

DISTRICT BOARD MEETING
NOVEMBER 14, 2023 – 4:30 P.M.
ZOOM FORMAT

The District 5970 Board of Directors met on Tuesday, November 14, 2023 at 4:30 p.m. via zoom. Present were DG Carole Bernhard, DGE Shannon Duncan, DGN Ward Budweg, Board Chair/PDG Jeff Hassman, Foundation Committee Chair John Wasta, and District Treasurer Gary Winterhof. Also present were DES Suellen Kolbet and Rotary Youth Exchange Inbound Coordinator Maripili Hassman.

Board Chair Jeff Hassman called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. DES Kolbet declared a quorum present.

Moved by Budweg, seconded by Bernhard; That the consent agenda be approved. All ayes. Motion carried. Items on the consent agenda were:

Minutes of 8-8-23 BOD Meeting
DG Line minutes of 10-3-23
Foundation Committee minutes of 8-14, 9-11, 10-9, and 11-13-2023
RYLA Board minutes of 7-29-23
Electronic votes

Reports were received as follows:

District Governor Activity report
Secretary Activity report
RYLA
DRFCC Report
Global Scholars Report

Maripili Hassman reported on Rotary Youth Exchange. This year's inbound students are doing well, there are no issues. They are in the process of moving to their second families. There are 15 outbound applications for the 2024-2025 school year. They will need to pass Club and District interviews. District interviews will be conducted on December 3, 2023 at noon at Schultz Strings in Cedar Rapids. They are looking for more clubs to host inbound students once outbound students are chosen.

Treasurer Gary Winterhof reported on the District financials. The District is in good financial condition. There are six staggered CD's invested in three different banks. There are no budget concerns at this time. Moved by Wasta, seconded by Budweg; That Financial Reports for the month ending October 31, 2023 be approved. All ayes. Motion carried.

The Board discussed Don Meyer leaving the District. He would normally be the Board Chair beginning July 1, 2024. The Board will need to determine who will be the Board Chair before the end of the Rotary year.

Foundation Chair John Wasta presented the following recommendations from the Foundation Committee:

20% of District Designated Funds to be contributed to Polio Plus - \$22,000
Disaster Fund – Ukraine contribution - \$10,000
Disaster Fund – General - \$10,000

There are also the following not yet approved:

Waverly Global Grant - \$56,000 (not approved yet)
Other Global Grants - \$21,000 (applications not completed yet)

He had since been informed that there is another Global Grant in the process – the Heart of Europe Grant in the amount of \$42,000. He also reported that the Cedar Valley Global Grant may have to be paid back. It is over 12 months past due in reporting. If it has to be paid back, it would be \$16,173 in District Funds. After further discussion, Wasta amended the recommendation to \$22,000 to Polio Plus, \$5,000 to the Disaster Fund – Ukraine, and \$5,000 to the Disaster Fund – General.

Moved by Bernhard, Winterhof; To approve the contributions to Polio Plus (\$22,000), the Disaster Fund – Ukraine (\$5,000) and the Disaster Fund – General (\$5,000) and table the other recommendations until the next meeting, after the Foundation Committee reviews the new information. All ayes. Motion carried.

The Foundation Committee recommended that the District not make a donation to Shelter Box. There is a student from Dubuque that is currently working with Global Scholar Chair Chris Lindell on an application to be a Global Scholar in Spain. The minimum grant amount is \$30,000. The District DDF covers 55% and Rotary International covers the remainder.

Wasta reported that four \$500 Interact Grants were recommended for approval. Moved by Bernhard, seconded by Budweg; That \$500 grants be awarded to New Hampton Interact, Dubuque Interact, Interact of PAC (Pocahontas), and Cedar Rapids Washington High School Interact. All ayes. Motion carried.

Bernhard, Duncan, and Budweg reported on the Zone Conference held in Chicago. They all felt it was a good conference and a great opportunity to meet their cohorts from other Districts. Next year the conference will be held in San Antonio. Bernhard hopes we can encourage more Emerging Leaders to attend. The District Governors recommended a joint session for those in the District Governor line can learn what everyone is dealing with. There was discussion on different options to fulfill the club visit requirement.

Annie Vander Werff from the Waterloo Club attended Zone as an Emerging Leader. She is also chair of the DEI-Human Connections Team. Carole Bernhard requested

that the District cover the cost of her partner's registration. It was stated that his meals were all covered. He is not a Rotarian. Bernhard withdrew her request. She will do something personally to show her appreciation for his attendance.

Shannon Duncan reported on North Central President Elect Training for 2024. The training will be in person in Minneapolis. The registration fee is \$350. There will also be a virtual option for \$150.00. Duncan and Budweg left the meeting.

The Board continued to discuss NCPETS. The PETS Board is recommending Assistant Governors also attend. It was noted that the budget only includes \$150 per President Elect, since DGs thought the training was going to continue virtually. Nothing was budgeted for Assistant Governors to attend, as well as hotel and mileage. This will be discussed at a later date. No decision could be made, as there was no longer a quorum.

Carole Bernhard reported on the Human Connections Team. Annie Vander Werff is the Chair and has formed a team with members from around the District. There will be seminars held around the District to learn about the unique cultures of the communities. There are no funds budgeted but the costs will be covered by sponsors and registration fees.

The RYLA Manual of Policies and Procedures will be sent out to Board members for their approval electronically.

Carole Bernhard will be hosting an in person and virtual District Conference planning meeting on November 15, 2023 at 5:00 p.m.

Carole Bernhard reported that the Zone has created a Regional Rotary Roadmap designed to provide Districts with ideas and motivation to increase activity and success. She hopes to integrate our strategic plan with this.

District Bylaws were discussed. Board members were asked to review Articles 1 and 2 before the next Board meeting. Carole Bernhard will email the Board reminding them to review these articles and she will add sample bylaws that she has received. Suellen Kolbet will add a folder to the February Board Folder to insert sample bylaws in so they can be easily found and reviewed.

The meeting adjourn at 5:49 p.m.

