

**MINUTES
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
ROTARY DISTRICT 6000
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2018
DISTRICT OFFICE – PELLA, IOWA**

PRESENT:

**Gov. 18-19 Tom Narak – Chair
Gov. 16-17 Chris Knapp – Sec
Gov. 14-15 John Ockenfels
Gov. 20-21 Steve Dakin, DGN**

**Gov. 17-18 Mike Ruby – Vice Chair
Gov. 15-16 Loring Miller
Gov. 19-20 Erna Morain, DGE
Carolyn Scharff, Dist. Admin. Ex-officio**

Absent:

Gov. 04-05 Bill Tubbs, Ex-officio

Others Present:

Vernette Knapp

Carol Narak

The meeting was called to order at 1:05 P.M. by Chair Tom Narak.

Verification of Quorum

Quorum is present.

Approval of Agenda:

**Motion to approve Agenda – Knapp
Second of Motion – Morain
Passed.**

Approval of Minutes:

**Motion to approve Minutes – Dakin
Second of Motion – Morain
Passed.**

Budget and Finance Committee Report:

PDG Miller reported to the B of D that they had a very good meeting. The major focuses of the meeting were:

Report of the district auditor, Matt Corwin. Matt provided the preliminary draft of the Financial Statements for Rotary District 6000 as of June 30, 2018. Matt provided to the Budget and Finance Committee an annotated review of the statements. He made some suggestions as to how to handle dormant lines in the budget and the amount of carry over in unrestricted reserves. The district is in very good financial condition and continues to act under good stewardship.

District Committee Reports:

Written reports were submitted from each of the committee below. Minor comments were made by board members and will be noted for each report.

Youth Exchange:

Doug Peterson, Chair

Steve Dakin noted one of the biggest challenges of Youth Exchange is identifying host families. Every time any B of D member has the opportunity to discuss youth programming at the club level, they should encourage Rotarians to consider hosting and or helping their club's Youth Exchange Committee in identifying host families. All on the board agreed.

PolioPlus:

Susan Herrick, Chair

Chris Knapp mentioned that during each Foundation presentation to a Rotary club he discusses Rotary International's commitment to ending polio and the "Ride to End Polio" fundraising effort during the week ending November 17th.

Assistant Governors Report:

Susan Herrick, Coordinator

RYLA

Mark McAndrews, Chair

Vocational Training Team (VTT):

Loring Miller, Chair

Loring briefly described the VTT's team proposal regarding safety/security and cultural awareness training that every person who participates in a Foundation grant program that takes them out of the United States to another country, e.g. India, Tanzania, etc. This training is a requirement of The Rotary Foundation.

Additionally, Loring expressed concern for the safety of individuals both Rotarians and non-Rotarians when participating in District 6000 sponsored programs such as VTTs, Iowa MOST and other projects, programs and activities that take individuals outside the United States. RI now requires that all Rotarians and non-Rotarians acquire RI approved international trip insurance. The current insurance company providing Rotary approved insurance is CISI Buldoc, the same insurer that inbound students to the U.S. use to meet the required medical and travel insurance.

Loring believes that it is in the best interest of participants in District 6000 programs that include international travel to participate in cultural awareness training and personal safety training. The concern that Loring has is in line with what RI requires to try to provide the safest experience when participating in a D6000 program, project or global grant.

Loring will contact RI and request a copy of the policies regarding the required insurance mentioned above

Motion to Approve the committee reports as submitted and presented to the Board of Directors. – Ruby
Second of Motion – Morain
Passed.

Foundation Report:**Foundation Giving – Year to Date**

\$77,360 (Annual and Polio)

\$51,491 (Down \$7,000 from 2017 and \$22,000 from 2016)

Foundation Dinner – November 3, 2018

Approximately 50 were registered as of the meeting

DG Tom Narak reminded PDGs present that the PDG Luncheon would be held on Sunday November 4, 2018.

District Grants 2018-2019

Chris reported that the District Community Service Grant Committee had met in July and approved all 41 Community Grants though not all were approved for their full requested amount. Approximately \$137,000 was requested and we had approximately \$127,000 available for distribution. The process of evaluating the

grants and the method of allocating the available funds across the submitted grants was a super experience. Co-committee chairs Norlan Hinke and Kris Ockenfels have put many positive attributes into the writing/submission process and the closing process. All B of D members concurred.

Global Grants 2016 - 2019

Chris reported that the Global Grant program is active and that almost all available funds have been allocated to current active and future Global Grants in the pipeline. Once such pending grant is a VTT to South Africa that prompted the development of the VTT training protocol described above.

