Rotary Club of Santa Rosa West

Santa Rosa, CA

Minutes of the Board Meeting

November 20, 2019

Attendees:

**Board Members Present Board Members Present Board Members Present**

Chuck Baker yes Don Johnson yes Susan Nowacki yes

Janet Codding yes Barbara Larson no Milagros Ott no

Chris Feldman yes Kris Lepore no Steve Reis no

Darcie Fellows yes Gary Lucas yes Harry Rubins yes

Bill Gunter yes David McDonald no Christine Schieberl yes

Tarina Hall yes Mike Merrill yes Casey Williams yes

**Guests:** Gail Johnson, Gil Lucas

**President Chuck** called our Board meeting to order at 11:50 am. A quorum was established. On a motion by **Janet Codding** and a second by **Chris Parr-Feldman** the minutes of the October meeting were unanimously approved.

**Secretary’s Report:** The balance in the Operations account is $12,032 and October attendance was 58%. The non-restricted funds from Exchange Bank have been transferred to Poppy Bank – signature cards have been completed and checks ordered. The restricted funds will be transferred to a new Vanguard account – about 75% of this process has been completed and **Barbara Larson** will execute the final documents and mail to Vanguard.

On a motion by **Chris Parr-Feldman** and a second by **Susan Nowacki**, a motion was to passed to allow a check to be written to a Piner scholar in advance of the completion of the Vanguard account.

Due to the continuing financial issues facing the Club, the Secretary volunteered to reduce the stipend by 25% back to the 2009 level.

**President Chuck** expressed his concerns about the state of the club and the fact that we are losing money due to our guarantee to our food vendor, Sally Tomatoes and poor attendance. He stated that it was his opinion that we had three alternatives – grow, merge with another club or disband. To that end he announced the creation of a Membership Task Force. This will be led by **Mike Merrill** as an ad hoc committee whose membership includes **David McDonald, Casey Williams, Chuck Baker, Louie Capuano, and Chris Parr-Feldman.** A spirited discussion ensued and many ideas where shared:

* Make the meeting space more inviting and Rotarian by hanging more banners, etc.
* Explore options around meetings – different times (evenings), not meeting every week
* Better communication about events and projects – more frequent, much further in advance to allow for calendaring, more detailed, more heart
* Sally Tomatoes could deliver “brown bag” lunches which would save money
* Raise the cost of lunches
* Quarterly pre-billing of lunches
* Survey members about desires
* Hold a Club Assembly to discuss these many issues and options

**President Chuck** also posed the question of whether there was an interest in merging with another club and, if so, with which other club. He indicated that he had spoken with the East Club about this issue and they were unwilling to alter their meeting location nor date.

Board Actions:

* On an amended motion by **Chuck Baker** and a second by **Chris Parr-Feldman**, the Board voted to propose to the membership that we reduce the number of meeting to 2 per month to be scheduled the first and third Monday’s of the month. There was also discussion about moving the Board meeting to one of the other Monday’s and having a monthly social event.
* We will be co-sponsoring 2 (two) Exchange Students during the 2020-21 year
* We will be vacating the storage facility in order to save costs and supplies will be stored in **Gary Lucas’** barn
* The Citizenship Award proposed by **Christine Schieberl** will be presented to Katie Hilario for her “Pies for Poverty” program. She bakes and sells pies with all proceeds being donated to the Redwood Empire Food Bank. This is part of our Community Service efforts.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:41PM

Respectfully Submitted (with the help of Darcie Fellows)

Tarina Hall

Secretary

**Our next Board Meeting will be Wednesday, December 18, 2019 @ 11:45 – Osake Restaurant**