

SWPCP Rotary Board Meeting Minutes 11/02/2020

Attendance:

Karen Hintz, President	Nancey Olson, Sgt. at Arms
Mark Magee, Pres. Elect Nominee	Nancy McAllister
Eleanor Ramage, Secretary	Brad Browning
Dorothy Le, Treasurer	Keleigh Schwartz
Carol Lynn Ockfen, Pres. TRF	Dan Nydegger
Lanie Kary, Pres. PRF	Excused: Vanessa Ulku-Howard

Call to Order: 5:30 p.m. after roll call to ensure quorum

Agenda: Motion to approve by Nancy M., second by Carol Lynn; all approved.

10/05/2020 Minutes: No discussion and motion to approve by Nancy, second by Eleanor; all approved.

New Business:

1. Treasurer's Report: A brief summary of Club accounts was provided in the Agenda. Dorothy commented that she still hasn't quite figured out how our banking/financial system works and added that use of PayPal has worked quite well with on-line payments and deposits. A question about the phone bill - Brad has this month's and last and will forward to Dorothy for Club portion due. Dorothy added a request that Club members clearly indicate on the envelope either Club or Foundation for checks mailed.
2. Financial Overview (Draft): Karen and Carol Lynn continue to work on this and hope to have it finalized by proposed Club Assembly 11/10/2020. Brad, Keleigh and Carol Lynn need to get together with Karen this week for further revisions and completion. Carol Lynn's input is necessary to provide clarification and direction for Rotary International expectation of members. The aim is to keep the document easy to understand, clarifying the difference between donations to Club or Foundation (tax-deductible) and how donations go to specific projects, causes or programs listed on our website. Nancey O. recommended that whoever is presenting the weekly program should provide information at that time so people can go to their website, especially for non-profits, and donate directly instead of having funds channeled through the Foundation. This would make monies pledged in Fines and Brags much easier to take care of; consensus reached accordingly so document will be modified appropriately. It was further agreed that Vanessa should pass this recommendation on to program sponsor or speaker, a change in our usual process. The final document should clearly explain all donations so the Club can take full advantage of Rotary Grant Requests and Grants. Any further comments or recommendations should be sent to Karen before 11/10/2020.
3. "Normal" Meeting Status: People have been asking when we can start having in-person gatherings but with the increase in COVID cases many people are still reluctant. There is

still a state restriction on number of people allowed in a gathering so hopefully by springtime we can enjoy the real human interaction everyone misses. Mark suggested that we need to change the message on “normal” since we have a new normal which may last longer than expected, so virtual meetings are “just the way we are doing things now”.

4. Membership Outreach: Initial comment by Karen recognized noticeable decrease in attendance and feels people are understandably a bit down and may not find the energy to join via Zoom every week. She has notes from a District meeting on how to reach out and connect with all our members and wants to “spice up” our meetings somehow to make them fun again. The ideas she shared from the Vibrant Clubs meeting included:
 - a. Having no formal agenda, even occasionally, so members can just socialize and check in on each other.
 - b. Change schedule to a meeting every 2 weeks, not weekly, since decreased weekly attendance has shown some people feel out of touch.
 - c. Assign mini-topics for discussion then break into small groups and report back to whole Club.
 - d. Change the format of our meeting to start with the Program for the evening.
 - e. Suggest small groups of people, comfortable gathering casually in a public place, dine at a local restaurant and have a sign to display indicating that Rotary is supporting our local businesses.
 - f. Possibly have a virtual scavenger hunt.
 - g. Potential for pairing up with the Astoria Rotary Club, currently not meeting at all.

Nancey O. suggested that the breakout groups for a given topic be timed so discussion actually stops. She also commented that meeting by Skype does not work for her even in a small group, making some meetings difficult. Mark added that breakout groups have worked well for meetings, and that 5:30 is a difficult time for him and perhaps others so we might want to change our meeting time. A further thought from Karen is to possibly try monthly or bi-monthly instead of weekly meetings through the Holidays, however we define that. People seem to be getting burned out with the weekly schedule so she supports the idea of small groups gathering at a local restaurant and proposes we have a discussion with the members at the Club Assembly on the 10th. Karen also recommended we set up a “buddy system” and will send each Board member a list of people to contact for outreach and try to increase our attendance and involvement. The intent and hope is to inject a little levity into our meetings again. This all invites thought and further discussion.

Open Discussion: No further topics or questions were raised.

Adjourned: 6:23 p.m. Motion to adjourn by Nancy M. with second by Eleanor.

