**Rotary District 6860**

**Mid-Year Council of Governors Meeting**

**January 09, 2021 2:00 via Zoom**

**MINUTES**

**Sue Mitchell, COG Committee Chair**

**Lindsy Gardner, Secretary**

**Members Present: Members Absent:**

PRIP Mark Maloney PDG Scott Stone

PRIVP Ken Schuppert PDG Ron Layne

DG Lee Weinman PDG Jane Schmalz

PDG Bill Petty PDG Will Kirkpatrick

PDG Sue Mitchell, PhD PDG Don Hadden

PDG Pat Cross PDG Phil Fowler

PDG J.G. Brazil PDG Bill Johnson

PDG John Valieant PDG Martin Uptain

PDG Tom Greene PDG Dale Wallace

PDG Bo Porter PDG Kenan Kern

PDG Byron Nelson

PDG Georgia Medori

PDG Wade Drinkard

PDG Mary Jean Sanspree

DGE Harold Lewis

PDG Carol Argo

PDG Ty Robin

DGN Mike Wade

**Chair Mitchell called the meeting to order at 2:00.**

PDG Mitchell dispensed with round table introductions. She recognized guest, Mary Grace Evans, former District Secretary.

**MOTION**:

 **DGE Lewis made a motion to accept the agenda.**

 **PDG Petty seconded.**

 **Agenda approved.**

**MOTION**:

**DGE Lewis moved that the minutes be accepted with the correction of the spelling of Elizabeth Usovicz’s last name**.

**PDG Argo seconded motion.**

**Minutes accepted and approved.**

**District Governor Nominating Committee: PDG Bill Petty**

The Committee will meet next week to nominate a Vice Governor as well as identify a DGND.

**Finance Committee Update: PDG Argo, Finance Committee Chair**

The Finance Committee held its first meeting of the year on October 29, 2020 via Zoom.

DG Weinman reported that D6860 signed a contract with Affinity Travel Benefits and paid a $5,000 fee to begin a fundraising campaign to support *Build Peace. Repeat the Peace*, the peace and conflict resolution training for Birmingham area students which begins virtually this month. *Build Peace. Repeat the Peace.* is part of an overall Peace Symposium to be hosted in Birmingham in 2023. The $5,000 start-up funds will be reimbursed to the District. The funding is being appropriately segregated in the District budget to ensure transparency.

The 2019-20 budget was closed out with a net income of $40,293. This was primarily due to reduced travel, cancellation of the district conference and other reduced expenses resulting from the pandemic.

$2,584.88 of the DG allocation was returned to RI – unspent.

The 2019 Form 990 was completed by Morrison & Smith and has been filed. A copy of the form is available under the Secure Files on DACdb.

Last year, the Finance Committee voted to change the way the District handles the year-end financial statement, report and financial review. Previously, an accounting firm was engaged to handle this at some expense to the district. Now, the Finance Committee and a separate District Financial Review Committee have been charged with the year-end review and report. The review for 2019-2020 was to be presented at the 2021 Mid-Year Conference but has been delayed in order to document procedures in the DLP. The procedures should be in place and discussed at the second Finance Committee in February.

All but two of the clubs in the District have paid their District dues for 2020-2021. The Finance Committee will follow up on this as outlined in the DLP.

**Children’s Hospital Transportation Update: PDG Argo, B&B Chair**

PDG Argo is excited to serve as the chair of the Boiling and Bragging Committee. Argo was extremely proud that the Committee raised over $80,000 without an in-person event in 2020. She is still waiting on a couple of commitments before the final number can be released. The Committee is planning for an in-person event on August 21 at Otey’s Tavern with a fundraising goal of $100,000. A sponsorship solicitation letter has already been mailed. The Committee wants to involve every club whether through individual giving, volunteering, sponsoring a school tent, or serving as steering committee members.

