Community Services Project

Submitted to: District Service Chair, Sue Bellor: sbellor1@twcny.rr.com

Responses to outline provided:

1) Name of the Project: Rotary Park

2) Description:

In 2010, a vision was born to have the often talked about splash pad as the centre piece of a revitalization of Rotary Park. A group of concerned citizens knew that in order to obtain approval from the City of Brockville, there would need to be an initial partnership and a demonstration of community willingness. The two Rotary Clubs of Brockville were approached for a \$100,000 commitment over five years on a \$1,000,000 project. This was a 10% commitment. In recent years, there was never that kind of commitment made to any project. But this was Rotary Park and once Rotary agreed, the City committed \$180,000 towards the cause. After raising \$850,000, Phase 1 was completed in 2012. The campaign began for Phase 2, being a \$450,000 expenditure. The City was asked for an additional \$100,000 over 2 years, and it was granted. Phase 2 was completed in December of 2013. Rotary has met and exceeded their challenge in 2 1/2 years, having raised \$125,000. Having Rotary Park as the capital project in the last two years has doubled the amount of money Rotary normally raises. In other words, Rotary Park has helped raise the profile of Rotary in Brockville.

December 2013 marked the beginning of the campaign for the third and final phase of the Revitalization of Rotary Park. The Final Phase includes three main components; a basketball court, a BMX track and a roof over the skateboard/ice pad. The cost of the Final Phase is \$700,000, bringing the overall final cost to \$2,000,000. The two Rotary Clubs of Brockville have made a further commitment of \$100,000 over 5 years. This continues Rotary's over 10% support of the overall \$2,000,000 final project cost.

Even though this project is being completed by a committee of concerned citizens, the legacy of Rotary Park will remain with Rotary. When Rotary Park is mentioned, Rotary comes to mind. Long after the shovel leaves the ground, Rotary will be remembered for jump starting a revitalization of Rotary Park that meets the needs for an accessible, multi-use park for the citizens of Brockville and the surrounding area.

- 3) **Rotarians involved:** The total membership of the two Brockville Clubs is over 70. Every member has committed to this project either in time or in money.
- 4) **Best time of the Season:** This has been an ongoing project since and the season has not been of great relevance the Park is used throughout the year.
- 5) Money requires; \$200,000.00
- 6) **Name of contact:** Bruce Leslie (Secretary), Rotary Club of Brockville or Brent Collett (Chair), Rotary Club of 1000 Islands.

Bruce: <u>bleslie_bsc_phm@sympatico.ca</u>

Or Phone: 613-345-1486 Ext. 10

Brent: collettb@collettsurveying@on.ca

Or Phone: 613-342-2611

- 7) Benefits: To youth (and their families) of Brockville and area
- 8) Profits/proceeds: n/a
- 9) District Simplified or Matching Grant: Yes for \$1500.00

Submitted by F. Porter Past President, Rotary Club of Brockville March 10, 2014