District Governor Report:

Club Visits and Feedback:

Tom and Carol have been to 53 clubs. The board and club meetings have been very interesting, enjoyable and educational. Carol takes very good notes of the comments made by board members to the questions that Tom asks of every club. The responses are diverse and are providing very interesting information.

Video:

This year our district is replacing the One Rotary Summit with an in-club experience. We are producing a hopefully entertaining in-house short video to be mailed to every club. The video is to be used as a club program and provide a starting point for a club conversation about Public Image, The Rotary Foundation and Membership.

District Conference:

The district conference will be held at The West Des Moines Sheraton Hotel, May 2-4, 2019. May 2nd will be a social event at an off-site venue.

Visioning – Long term planning:

Tom believes that the District 6000 Board of Directors should consider a visioning/strategic planning session. The last time this was done by the board is greater than 5 years ago.

Declining Enrollment:

Tom acknowledges the declining enrollment. This is obviously impacting future district revenue (dues). With fewer members, less income and thus decisions must be made as to how to spend the reduced income. Goal – Increase membership.

District Newsletter:

The cost of the newsletter is nearly 15% of the district's budget. There are district Rotarians on both sides of the question, should we keep the newsletter as a published paper document or provide an electronic version only. Editor Bill Tubbs is obviously for the continued publication. The number of Rotarians that received the last electronic version of the newsletter is 3421, the number of those that opened it is 1200 (35%).

A survey of the district membership is going to be developed and hopefully it will bring clarity to the decision.

Additionally, the board is in favor of allowing paid advertisers into the newsletter to help pay for its production and mailing. Another option is to only publish the newsletter. Bill will report back on his success at acquiring sponsors.

Polio Sculpture:

Chris Nelson, Peggy Geiger, Chris Knapp and Tom Narak are working with Blank Hospital on reducing the cost of the statue's placement. The current proposal has a price tag of \$60,000+ which is unacceptable. Erna Morain suggested that we could, should consider Des Moines University as a possible alternate location.

Xicotepec:

Tom reported that the pre-trip planning team had a very good trip to Xicotepec to look at possible projects for the students – high school and university and Rotarians to work on during the annual spring trip to Xicotepec. The spring trip will be the 16th year of the relationship.

Rotaract/Interact:

Tom reported that AG Alka Khanolkar has introduced a video about Rotaract. Alka is a strong proponent of both of these Rotary groups.

District Governor Elect Report:**Budget:**

Erna was pleased with the first run of the budget. She appreciates the support of the Board of Directors and their input into the budgeting process.

Zone:

Erna reported that she had a very good experience at Zone in Erie. She met RIPE Mark Maloney. She was very impressed with his vision. She also enjoyed socializing with the Young Professionals.

Presidents Elect:

Erna is working at having earlier and more fruitful communication with her future presidents. She has arranged for a pre-NCPETS meeting at The WILC 9Waukee Innovative Learning Center, November 30, 2018, 2:30 – 4:30 P.M.

Themes for Next Year:

Erna is promoting continuity of club leadership.

Future Dates:

Gavel Passing – June 29, 2019

Foundation Dinner – Date to be determined

District Conference – June 25-27, 2020 – Prairie Meadows

District Governor Nominee Report:**Zone:**

Zone re-alignment was a major topic for the DGNs at Zone because it impacts the next Zone meeting. The next Zone conference will be held in Kansas City (Overland Park). To make the Zone Conference more beneficial for participants is to have more interaction between the various groups participating at the conference, especially the Young Professionals/Leaders.

Other Reports:**District Administrator:**

Carolyn has been keeping a cost report of postage she spends during the Rotary year.

There appears to be no need for the report. Carolyn can discontinue keeping the report.

Operation Warm:

John Ockenfels reports that this year there will be about 2,000 coats delivered.

RAG4Clubfoot:

Training grants (VTTs) have been approved for Columbia and Brazil. Ecuador is being prepared. The RAG committee is working on contacting district governors and representatives that attended the Toronto International Conference.

Iowa MOST:

The MOST team will be heading to Guatemala in February. They are working with the local Rotary club to increase patients through advertising and social media. The emphasis is on outlying communities. The Ophthalmologist from last year is unable to go this year. The team is working with “See International” to find a qualified surgeon to do cataracts this year. They will be working with a local orphanage this year as an outreach project.

New this year, each member of the medical team will contribute \$250 toward their transportation costs. In the past their travel costs were covered.

HEF:

Jack O'Leary is the new accountant for HEF, he is taking over from Denny Skinner.

New Business:

None.

Old Business:

None.

Next Scheduled Meetings:

November 29, 2018 – District Office

February 6, 2019 – GoToMeeting

May 16, 2019 – District Office

Adjournment:

The Meeting was adjourned at 3:05 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Christopher W. Knapp

**Christopher W. Knapp
Secretary**