



Board Meeting Minutes

Emil Woerner

July 20, 2023

Village United Methodist Church

Members Present: Susan Clark, Jim Zahnd, Kathy Wright,, Tony Cifelli, David Cohen, Harv Shelton, Drew Kahle, John Obrien

Members Absent: Paul Bridges, Bob Vittengl, Wendy Blair, Melanie Pederson, Mary Beth Evans

Susan called the meeting to order. This meeting is an informal report from each of the committees to let Emil know what our club is working on.

Fundraising – Susan Clark

We are doing the Victory Dance again this year in March. We are also planning the Mother's Day lunch again for the mothers in the village. We have a bus trip that is planned for October of this year. These projects help raise money for our scholarships and grant projects.

Foundation – Jim Zahnd

Jim reported that we ended the year (2022/2023) with a total of \$31,574 sent to the Foundation. He noted that \$20,000 was an anonymous donor, so that means \$11,584 was donated by the members. The club has gone through some changes and it is smaller, but Jim feels we are on the right track to bring donations back to what they were in the past. As of this morning, \$2,600 has been given to the Foundation for the month of July. Jim has a goal of at least \$15,000 for the year; he would like to have at least \$3,000 to Polio Plus.

Membership – Tony Cifelli

Tony talked about the membership program for this year titled "Just Ask". We have been losing members and we need to have each member to get involved in asking their friends to join Rotary. Some of the things the committee wants to do to attract new members is to consider a time change for the morning meetings. The committee has surveyed the membership for the times of 7am, 8:30am, and 8am. Results have come back and they will present them to the membership next week. The committee wants to explore developing Spousal Memberships, Corporate Memberships, and checking on members who have dropped out of the club to see if they would return to the club. It was mentioned that we should be encouraging speakers to become part of the club. The membership committee will also be developing new materials to better explain what being a Rotarian is. Emil asked if the Rotary Club has been using the communications available in the Village to let people know about Rotary.

Grants – Drew Kahle

Drew reported that we had 19 grant requests this year, 11 of those that we were able to fill. This grant committee focuses on the local communities and charities in the area that we can help. The total amount of money given out in grants this year was \$9,346. Drew wanted to give accolades to John Obrien thanking him for developing the rating system for picking out the requests. The Mountain Pine Police Department was the one project that Drew wanted to highlight. The MP Police have outdated equipment and run down vehicles. Working with the Citizens Police Academy here in the Village, we were able to grant them \$1,356. The Academy assisted in purchasing the equipment and donated additional funds to the project. With the money we were able to equip Mountain Pine Police with Body Cams and Internet Hot Spots for each of their vehicles.

The District Grant we had this year did not turn out as planned. We were supposed to do a calming room for the Alternative learning Center. Everything was ready to go when we found out that the ALC was being kicked out of their building. We did work with the woodworkers in the community and had bookcases made which ort members painted. They will be moved to the new location within the Boys and Girls Club. We had also purchased wall hangings, which will be used.

This year Drew has approached both the Morning and After Hours Groups and have not received any suggestions so we will not be doing a District Grant. It was mentioned that with the District Grant, we need to have a hands on experience and with the aging of our group, it can be hard. Drew told Emil that it is very difficult to go through the processes and paper work to apply for a District Grant.

Treasurer – Harv Shelton

Harv reported that we have two budgets within the club, the Operations budget that takes care of day-to-day expenses and the Charity Corporation Budget that is a 501C3 entity, which takes care of donations, fundraising, grant requests, and service projects. The budget for the Operations is about \$45,000 and the budget for the Charity Corp is about \$75,000. Harv has separate check requests for both and usually has either the president or the secretary sign checks. He will sign if needed and report to the Board. He sends a monthly Treasurers Report to the Board to keep them up to date. The Operations Budget and the Charity Corp budgets have a target carryover of 10,000 on each side.

Service – John Obrien

John introduced himself and gave a brief background of his Rotary experience. He left the club and has now come back to work with the President on service projects. John would like to see us take stock of what our membership passion for service is and work within the community where we can have more impact and lasting effect. He would like to see a project that we could champion and put the Rotary stamp on it. One of his ideas which he would like to see, the Village trails set up with ropes form station to station with audio information at each station for blind people to enjoy the outdoor trails. He is open to suggestions from others about projects we could tackle. He would like to see all the committees within our Rotary group working together for the good of the club and for the service to others.

Hospitality – Susan

The group has been formed to reach out to members who are sick, have passed, or missing meetings.

Social – Susan

Our Club Administration committee has been changed to the Social Committee to plan fun outings to get the two groups together to bring unity to the one club concept. Some of the ideas they are working on are The Travelers Baseball Game, Oaklawn Racing Day, and 5th Tuesday Dinners.

New Business

Susan asked Emil to tell us more about Polio Plus Society. Emil told us it is a District initiative. Emil said that Sharman Moody is handling this program. If you donate \$100, you can become a member of the Society and a recognition certificate and pin will be given to you. Jim made the point that donations to become Society Members must be noted by the Foundation that they are becoming members of this society.

Kathy asked Emil what the District thought about our club with the one club idea with two different meeting times. He said there is no requirement for a Satellite to charter and form their own club. This is a new concept, which could pave the ways for a new model of Rotary Club for the future.

Meeting Adjourned