**Joint Board Meeting of the Rotary Community Fund and the Joplin Rotary Club**

**May 13, 2021**

**Attendance:**

Brad Hodson, Bob Headlee, Charlie Keeter, Robin McAlester, Stephanie Brady, Fred Osborn, Robert Reeves, Nancy Bettasso, Wally Bloss

Meeting called to discuss join efforts of the Joplin Rotary Club and the Community Fund.

For historical clarity, Bob Headlee explained that three years ago, Joe Newman recommended more oversight for the Community Fund. At that time, the Community Fund became formalized as a board elected by the Joplin Rotary Club and bylaws were developed.

**Discussion Notes:**

1. Brad stated that the Joplin Rotary Club Board would like to see regular statements and balance of funds from the Community Fund’s Wells Fargo account.
   1. Bob explained that Wells Fargo requested that they only send the statements to one individual. Currently, the statements are sent to Charlie Keeter with online access available as needed. Charlie stated that he can send copies of the statement to Erin for publishing as well as provide electronic access for her to the online account.
   2. Fred suggested that an officer of the Community Fund Board receive the paper copy of the statement and the Secretary of the Club gain access to the online account. Fred suggested that this become formalized at the next Community Fund Board Meeting.
2. Brad mentioned that he would like to see the level of independence of the Community Fund from the Rotary Club be more clearly defined. This was agreed upon by the majority of those in attendance.
3. Discussion of the election of the Rotary Fund Board Members:
   1. Bob stated that he believed that there should have been a distinction on the ballot to show incumbent versus new individual.
   2. Brad noted that the club should have had more options other than the 3 individuals up for re-election.
   3. Charlie read from the Community Fund bylaws regarding the nomination of potential board members and elections. Fred discussed the confusion that the bylaws causes with the use of “board” in a generic manner.
   4. Brad asked Charlie if the Community Fund Board approved a slate for the ballot. Charlie explained that it had approved the slate when they were first elected.
   5. Bob suggested a revote with a new ballot that included a notation of the three incumbents along with a listing of the additional potential members. Fred recommended calling a board meeting of the Community Fund to formalize a slate for the ballot. Brad said that once the slate is developed, to bring the full slate to the Rotary Club for a vote.
4. Brad asked that the Community Fund Board ensure that they include the Rotary Board President on all communication and meeting invitations moving forward.
5. Community Fund Bylaws: Several members noted that the Community Fund bylaws need to be reviewed and amended to provide clarity. For example, Bob stated that currently, the Community Fund makes grants but there is nothing in the bylaws that gives the Community Fund Board the authority to do so.
6. General Discussion on elevating opportunities for people to give to the Community Fund.
   1. Spreading out the grants to gain more publicity.
   2. Giving the grant-recipients more opportunities to come back and say how they used the funds provided. Highlight Rotarians who give to the fund and why they give.