The Committee is in the planning stage for a Corn Hole Tournament at the BNB event this year. Clubs that wish to participate will hold their own club tournaments, and the winners of the tournaments will proceed to the BNB Corn Hole tournament. Kent Howard is leading the charge on setting this up and information should be sent out to clubs shortly.

Argo announced that the Committee is looking for a few new steering committee members. If you know of someone in your club who would be willing to serve, please contact Carol at carolargo@charter.net. A new member orientation will be held in late January.

Argo reminded all that Steering Committee members can speak at club meetings to promote BNB.

**Council on Resolutions: PDG Argo**

PDG Argo explained that the Council on Resolutions meets online each year. Representatives from all of Rotary’s districts vote on resolutions proposed by clubs, districts, the RI Board of Directors, and the General Council or Conference of RIBI, as well as urgent enactments proposed by the RI Board. The RI Board will consider all resolutions that the Council adopts. Adopted urgent enactments amend Rotary’s constitutional documents.

Argo sent out information on the enactments and resolutions to all Active Rotarians in D6860. She received feedback from more than 50 Rotarians and used this information in her decisions on voting. Results are available on the rotary.org website.

She has a spreadsheet which provides a very brief description of each enactment/resolution which includes the final decision and the vote.

PRIP Maloney explained that any resolution adopted by the COR is considered by the RI Board. If an adopted resolution involves the Foundation, it will be given to the Trustees for consideration. The actions taken by the Board or the Trustees are recorded in the minutes of Board and Trustees meetings. In addition, the sponsor of the adopted resolution will receive notice of the Board’s or Trustees’ action.

PRIP Maloney congratulated PDG Argo for considering the 50 responses that she received about prospective COR enactments and resolutions. Maloney added that the mission of the COR is to streamline the work of the COL by considering resolutions. The Board can bring urgent actions to the COR for enactment. Maloney commented on past Council service of PDG Drinkard, and PRIVP Schuppert who will be the 2022 COL Chair.

**Foundation Report Update: PDG Wade Drinkard**

50% for 2017 2018 Annual Fund Contribution $231,643

Interest from the Endowment Fund earnings $5,799

Carry forward from 2019 2020 $104,512

Returned Funds $15,890

**TOTAL $397,857**

Allocated to Polio Plus (12,000 Purp Pinkie) $58,400

Allocated to Rotary Center for Int’l Studies $25,000

Set aside for District Block Grant $123,576

* *We had 29 Clubs apply for a total of 43 projects*
* *Total amount that one Club could apply for was set at $4,395*

Have already transferred and/or committed DDF for the following Global Grants:

Birmingham Club - Sri Lanka Cervical Cancer (total budget $390,375) $70,000

Tuscaloosa – Happy Schools India (total budget $99,900) $28,500

Cullman - Heart to Heart in Mexico (total budget $34,030) $14,120

RIPN Jennifer Jones – Global grant $10,000 **Remaining Unallocated Funds Available $28,261**

The Financial Assessment on the District Block Grant has been completed. In 2019-2020, the District allocated $124,403, which meant each club was allocated $3,760. 33 clubs applied for a total 48 projects. $15,890 was returned. PDG Drinkard introduced the completed report to be appended to the minutes of the meeting (see attached). PDG Drinkard also recognized the diligence of all the participating clubs, District Grants Chair Kathy Brunot and Ronnie Smallwood, District Treasurer.

DGE Lewis commended PDG Drinkard on his service and his preparation of his successor, Ryan Stallings.

**District Governor Update: DG Lee Weinman**

DG Weinman reported that the District pledged 20% of DDF to Polio Plus, which amounted to $46,000. In addition, the District pledged $12,000 for the Purple Pinkie campaign. After matching funds, the District’s commitment to Polio Plus was over $300,000. Weinman also mentioned the *Build Peace. Repeat the Peace.* pilot program currently taking place with 131 students from 25 different high schools. The intent is to roll the program out district-wide next year. District 6860 is designated a Peace Builder District.

