

Blue Ridge Mountains Rotary
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Farmington Country Club
July 13, 2022

Directors Present

Roger Higgins, Amy Hart, Rachel Burns, Ronda Puryear, Marcus Stamp, Sam Caughron, Joan Carlson, Brian Donovan, Marcus Cromwell, Matthew Crane, Hayden Ardrey

Others Present

Randy Fleitman

Welcome and Call to Order

Roger Higgins, President, welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 8:18 am. Mr. Higgins asked for the minutes from the June 15th meeting to be accepted.

***Motion:** Sam C moves to accept the 6/15/22 meeting minutes. Seconded by Rachel. Approved by the board.*

President's Report

Mr. Higgins presented several comments:

- The board has no theme per se but our goal is to have fun and do great work for the community.
- Two requests for leave of absence
 - Erik Greenbaum for July-Sept.
 - Brian Thomas is on medical leave. Requested leave for 60 days from July 6.
- Meals cost will be going up in July to \$20. Have not had increase in a few years from FCC. Roger recommended we pass the cost on to members. Marcus Stamp mentioned that in past bids, FCC has been very competitive in terms on cost. Amy requested that there be plant-based options at every breakfast. Joan suggested that they cut one entrée to cut the cost. Rachel said it's been an ongoing discussion. Rachel asked if we should increase the cost more so we do not have to do this again soon, and Roger said they had considered that and decided against it.
 - Randy asked how many members are planned for meals. Roger said FCC must pay for at least 50 meals per week. He also mentioned that we have fewer active members than we used to have which affects the budget. More are Rule of 85.

***Motion:** Sam C moved to approve the costs be passed on to the members. Ronda seconded. Approved by board.*

Financial Report

Our monthly fee to Hantzmon Wiebel is \$520 per month. Brian D. asked for clarification on fee. Roger said HW does bookkeeping with QuickBooks, producing monthly financials, budget to actuals, etc. Sam said that there were too many errors with us doing entry to QuickBooks. It requires double entry, and we don't do that. So we take the money and write the checks, but we need someone who is a QuickBooks expert. Roger Higgins added that the club cannot assume the Treasurer (who may not be an accounting expert) knows Q QuickBooks or be forced to learn QuickBooks. That is why we need someone like HW. In order to balance our budget with all the programming we have, Roger said need additional funds. The options include:

- Option 1: Increase the charitable assessment by \$100 per member per year. (This applies to all members).
- Option 2: Cut our costs. That amounts to \$8,000 out of budget. This could include/affect:
 - Argentina youth exchange- approx. \$2000
 - Donation to Shelter Box
 - Polio Plus
 - International fund

- Reduce Pres funds from \$500 to \$250
- Option 3: a combination of 1 and 2.
- Ronda Puryear and Joan Carlson suggested alternate Options:
 - Silent Auction at one of our events
 - Raise money at social events. Joan C. mentioned that in her previous club they only had one fundraising event, and they raised \$50,000
 - Brian D. agreed
 - an event or fundraiser to raise revenue rather than removing 4 of our service/giving projects. Rachel B. agreed but warned that the additional costs could affect our membership.

***Motion:** Rachel Burns moved to approve Option 3. Roger countered that we need to prepare a budget before we approve.*

Secretary's Report

Amy Hart, secretary, reported that attendance at meetings is stable between 52-58 for a year now.

Vice President/Membership

Marcus Stamp, V.P. reported on membership. We are sitting at 84 members, but all agreed we need more members and a more diverse membership.

We are targeting 90 members. That will definitely impact the club and budget.

Marcus recommended recruiting people who work for companies that will pay for dues such as business owners, executives and corporate employees.

Amy H. suggested a meeting devoted to "A Year in the Club" that outlines what we do to support charities, raise funds, how much fun we have.

Marcus said the orientation process should be addressing this better.

Joan suggested the 4-Way Test should be recited at each meeting.

Club Service

Rachel B. discussed upcoming opportunities:

- Building Goodness event, planning this with Tiffany Norman
- Possibly bring a health aspect to the club and do a blood drive one day
- Volunteer at a food bank
- She reported that Salvation Army dinners are going well
- She recommended tracking volunteer hours and recognizing members for their service, possibly offering an incentive for a certain number of volunteer hours.
- Ronda P. mentioned the Virginia Festival of the Wheel was a fun departure from standard volunteer opportunities, and thinks we should offer as many opportunities as possible to appeal to different people and personalities.
- There was a discussion about marketing Rotary with a table and literature at events.
- Rachel said she would start adding events to Club Runner so everyone had visibility.

Club Administration

No report

Program Chairs

No report

Public Relations

No report

Diversity Committee

No report

International / Foundation

No report

President Elect

No report

Past President

No report

Club Executive Secretary

No report

There being no further the business the meeting was adjourned at 9:21 am.

Respectfully submitted,



Amy Hart, Club Secretary