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**Rotary District 5500 Corporate Board**

**Februrary 12, 2024 Meeting Minutes**

The Rotary District 5500 Board meeting was called to order by District Governor Don Jorgensen at 4:01 p.m. via Zoom.

Present: District Governor Don Jorgensen

District Dovernor Elect Sue Archibald

District Governor Nominee Bruce Monro

Immediate Past District Governor Anita McDonald

Member at Large Ann Huber

Member at Large Joe Puett

Disctrict Secretary Nancy Fusco

District Finance Chair Teree Bergman

District Foundation Chair Kristi Halvorson

DG Don welcomed everyone and verified that there was a quorum. Minutes from the December 11 and the Special January 11 meetings were presented, Teree moved to accept the minutes of the December 11th, DGE Sue seconded the motion. DG Don and PDG Anita corrected spelling errors. Motion to accept the minutes as corrected passed.

DG Don called for a motion to accept the January 11 Special Board meeting minutes, Teree moved, Joe 2nd the motion. DGN Bruce stated that he was not at the meeting and neither was DGE Sue. Motion passed. Minutes to accept minutes as corrected passed.

Treasurer’s Report/Update: Teree reported we are in good shape. Lost access to review our Reserve Account. Chad is working on the issue. Update on Clubs who are late for the second half dues. Issues have been resolved.

PDG Anita asked Teree to update Board about the $50,000. All $50,000 will go into one CD that pays 4.75% interest. After review of the CDs, it was determined a better deal with all $50,000 into a 7 month CD.

DGE Sue updated Board on her budget. Presented and passed at PETS. Info was passed onto the Finance Committee Chair. All set to enter data into the system.

DG Don informed the Corporate Board that our annual report has been filed with the Arizona Corporation Commission.

Membership – DGE Bruce reported we are at 1388, up 17 from beginning of the year. DG Don received a report saying we were up 21. DGE Bruce will rerun report to verify. Compared to other Districts in our Zone, we have the second largest increase of 21. The first was 23. DGE Bruce reported that at PETS, every Club President received membership trends over the last 6 years with membership tenure of when they resigned and why. He will have a small Club Membership Zoom meeting in late February or early March. Looking at 12th at 5:30 pm and 16th of March at 8:30 am.

Pride Club has first meeting on Feb 21st. Goal is to Charter by May. Vail Club still struggling but have paid their bill.

Youth Services update – RYLA completed. Went without incident and went very well. Need more adult counselors. RYLA administrative team will put together a year long program educating Clubs on RYLA. DGE Sue spoke with Jenn Wantz and working on having a booth at District Conference to encourage more Clubs to participate.

Youth Exchange – challenging year. One of our In-Bound students from Japan had an serious incident involving cutting herself. Located a licensed Japanese speaking therapist for her. Issue has been resolved. All authorities and girl’s parents have been notified. Parents are completely supportive. Only 1 student is signed-up for next year.

Discussed options for short term exchanges which are basically summer camps in other countries which would give us Rotary Exchange opportunities. Still working on it as we do not have reciprocal opportunities.

Districts in Europe are tightening up their requirements for exchange students. Will get updates and will keep everyone informed.

Updates – Friendship Exchange with Spain will not happen. Still looking at the New Generations Exchange but that involves only 1 young adult. DGE Sue is working on Friendship Exchanges with Romania in May 2025.

DACdb vs Club Runner – Met with representatives at SW Pets. Lots of good information. Asked Leo Lawrenson to do a side-by-side comparison. Will go to our Rotary leaders for feedback before we make any decision about it. We need about 3 months of training to get everything transferred. The cost is approximately $3200 for the District a year up from about $1100 for Club Runner. If used with Club website, the cost would be $125 per year, if not used as Club website, there is no cost to the Club. Significant financial benefits. It also has components for Grants, financial and membership. Clubs do not have to buy into DACdb. No decision has been made at this time. Discussion held.

AZ Rotary License Plate Update - PDG Anita reported that we should be able to purchase the plates by this time next year. The $32,000 has been delivered to the State and now in the design and development stage. Looking for design ideas from membership and hope to have final designs by the end of February. Final design has to be review by RI and we are allowing 3 months for that process. Then it goes to the State Department for approval. Discussion held.

AZ Capital Peace Pole Project – DG Don reported that we are trying to get a bill passed and signed into law to get a Peace Pole in the rose garden. This a critical week, bill introduced in both the Senate and House. It was assigned to the Government committee in both the Senate and House. This coming Friday is the last day that committee chair has to assign a date for hearing. If they don’t, it will die. Neither has been scheduled yet.

District Action Plan Update – DG Don asked the Club Presidents to identify completed projects in the last 6 months and area of focus, area of impact so we can collect the info and put out info on the impact of Rotary. Has received some responses but still working on it. District Committee Leaders and DG line taking a look at the plan to see what has been accomplished so far in terms of achieving objectives for this year. More details to come later.

New Business: DGE Sue asked about the Arizona Days of Service. DG Don reported it is scheduled state-wide Sat to Sat, April 13-20th. Asked Clubs if they are doing a project to let us know or if not, the District is working with local food banks and asking the Clubs to work with their local food banks. DGND Emma is working with Community Food Bank of Southern Arizona and will be able to coordinate efforts that week. She is also connected with the Eller School MBA Association who are to do 2 service projects, one in the spring and one in the fall. They will provide students to help.

Ann asked about RLI dates. RLI 1 will be April 27, RLI 1 & 2 will be at the District Conference and RLI 1, 2, & 3 will be next spring.

DG Don went over the Significant Dates. PDG Anita explained The College of Governors. Ann asked about the widows and widowers of Past District Governors. They are ususally invited to the District Conference. DGE Sue updated the numbers for the RI Conference in Singapore at 6. More members are interested in Calgary. Next will be Taiwan, then Hawaii, then Minneapolis/St Paul, then Chicago. Hank is still working on her trip to Evanston.

No further business.

Meeting adjorned at 5:32 p.m.