Other Updates

* Congratulated PDG Argo in raising over $80,000 for Children’s of Alabama’s Critical Care Transport Team without an in-person event.
* Has visited all clubs. Four clubs are not meeting right now despite appeals from Weinman and AGs.
* Will travel to Perdido Beach next week to discuss options for the 2021 conference: pay penalty and break contract, have the conference but reduce the guaranteed number, or roll the date to 2023.
* Celebrated chartering a new club in Smith Lake, the establishment of a new Birmingham Sunset Club, and the exploration of a club near Oak Grove in Jefferson County. Also, the Rotary Club of Madison has sponsored a new Interact Club.
* Announced a new public service announcement (PSA) video on television featuring Tommy Goggans. The second PSA, featuring Dr. Isabel Scarinci, is in pre-production now. The PI campaign will include targeted Facebook and Instagram ads. Jeris Gaston, a member of the Rotary Club of Birmingham, leads this PI campaign.
* Reminded everyone of the Mid-Year District Conference next weekend.
* Informed the COG of a proposal for the Nominating Committee to select representatives to the Council on Legislation and our representative to the Zone Nominating Committee that selects Rotary International Directors. Only PDGs are eligible to serve on these two committees. Weinman will distribute the new resolutions to the COG prior to the Mid-Year District Conference.

**District Leadership Plan: PDG John Valieant**

PDG Valieant led the Committee charged with updating the DLP. The Committee was asked to update the nominating process and review all prerequisites, specifically. The Committee has been meeting every two weeks since May. They have reviewed and rewritten every section. Valieant estimates that the review is 75% complete.

**District Governor Elect Update: DGE Harold Lewis**

DGE Lewis reported that the District budget is 99% completed with no significant changes from the previous year. He will distribute by email.

DGE Lewis also reported that plans are underway for District Conference 2022 in the Shoals. He is working with Bruce McNeil from 6860 and Michael Babb from 6760 on this tri-district conference. Sharon Hogg will be the Committee Chair. The Committee is optimistic about attendance.

**Vocational Award Nominees: PDG John Valieant**

No nominations have been received. There will be another COG meeting specifically for the Vocational Award after the January 15 deadline for nominations. Ty Robin will order the plaques.

**Open Discussion:**

PRIVP Schuppert updated the COG on the RI Convention in Taiwan. The RI Convention Committee will meet next week. The RI Board will make a final decision at the end of this month. COVID is not an issue in Taiwan – they have not had a case in five months. Currently, visitors are required to quarantine for two weeks in hotels upon arrival. Paid attendance is 33,000 people currently. Schuppert is not optimistic about an in-person convention in 2021.

PDG Mitchell adjourned the meeting at 3:15 pm.

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Lindsy Gardner, District Secretary**

**ROTARY INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT 6860**

**DISTRICT BLOCK GRANT – 2019 - 2020**

**FINANCIAL ASSESSMENT REPORT**

We conducted a financial assessment of the District 6860 Grant fund for the year 2019-2020 in acco-rdance with the requirements of The Rotary Foundation District Qualification Memorandum of Und-erstanding, including the following procedures:

We discussed the District 6860 Grant Fund procedures with the District Treasurer, Ronnie Smallwood, and the District Grants Chair, Kathy Brunot.

We reviewed the District Grant Record checking the grant descriptions and amounts.

We reviewed the bank statements for the year under review.

We selected 6 grants at random and reviewed the detail reports and supporting documentation. One of the grants selected did not have complete supporting documentation for expenses, one did not hav-e checks on two of the items on the report, and another had no check copies verifying disbursements (invoices were attached) and there was no final report in the file. We also recommend that future doc-umentation include copies of the back of checks.

During our assessment, nothing came to our attention, other than the items noted above, that would indicate that the District 6860 Grant records and procedures are not in accordance with The Rotary Foundation District Qualification Memorandum of Understanding requirements.

District 6860 Grants Audit Committee

Bill Ross, Shades Valley, Chair

Chuck Adams, Greater Huntsville

Doug Crump, Tuscaloosa Morning

January 7, 2021