Williamston Sunrise Rotary Club

Proposed Additional Club Membership Categories

For discussion at 1/20/15 Board meeting

In addition to the current membership categories (Regular and Associate/Family), these additional categories are proposed:

**Suspended Membership**

A regular member may request that his/her membership be suspended for a period of up to six months by submitting the request in writing (electronic communications are acceptable) to the club board. The member is not required to include a reason for the request. However, typical reasons for the request include extended travel, temporary medical issues, temporary business/professional issues, and the like. The request shall include requested start and end dates.

The request may be submitted to an individual board member, who must then forward the request to the other board members within five calendar days of receiving the request.

The board must act on the request within 14 calendar days. Action may take place at a regular scheduled board meeting, at a special board meeting to be held immediately following adjournment of a regular club meeting, or by e-mail discussion and vote, at the discretion of the club president. Action may take the form of approving the request, denying the request, or asking for additional information from the member who is requesting suspended membership. The board’s decision shall be stated in writing in minutes of the meeting (including an e-mail meeting).

An approved suspended membership results in the member being required to pay dues only in the amount required by Rotary International for the duration of the suspension.

 A member may request a further period of suspension of up to six additional months within the same calendar year as the initial suspension.

**Club-Supported Membership**

A member may request that the club provide full or partial payment of the member’s membership fees for a period of up to twelve consecutive months. Regular club members with a minimum of three years’ current membership in the club are eligible to request club-supported membership.

The duration of club-supported membership shall not exceed twelve months within a three-year period of time.

Procedures concerning requests for the type of membership, and board action on such request, shall be the same as those for suspended memberships.

**Corporate Membership**

A corporation (or business) may request corporate membership in the club. A corporate member shall have the same privileges and responsibilities as a regular individual member.

The corporation may designate up to three persons to represent the corporation at club meetings and events, only one of whom may cast a vote on occasions when the club conducts member voting. Corporate members may serve on the club’s board.

It is expected that designated persons be principles or employees of the corporation.

Quarterly dues are $200. Dues in excess of the standard individual quarterly dues shall be placed in the club’s general fund and must be used exclusively to support club financial support for local services and projects.

The club board must approve corporate memberships.

The club will register corporate memberships with Rotary International.

 **Trial Membership**

The purpose of a trial membership is to allow individuals to attend club meetings and events, and therefore to determine whether they want to become regular members, without formally enrolling in the club or paying full dues.

Any club member may recruit individuals to become trial members.

Trial membership may be for up to twelve consecutive months.

Meals at club meetings shall be at no cost to a trial member for up to three months, after which the trial member shall be responsible for these costs, at the same amount as regular club members.

(Question: should trial members be allowed to participate in club work projects? Liability issue?)