

**Rotary District 6860
Winter Leadership Conference
Council of Governors
The Harbert Center, Birmingham, AL
February 3, 2017 2:30**

Minutes of the Council of Governors Meeting:

PDG Tom Greene presiding

Mary Grace Evans standing in for Secretary Amy Golden

Members Present:

DG Gary Andrew

PDG Pat Cross

DGE Sue Mitchell, PhD

DGN Carol Argo

DGNE Bill Petty

PDG Bo Porter

PDG Jerry Shepherd

PRIVP Ken Schuppert

PRID Mark Maloney

PDG Martin Uptain

PDG Dennis Brooks

PDG Don Hadden

PDG John Valieant

PDG Scott Stone

PDG Mary Jean Sanspree

PDG Ty Robin

PDG Wade Drinkard

PDG Ron Layne

Others Present:

Don Wigington

Al Mathis

Chair Tom Greene called the meeting to order at 2:27.

Chair Greene called on Pat Cross to make a special introduction. Cross introduced Bill Petty, new PGEN. Petty will serve as the first DG from the Tuscaloosa Morning Club. Congratulations!

Review Minutes:

Chair Greene reviewed the minutes from the COG Fall Leadership Meeting. He identified several corrections and asked if there were others. With no additional corrections,

PDG Bo Porter made a motion to approve as modified.

PDG Wade Drinkard seconded the motion.

Minutes approved with corrections.

Vocational Award 2016 – 2017

Vocational Awards Last meeting **Mary Jean Sanspree** took the lead to review. **Greene** emphasized that this is a VOCATIONAL selection, so think in these terms. They are all really great people.

Sanspree presented the nominees:

- 2 nominees for Rotarian - Jim Blasingame (Greater Shoals and Sheffield Clubs nominated) and Senator Arthur Orr (Decatur and Hartselle Clubs nominated)
- 1 non-Rotarian – Dr. Scott Harris (Decatur and Hartselle Clubs nominated)

Scott Stone shared that he has known both of the both of the nominees for Rotarian. Knowing both, if only one, he would recommend Arthur Orr.

Mary Jean Sanspree said they were both nominated by 2 Clubs

There was open discussion concerning selecting one or both as the Rotarian. Both are very strong candidates and both were nominated by 2 Clubs.

MOTION: Moved to select both candidates **Ron Layne**

Discussion: **Bo Porter** commented, taking away from award if we do this.

Mark Maloney agreed with Martin. Increases the stature of the award to select 1. There is always next year.

Wade Drinkard read Directory that is says 1 Rotarian and 1

There was no second to the motion. Brought forward to vote.

Chair Tom Greene called for the question.

MOTION: **Wade Drinkard** recommend that non-Rotarian be accepted by acclamation

John Valieant seconded.

Motion Carried.

Parliamentarian, Mark Maloney clarified that this is a ballot we need to vote for both

Chairman is a member of the body he can vote - according to **Parliamentarian Mark Maloney**

With 17 eligible to vote, Arthur Orr was selected by vote of 9 to 8. Greene asked to keep selection under wraps for Governor to announce.

Greene expressed thanks to Mary Jean for organizing.

Foundation Report

Don Wigington passed out documentation of DDF available for this year of \$91,000 (includes the \$50,000 earmarked) that we do not have proposals for.

Wade Drinkard reported that despite repeated contact, 6 Clubs that qualified have not responded. They went to the training, submitted a MOU, but have not responded. Wade does not anticipate any additional global grants this year.

Wigington continued, we have:

- 45 district grants among 40 clubs fully fund grants by \$3000 (will be \$4000 next year).
- 11 global grants in process
- 1 scholar is closing out, Charlotte Nolen
- 1 more scholar, Gabriel Jenkins, has 1 more year at the University of Sydney in Australia
- 2 cancer diagnosis and treatment global grants
- basic education
- 4 water projects

Very active in grant area. Problem is that we are not running out of money.

Qualifying Clubs every Saturday in May. Training sessions in Decatur, Tuscaloosa, and 2 in Birmingham. People that are going to have their hands on the grants are the ones that need to be at the training. PE and Grants Chairs need to be at these training sessions.

Ken Schuppert asked for advice from this group. Are we using all of our district simplified grant money up each year? **Carol Argo** said we did send back about \$4200 last year. It was awarded to the Clubs; however, for one reason or another all of the funds were not used. If they do not use it has to be sent back. About \$4200 was returned to the Rotary Foundation back this year and then goes toward global grants.

Schuppert shared that last year worldwide unused DDF grew from \$52 mil to \$58 mil. He wanted to know how much of this was occurring due to unused district simplified money. Learning that it is not as big of a number worldwide as he thinks. Would like to have district grant money stay district grant money. This would be a benefit to our district.

Second question - is the global grant criteria causing the issue for not being able to use it? Generally agreed by group that in our District it is not. Schuppert said that they need to do a better job in Evanston of deciding what to do. Program committee is reviewing next month and he appreciated being able to ask his own district of which he is very proud.

Finance Committee Update

Chair Tom Greene called on **Finance Committee Chair Jerry Shepherd** for Finance.

Gary Andrews budget is in line. Reviewed and are happy with status.

2 recommendations came out of the Finance Committee:

1. Training of DG - international assembly allocation that is given, for the DG to be given a better understanding of this for them to enter it into their budget and take care of it from that standpoint. DG be apprised of significance of submitting expense reports timely manner (before the end of year or shortly their after). Want this covered in DG Training.
2. In DGE Sue Mitchell's presentation of her budget - Dues - recommending increasing District dues by \$6 per person, which would make new rate \$31. In comparison to other Districts we are very low. This includes one dollar for the Disaster Relief Fund.

