

Westbrook-Gorham Rotary Board Meeting Minutes

June 11, 2025

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

Meeting called to order about 9:04 AM by Phil

Approval of Minutes: Minutes of the May 14, 2025 Board meeting were approved.

New Members:

- Membership application from Clare Woodman transferring from the Sebago Lake Club. Moved and approved to accept Clare as a member. Sponsored by Deb McPhail.
- Membership application from Sharon Viera – new member. Moved and approved to accept Sharon as a member. Sponsored by Kathi Perkins.
- Membership application from Tyler Rand – new member. Moved and approved to accept Tyler as a member. Sponsored by Steve Rand.

We discussed “meeting” folks before we accept them as a member. Should this be through attendance at a meeting, or can this include participation in service project or socials as well? The consensus is that we need flexibility to include all these areas.

Club Items

Club Master Calendar: The “master calendar” is available on our shared drive [Master Calendar](#). The plan is to continue reviewing this each month for updates, changes, and actions. We talked briefly about District Conference and District Changeover and finding ways to encourage attendance at future such events. We also discussed membership confirmation prior to year end. As a result, it was moved and approved to make Wayne Lopez an honorary member.

Speakers/Programs: 6/17-Westbrook Historical Society, 6/24-no meeting, 7/1-Changeover/Lobster bake. No meetings July 8, 15 or 22 with focus on the map project.

Dues status: All current members are paid. Dues invoices for the new year will be sent out after the budget approval on June 17. Proposed Dues is \$240. Karen and Christine will send an email to club members after the vote offering incentives for upfront payment.

Projects/Fundraisers

31st Annual Golf Classic: First golf committee meeting was held on June 3. Next meeting June 17. Assigned past and potential sponsors to committee members. A second email blast will go out after the June 17 meeting. Progress of the fundraiser can be followed on the golf website.

Wreaths & Trees: Steve provided the suggested percentage of sizes. We have two potential suppliers – Allagash Farms in Maine and Fox Brands in New Brunswick. We do not have prices from Allagash Farms for 2025. Christine will send out the price list that was provided by Fox to Kim, Steve and Kathi. Christine has ordered the bows from Karaboo Ribbons for shipment after July 4.

Youth Services: Interact – Advisors have been paid. Both did a great job and both clubs are thriving. Interact pins have been provided for seniors. Interact scholarships have been awarded at both schools.

RYLA – one kid has withdrawn due to scheduling conflicts. All have submitted their forms except one. Kathi is following up. Payment has been made, and we don't expect a refund. During the call, Phil identified a potential replacement from Windham HS. Kathi will follow up. Youth Exchange - No update for our club, but District has several students going out and coming in. GATY – Grant was submitted. Hope to hear in August. No committee meetings again until September. Scholarships – Interact and Most Improved were awarded at GHS with Tom Violette as our representative. Phil presented scholarships and toolships at WRVC and scholarships at WHS. One of the scholarships/toolship was named for Hal Thomas this year. Middle school awards - will be presented on Thursday. Glasses – too late for this year, but Kathi will work with the schools next year on this new program.

House: The students are done for this academic year. Plan is to complete the house next academic year. Steve will reach out to the tree guy to remove trees this summer. The trees could be seen as a potential concern for some buyers. Land moving forward – waiting for a summary from Jerre Bryant from the City on what might be appropriate lots in Westbrook. We don't have a revised budget from Kirk yet.

Foundation: Steve will be obtaining a list from RI to see who has donated for purpose of our match. He is still working on increasing Rotary Direct participation.

Map Project: Dates set for July 17-20 to work at Canal School. Stencils are available from the District. Kathi and Kim will pick up the paint and stencils in July.

District Grants: World Bee Day 2025 was May 20 and was our day for a celebration/dedication with the school and Parks & Rec in Robie Park. 2025-2026 Grant: Phil worked with the City of Westbrook on a proposed project that was submitted on time for consideration by the District committee.

Treasurer's Report: Reports were sent out to the board prior to the meeting. Annual budget will be voted on by the club at the June 17 meeting. Budget line leaders from 2024-25 have been asked if they will continue for the upcoming year and have agreed.

Bylaws/Policies: Briefly discussed. Christine suggested we find (or create) Club Policies & Procedures but also update Bylaws in conjunction with this. Kathi suggested that Kim as President should set up a subcommittee to work on this.

Pop Up Tent/Canopy: Tabled (again) a future meeting.

Meeting Adjourned at about 10:40 AM

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