wait until the house is built, although Steve would like it done sooner. Karen stated that we need a budget update/revision and a meeting. CMP is requiring a deed for the property, which the city currently owns, before placing the pole. Karen has asked Steve to assist.

**Foundation:** No report with Steve on vacation.

**Road Race –** Owens McCullough has started the planning process with the City. We may have a police escort for the runners that day. Sebago Technics will pay the timer again this year. Last year, Aroma Joe's paid for water snacks, and we also had a trophy sponsor. If no additional sponsors are recruited, the club can fund these last two items.

**Pizza Challenge 2025:** Thursday April 24<sup>th</sup>. Phil reported that they are making good progress on the Pizza Challenge. JetBlue Raffle Tickets are being ordered – 1250. Karen will not be in Maine for this so we will need to plan around her absence with respect to pay processing. Phil is aggressively pursuing pizza places and sponsors.

**District Grant:** Activity with the current grant is taking place with the Bee Club. The kids have designed the plaque and have selected some of the pollinator plants. Additional plants will be chosen to fill in. Kathi will be ordering the planters soon. World Bee Day 2025 is May 20, a good time frame to turn over the site to the Town with our celebration/dedication.

**Epic Day of Service:** Options were discussed. April 26 Clean Up Day – Rec & Con Commission and others. We will know more about that later this week. May 17 – potential to “take over” or assist FBC with the Community Meal that night. We will look for a Gorham clean up date to share.

**Treasurer's Report:** Reports were provided by Karen prior to the meeting. Key point: Budget Line owners please review and make plans to spend your budget.

**Pop Up Tent/Canopy:** Tabled until next meeting.

Meeting Adjourned at about 10:45 AM

Next Board Meeting on April 9, 2025 at 9AM via Zoom