**Rotary Club of Manassas**

**Special Board of Directors Meeting**

**Minutes**

**Manassas Baptist Church**

**November 30, 2022**

**Attendance**

Officers:

President Kenny Loveless

President-Elect Cheryl Macias

Vice President & Treasurer David Lamb

Secretary Ab Basu

Board Members:

Robyn Williams

Sally Lay

Willis Jones

Cindi Kacer

Bob Anderson

Bill White

Ed Pratt (by phone)

Xiao Yin Byrom

Additional Members:

Jeff Brown

Xerxes White

Additional Attendees:

David Sarmanian, President of Manassas Scout Troop 607 & Chapter Representative To Grace United Methodist Church

**Summary of Meeting**

**It was determined that a quorum was present, and the meeting was called to order at 10:30 a.m.**

**Discussion of Old Motion from November 16**

The previous standing motion was that the Club agree to become the chartered organization for local Troop 607 of the Boy Scouts of America. Cheryl Macias made a motion to amend the standing motion to add stipulations that i) the Troop 607 pay for any additional insurance that the Rotary Club of Manassas would require to engage in this activity; and ii) that the Troop 607 also pay for the criminal background check for Ed Pratt, who would be the Club’s liaison and oversight with the Troop. Sally Lay seconded the motion to amend.

**Troop 607 President Discusses Their Needs**

**David Sarmanian**

David Sarmanian was introduced as the President of the Boy Scouts Troop 607. He also stated that he is the main representative for the Troop to the present charter holder, Grace United Methodist Church. Mr. Sarmanian stated that because of the nationwide move for all United Methodist Churches to cease all charter relationships with Boy Scouts troops across the country, that Troop 607 was in danger of ceasing to exist by end of year. He stated the following information regarding Troop 607:

* It has been in existence since 1920, and had for a long time been housed and chartered within Grace United Methodist Church.
* Grace United Methodist Church has agreed to remain the home for the Troop and also where they could store their property, provided that they find another organization to be its charter entity.
* Mr. Sarnamian stated that he had shared with Rotary Club of Manassas the fiscal affairs and records of the Troop, which all showed that it was financially sound.
* Troop 607 has 50 boy scout members and an additional 50 adults who work with them, and an overall group of 100 people at any given time.
* They are the 3rd largest group in the District for Boy Scouts of America.
* Mr. Sarmanian also stated that over 1400 Rotary clubs provide similar relationships with their respective local Boy Scout Troops.
* For the Rotary Club of Manassas to become the Troop’s chartered organization, it would have to share its federal Employer Identification Number so that the Troop could open a new checking account for its activities. The liaison from the Club would have oversight but would not have to engage in daily or weekly activities with the Troop. The liaison would have to have a criminal background check and also undergo three hours of training with the BSA for adults in working with youth.

**Cheryl Macias Distributed a Background Sheet With Pertinent Information to Support the Motion – see sheet for details.**

Jeff Brown then shared information regarding what the insurance and liability related issues could be for the Club to engage in this undertaking. He mentioned that from an insurance standpoint the additional risk for the Club would not be significant. Overall, Jeff stated that he supported the motion and that the risks of taking on the local Troop should be far outweighed by the potential benefits towards the missions of both the Troop and the Club.

Bob Anderson stated that he supports the boy scouts and their mission, but also did not understand the need for the Club to take on what he considers would be significant legal and insurance liability if it agreed to be the charter entity for Troop 607. Several pros and cons were discussed in detail.

Kenny Loveless stated that he would only move forward as long as all members had the opportunity to discuss their concerns, opposition or support. He said that he would hold further listening sessions during the interim, but also that the Club general membership would have to vote either way on the motion at its next meeting on December 14. (Subsequent to the special board meeting, arrangements were made for two one-hour listening and discussion sessions via Zoom on the following Monday and Tuesday prior to the vote day. This ensured that all issues were fully discussed and there not be any further need for discussion on Wednesday, Dec 14, where the program was almost fully booked for the Manassas Chorale show. The vote would be held after the show.)

Kenny then brought the meeting to a close with a *viva voce* vote of the Board, which was in favor of recommending to the general membership of the Rotary Club of Manassas that the Club become the chartered organization for the local Troop 607.

Adjourn 11:30.