Any discussion - none

Disaster Relief Update

Chair Tom Greene called on **Al Mathis**, Chairman of the Committee to provide Disaster Relief update.

In 2011 Disaster Recovery Fund established.

3 stages of a disaster:

- Rescue 7 days
- Relief 70 days
- Recovery - 80 day on (area we want to be involved in)

Took in \$58,000 in 2011 from several sources and distributed all except \$800, which is in a Donor Advised Fund (DAF). Rotary International overseas and it makes enough to pay the fees. It need to be increased to have some seed money to get started to be better prepared for a disaster.

Requesting that \$1 of dues would provide approximately \$3600 per year approximately to go to The District 6860 Disaster Relief Donor Advised Fund.

Discussion:

Sue Mitchell asked what if the money is not spent.

Mathis said that we hope to build up to \$10,000 or \$20,000

Bo Porter asked if the funds are restricted to relief in our district.

Mathis said that he understands that it is up to the committee. There is nothing in the bylaws or statutes that say we cannot give to another relief effort, but the purpose was really for our district. Right now we do not have the money to even consider it. The focus right now if to build up the fund so that we have something.

Pat Cross said it would have been nice this year with sister districts to help this year.

Ty Robin said that in previous year the DG had some money in the budget that they can send. How does this interplay with this committee and District Fund.

Gary Andrew said that this has disappeared.

Bo Porter said that he recalled that the money Ty is referring to was taken out of reserves and that it is still available.

Wade Drinkard asked if we had a disaster in our district and clubs outside district sent in money would the money be channeled through this fund.

Ken Schuppert said it depends on where the donor sends the money. If they send it to the DAF then the committee administers however, if it is sent to a Club Foundation, they would administer. He favors what Mathis is saying, it is nice to be able to support other close by disasters (example Katrina, Japan donating millions and then had tsunami).

Gary Andrew shared requests that have come in from Georgia (tornados), Tennessee (fires) and Louisiana (floods) all he could do was to publicize for and provide point of contact if the Clubs wanted to help.

Greene questioned for Finance Committee to discuss, do we need to consider auditing this new committee that will be accepting money.

John Valieant thanked **Mark Maloney** for setting up this donor advised fund.

Governors Update

Chair Greene called on **Gary Andrew** for DG update

- Completed club visits met Presidents and Boards
- Presenting Awards that come in before Christmas
- Membership is priority #1. Unfortunately we are down by 42 end of December
- Mid-year good shape financially
- Recruited Dr. Robert Adler from the Florence Club to be Youth Exchange Officer
- 116 students at RYLA previous weekend
 - probably 3/4 are in an Interact Clubs
- 3 Candidates for Council on Legislation: Tom Greene, Mary Jean Sanspree and Bo Porter
- 1 for nominating committee for next Zone Director - Pat Cross
- Planning District Conference and recruiting sponsors

Direction for 2017-2018

DGE Sue Mitchell announced theme for 2017 – 2018 - *Rotary Making a Difference*

- Theme Pins distributed
 - All different genders, races and creeds are represented by all of the colors
 - Scarf has a plant that is indigenous to Australia
- San Diego was wonderful, but raining
 - Training was exceptional
 - Good experience
- Looking forward to visiting Clubs
- **No longer printing directory** but will be online in pdf format and you can print whenever you want
 - Benefit - should update as membership updates
- Presented budget and with a few changes will present at District Conference

- Induction will be at June 24 at Doubletree in Decatur - will be a brunch
- Pre-PETS has been held with AGs
- AGs have held with PEs
- PETS is scheduled for March 23 in Chattanooga
- District Conference will be in Biloxi (joint with 2 Mississippi groups)
 - Mary Jean wants to do a separate function for Interact separate from District Conference
 - Erin Brokovich will be speaking on clean water
- Working on goals and will be ready for PETS and will send out to everyone
- Shades Valley is in charge of Foundation Dinner - Bo Porter will Chair (details TBD)
- The following year will be Decatur Daybreak

Tom Greene shared that 3 of them (Tom, Carol and Pat) went to mid-year review for District 6880 in January. He asked Carol and Pat to review experience.

Carol Argo said one thing that they do and she is thinking about for her year is combining fall and winter leadership meeting to have 1 meeting. This meeting is inclusive.

- They had outstanding speakers, zone spoke about membership.
- RLI and COG, Finance Committee meetings.
- Saturday was just motivational speaker and what is going on in the District.
- Use PDG to chair committees. PDG chairs Membership Committee and one Chairs Foundation Committee and more. Really have expertise at the District and Foundation level.
- Grant management training going on
- Pre-PETS going on
- Had lots going on in a short period of time but had amazing fun
- Meetings, training and collaboration going on, very positive experience
- District membership has a net membership of 50 to date

Pat Cross added this was when they handed out awards that had come in since end of year.

- Focus in the morning Club President
- PE came in and had lunch
- PE, Secretary and Grant Management Training all after lunch
- COG and nominating meeting to elect DGND
- Really nice event

Tom Greene shared RLI continued to get students into program. Struggle to make multiple sessions work. Schedule them and cancel half. Graduated 9 students in January. Will talk off line - just the Governors what do we need to do? All of the elements of having a program are there, just not the students. If you have ideas or suggestions, welcome your thoughts.

Wade Drinkard shared that Tuscaloosa is celebrating Centennial Year. There is still space is you have not signed up. **RI President John Germ** will be there.

John Valieant made motion to adjourn **Scott Stone** second
Adjourned 4:04

Respectfully Submitted,
Mary Grace Evans