**ROTARY CLUB OF MERCER ISLAND**

**Proposed Change to Weekly Meeting Schedule – Report Back to Club Members**

**June 2, 2021**

**THIS REPORT IS DIVIDED INTO 3 SECTIONS:**

1. **SURVEY RESULTS**
2. **MEMBER COMMENTS**
3. **MEMBER QUESTIONS**

**SECTION 1: MEMBER SURVEY RESULTS**

For those members who participated in our recent Survey – thank you for providing your input!
In this section, there is a summary of results to the four questions posed in the Survey. In the following two sections, you will see all verbatim comments from members and our response to questions posed by members.

**TOTAL RESPONSES RECEIVED = 62 (106 ACTIVE MEMBERS = 57% RESPONSE RATE)**

Note: President Judy and President-elect Jenny personally reached out to all members who had not been shown as having read Jenny’s email with the survey link and made arrangements, where members requested, to provide them with the survey information.

**RESPONSES TO SURVEY QUESTIONS**

1. We are considering adding a social/service-oriented meeting once a month and reducing the number of Zoom meetings from four a month to twice a month. Instead of every week, the Zoom meetings would occur on the 1st and 3rd weeks of every month. The M.I. Rotary Board would continue to hold its monthly board meeting on the second Tuesday of every month, but there would be no club meeting.   How do you feel about this proposed change as a transition phase?

I support this change 50%

I oppose this change 11%

I am OK either way 31%

I am not currently attending Zoom meetings 8%

*Conclusion: 89% of the respondents either do not oppose the reduction of Zoom meetings or are not currently attending them. A total of 7 respondents were opposed (6% of Club members and 11% of respondents)*

1. The Club plans to do more social activities as conditions allow.  What is your preference for scheduling these?

I am flexible with scheduling 79%

I prefer a set date, place, time 21%

*Conclusion: 79% of the respondents are flexible with scheduling.*

1. What elements of a social meeting are most appealing to you?

Service/Social 76%

Dining/Meals 73%

Family inclusion 40%

Sports or recreation 40%

Games 18%

Other 6%

*Conclusion: Members appear open to and interested in numerous non-meeting activities.*

**SECTION 2: MEMBER FEEDBACK - 24 TOTAL COMMENTS**

Member feedback appears below exactly as submitted to the survey tool, including typos 😊. A total of 24 comments were received from 62 responses.

**Member Concerns Expressed (8 total)**

Participant ID 27

aNY REDUCTION IN MEETINGS WILL LEAD TO A FURTHER LOSS OF MEMBERSHIP. wE NEED TO HANG IN THERE.

Participant ID 28

I would like us to return to weekly meetings like we once had, ASAP.

Participant ID 35

I worry that infrequent meetings will erode attendance, Missing one meeting could (end of comment)



Participant ID 36

As soon as we are able to meet in person again, we need to meet weekly. Anything less is a bad idea

Participant ID 42

I think we should do Zoom meetings the first three Tuesday of every month. Just one mans opinion.

Participant ID 43

I do think it is important for the Club to have as many interactions as possible until in person

Participant ID 48

This change is upsetting for me.

Participant ID 59

There must be some kind of function every week to maintain continuity.



**Member Support Expressed (16 total)**

Participant ID 6

Ideas for a social time - Lunch at the Roanoke; tours of member's gardens; on-line games

Participant ID 7

Thanks for your leadership during a difficult time!

Participant ID 12

I hope there are more service projects that can be done in a day, as with Harvest Against Hunger

Participant ID 13

Thank you

Participant ID 16

Thank you for all that you are doing and for the flexibility

Participant ID 17

Thanks for proposing these changes, Jenny!

Participant ID 19

Thank you for your ideas for the coming year.

Participant ID 21

I look forward to a new Rotary year and format!

Participant ID 25

many thanks to faithful officers and members

Participant ID 30

God bless!

Participant ID 31

Thank you for trying different formats.

Participant ID 37

Good luck

Participant ID 45

Thank you for your “proactiveness” or “proactivity”

Participant ID 50

I APPRECIATE OUR ROTARY LEADERSHIP AND THE CREATIVITY, YOU ALL HAVE DISPLAYED DURING THIS PANDEMIC!

Participant ID 51

I appreciate the flexibility shown in these alternatives

Participant ID 52

grateful for the questions.

**SECTION 3: MEMBER QUESTIONS – 4 TOTAL OUT OF 62 RESPONSES**

Participant ID 15

Do we have to get permission from Rotary International for change?

ANSWER: No. We confirmed this with our District Governor Cathy Gibson. Our Club

By-Laws enable the Board by vote to change meeting time and venue along with our RCMI

Constitution which allows for change during an epidemic. No club member vote is required but the Board wanted member input to inform its planned vote on June 8.

Participant ID 23

Have you checked with other venues about holding noon meeting? Churches, JCC, Commercial spaces?

ANSWER: We are still looking for, and hope to finalize soon, a volunteer from the Club to serve as our Club Support leader for 2021-22. This is a key role which will be responsible for meeting orchestration - either virtual or in person. We know members are anxious to resume meeting in person. The Board has been in regular dialogue with the City about anticipated re-opening for the MICC Community Room and we are working with the latest info they provide. From what we hear anecdotally, most venues here on the Island are in a similar state of flux to the MICC, awaiting further State and County guidance on group size, etc. before opening up to broader community utilization. Reducing the amount of effort that has to be expended on organizing 4 Zoom meetings a month should allow the Club Support leader more time to plan “re-entry” to the MICC and/or research alternative venue options.

Participant ID 49

Even though participation is down, can’t the current leadership still provide Weekly meetings?

ANSWER: The recommendation to adjust the Zoom meeting format was developed to address three key factors: (1) We’re still looking to finalize leadership for the Program/Speaker committee which is also being reformulated with new volunteers who need ramp-up time (2) There are only a handful of members today who have the technical skills AND regular availability to host Zoom meetings – these same 3-4 people have been doing this since March 2020 and deserve a break (3) As mentioned above, we still need to finalize a Club Support leader and when that person is in place, we’d like them to focus on the next chapter as in returning to the MICC and re-staffing all the Club Support roles required to execute in person meetings there.

Participant ID 53

Are changes to our regular meetings only in effect until we can return to the Community Center?

ANSWER: These changes are being proposed for the transition phase until such time as we can meet in person. That will be the focus of the Board vote on June 8.

Yours in Service,

Jenny McCloskey

RCMI President-Elect