

# Westbrook-Gorham Rotary Board Meeting Minutes

## September 11, 2024, 2024

**Present:** President Phil Spiller, Secretary Christine Johnson, Treasurer Karen Arnold, Youth Services Chair Kathi Perkins, Vocational Service Chair Judith Reidman, Foundation Chair Steve Rand, and Eli Small.

**Absent:** PE Kim Carignan, VP Jessica Pate

Meeting called to order about 9:05 AM by Christine (for Phil who joined about 9:10)

**Approval of Minutes:** Minutes of the August 14 meeting Moved/Approved

### Club Items

**Dues status:** Three people have not paid dues – Sandy, Aaron, and Anna. Jeannette paid dues but has decided she will be stepping back. Each person will be contacted via phone.

**Lunches:** First service from WRVC is October 15. We're on our own for Oct 1 and 8. We can order from Eli for either or both – pizza, ziti, salad, etc.

**Master Calendar:** Quickly reviewed July-September. See Wreath update. Christine will send out a request specific to finding volunteers for reading friends. If anyone is interested, the school departments will be contacted to see if we can make a match.

**Trailer:** We need to either find the key or cut and replace the lock. Trailer has not been used for anything other than in Christmas Tree sales in a long time, which we have not done for a few years. Perhaps it can be used for long-term storage? Only if secure and dry. Needs repair/refurbishment. Steve taking the lead on that?

### Projects/Fundraisers

**Golf:** Anticipated gross revenue stands at \$28,691. This included pending payments from 5 teams, of which one we know will pay cash on game day. We now have 41 hole sponsors of which 11 are silver. Still hoping to sell the final three Silver sponsors and a couple more regular hole sponsors. We would still like to have a lunch co-sponsor and one extra team.

**Youth Services:** RYLA student program changed to October 29 meeting with GHS via Zoom around 11:40 and WHS joining us for lunch. Kathi will ask each student to offer a couple sentences about their RYLA experience and allow time for questions at the end. WHS Interact Club – Emily Gray, our new Interact Advisor) has heard from admin that there is no Interact Club (possibly because there is no budgeted stipend). Kathi and Emily are pursuing with the school since we pay the stipend. New Interact Advisor at GHS Amy Green (?) has largely taken over from Neilie Nelson. Plaques for the Middle Schools- Gorham's is done, Westbrook's is being corrected. Exchange Students - Bath Rotary is sponsoring two outgoing exchange students this year. They will likely be looking for help from other clubs to support two incoming students in the 2025-26 year. Needs further discussion at a future meeting.

**House:** Trees on the property line have been evaluated and there are six trees recommended to be removed. Estimate is \$6500, to be split 50/50 with the owner of the adjacent property. Steve met on site with the arborist, and they will proceed. First House meeting with Kirk and WRVC staff will be end Sept/early Oct. Looking ahead to the next project, there is problem identifying properties in this hot building market. Steve & Judith are suggesting that we consider other options, like building on site at the school, looking into tiny homes, or other opportunities.

**Foundation:** No update. Steve will double check the number of current Rotary Direct enrollees. Christine will continue to insert a Foundation bullet item in the weekly email once or twice a month.

**Wreaths:** 300 Ribbons ordered from Karaboo Ribbons on August 30. Fox Brands has been contacted about delivering 300 wreaths in November. Christine still needs to reach out to Maine Properties to determine interest. Christine will also reach out to the Scarborough club about their plans for delivery since Thanksgiving is late this year and we'd really like to have all wreaths delivered by December 1-2, which is only a few days after Thanksgiving.

**Pizza Challenge 2025:** Phil has spoken to Pete Koffler. He is going to a large pizza challenge in NYC this weekend at which David Courtney of Barstool Sports will be present. Pete will mention our event to him for possible attendance or engagement. The intent is to make this a big "blowout" event since we'll be taking 2026 off.

**Treasurer's Report:** Reviewed financial information sent out by Karen prior to the meeting. The May 2024 toolship recipient hasn't come back to claim their award yet. Karen believes we need to refresh the house budget based on some unexpected bills we say in March/April time frame. We have an earmarked scholarship fund of \$500 from Thomas Family that we need ideas on who/how to award. Meeting/lunch costs for August created a small loss of about \$2. The Lobster Bake broke even. \$1000 budgeted item for Lakes Region Senior Center has been expended.

Meeting Adjourned at about 10:30AM

Next Board Meeting on October 9, 2024 at 9AM via Zoom