# Rotary District 6510 Disaster Response Committee Minutes

# November 9, 2022

Members present on the call: Chair PDG Joe Miller, PDG Wayne Gerlock, Aur Beck, Mark Bearth, PDG Jeff Thornton, Jill Pietrusinski, Tim Sipes and Greg Jones.

Chair Joe Miller called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM and reported, we raised $222 at the raffle held at District Conference. iPDG Terry Mathias presented the 2021-2022 Rotarians of the year award to the Disaster Response Committee members. Joe felt it was most reflective of the 172 hours of service provided to Mayfield KY after the tornado. We didn’t have much active interest in joining.

PDG Wayne reported an invoice was received for $25k from Mayfield KY to be made payable to Walmart. That will not be paid but we are invited to Mayfield KY on 11/15 or 11/17 to meet at Walmart for distribution directly to families of Christmas items as well as other personal goods to help them rebuild. Payment will be made directly to Walmart at that time. Wayne, Aur, Mark, Joe can all attend on Tuesday the 15th. PDG Gail Story from KY and John Caraco will be in attendance. John is the public image chair for the Mayfield club. DG Nancy Stearman.

This is the last piece to close out the disaster grant so we can apply for a disaster grant for Ukraine prior to 12/31/22.

We need to increase our Facebook “views” to have the opportunity to get money from Facebook as a nfp. 6510 Charities is now a “bronze” rated charity on Guidestar until we release our financials. We need to update the District website. Jill will reach out to David Matthews to update the logo.

In one of the “Weathering the Storm” sessions Joe and Wayne attended, there was a session on emergency phone use. “First Data” is a cellular phone system dedicated to disasters. They had a booth at the event. The price is reasonable, and Wayne thinks less than $45. Wayne discovered there is a “free” disaster phone system available through Homeland Security we can apply for which he recommends we pursue.

The trailers are secured, and the solar system is completely installed. Aur to send an invoice to the committee so we can finalize our grants. We may have a little money left to provide a few small items still for the trailer. We will be receiving a credit from return of 4 items not needed. We don’t have shopvacs on the units and Wayne said we need 2 more sets of straps and 16 hooks to secure the items in the trailer. Wayne said we also should have a space heater in each trailer. This is based on what DAUSA learned in the FL Hurricane response efforts.

Jill suggested we be more proactive with public image on what we are doing to have a better story to tell about what we are able to do. Wayne suggested we focus on “little things” rather than waiting for a “big thing”.

Joe said southern IL may be a good resource for documenting fire response. Jill suggested getting good photo/video from Mayfield. Wayne mentioned the “house in a box” option for $3000 that could be purchased with donations in the future.

Wayne is continuing to work on the volunteer database system.

Next Zoom meeting: December 13th at 7:30 PM

Respectfully Submitted, PDG Jill Pietrusinski