Blue Ridge Mountains Rotary

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Zoom Videoconference

March 17, 2021

**Directors Present**

Franklin Daniels, Aimee Andrews, Roger Higgins, Ben Horne, Wayne Murphy, Thomas Markham, Erik Greenbaum, Matt Crane, Amy Hart

**Others Present**

Sam Caughron, Bob Kahn

**Welcome and Call to Order**

Franklin Daniels, President, welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 8:34am.

**President’s Report**

Mr. Daniels noted that Immediate Past President Ravi Respeto has several items to discuss carrying over from the February meeting, but is traveling today and will present at the April meeting.

**Secretary’s Report**

Thomas Markham, Secretary, presented minutes from the February 17 meeting for approval.

***Motion****: Roger Higgins moves to accept the February 17 minutes. Seconded by Erik Greenbaum. Approved by the board.*

**Financial Report**

Ben Horne, Treasurer, gave an update on the financial situation.

* Overall, the club is doing okay financially, planning to approximately break even for the year.
  + The club currently has net income of ~$9,000, but this will decline as expenses accrue through the rest of the year.
  + The endowment has recovered well along with the broader stock market.
* Overdue accounts
  + Jim Greene: Mr. Horne and other board members have exhausted all ways of communicating with Jim Greene without success, including certified letter, calling his parents, etc. Without a way to contact him he cannot be served for small claims.
    - Vice President Roger Higgins suggested that we drop collection efforts unless Jim Greene resurfaces.
    - Mr. Horne raised the issue of how to treat this from an accounting standpoint, leaving open the possibility of collecting in the future without carrying a bad debt on the books. He will look into it.
    - Mr. Daniels noted that the board has made best efforts to collect this debt and we should not be pressing members into the uncomfortable position of being debt collectors and proposed that we write off the debt at the end of the fiscal year.
  + Other outstanding balances at this time are mostly “small ball.”
  + Member Bob Kahn spoke up to share his experience of the club’s new overdue notice policy this year (sending a letter at 30 days past due). He noted he has gotten the notice when he has already paid his bill and it has changed his experience of Rotary over the past year.
    - Mr. Horne noted that there may be some lags between receipt of checks and what is recorded in ClubRunner – he and Secretary Thomas Markham will coordinate on that.
    - Matt Crane wondered if there was a way to make payment more seamless, such as with online payments linked to the invoice.
    - Mr. Horne noted that he and incoming Treasurer Sam Caughron are looking into ways to bill members through Quick Books, which would be more seamless.
  + Member Sam Caughron raised the issue of how member Marshall Pryor is being billed now that he has moved into a nursing home.
    - President-Elect Aimee Andrews noted that a member can take Honorary status in order to remain a member of the club without being responsible for quarterly dues. This is entirely dependent on the wishes of the individual member.

**President Elect**

Aimee Andrews, President-Elect, provided two updates:

* Incoming service chairs Dan Alley and Ronda Puryear have identified a project in Chantal, Haiti to dig a well for the national school there. This aligns with the district’s focus on water and sanitation.
* There will be an in-person installation dinner to honor the outgoing and welcome the incoming boards this year, likely hosted at the Blue Ridge School.

**Vice President/Membership**

Roger Higgins, Vice President, provided an update on the following issues:

* Rabbit Run 5K
  + A charitable partner has still not been identified for this year’s race. The committee is exploring options with an intersection between the club’s diversity initiative and COVID vaccine support efforts.
  + Wayne Murphy suggested that we could revisit some of the candidates from last year’s postponed race, such as Loaves and Fishes food bank.
* Diversity Committee
  + The committee membership has selected Eddie Karoliussen as chair.
  + The committee had a meeting on February 22 and discussed both the “why” of the committee and the “how” of moving forward, including:
    - Developing a charge/charter for the committee
    - Communicating with the broader club
    - Getting help from non-committee members as well
  + Next steps will include a survey of the club asking “what does diversity look like to you?”
  + Affordability is an issue that has already come up in discussions

**Club Service**

Erik Greenbaum, Club Service chair, provided the following update:

* The effort to provide refreshments to COVID vaccine site volunteers is going well. Enough Rotary volunteers are available to assist with purchase and delivery of refreshments. This effort will continue until the vaccine site no longer needs support.
* Monthly Salvation Army dinner is still on the last Monday of the month and Mr. Greenbaum will solicit volunteers.

**International / Foundation**

No report

**Past President**

No report

**Club Adminstration**

No report

**Program Chairs**

No report

**Public Relations**

No report

**Club Executive Secretary**

No report

There being no further the business the meeting was adjourned at 9:35am.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas Markham, Secretary