Minutes

McLean Rotary Club Board of Directors Meeting

December 9, 2014

Present: President Paul Sawtell, Vice President Todd Dempsey, Treasurer Jan Auerbach, Immediate Past President Dale Lazar, Director Membership Dana Sippel, Director Eva Sereghy, RI Foundation Chair Glenn Yarborough

**Minutes**: Minutes from the November 11, 2014 meeting were approved as submitted.

**Treasurer’s Report:** Treasurer Auerbach noted there is a $3,000 shortfall in the amount of funds collected for meals and the expenses paid since July. Dana Sippel moved and Jan Auerbach seconded a motion to raise to the full membership a proposal to increase the meal charge from $17 to $18. The vote was unanimous. Paul Sawtell will tell members at today’s meeting that there will be a discussion of an increase at next week’s meeting. Regarding the holiday party, the board agreed not to charge Bob Jansen for his meal since he was hospitalized the day before with appendicitis. Jan Auerbach noted that members were charged $47 for attendance at the party whereas the actual per person cost, including hall rental and a $300 tip to the caterer, was $66.38.

**Leave of Absence**: A twelve month leave of absence for Tehmina Khan will end September 30, 2015.

**Announcements.** President Sawtell noted we will start inviting other clubs to Evo Bistro to boost attendance. We also will join with the Tysons and Great Falls Rotary clubs for a St. Patrick’s Day celebration at the Old Brogue in Great Falls. He encouraged us to visit the Manassas Rotary Club and thank them for their free use of their Rotary float at the Winterfest Parade on December 7. Use of their float is becoming so popular that they will start charging other clubs $500 to use it.

**Monte Carlo Night**: Dana Sippel said that he has not been able to collect funds from winners of two silent auction items. One of the items--to a Caribbean resort--sold for $580. He suggested that the checkout table be moved closer to the exit at Monte Carlo Night to increase the likelihood that people pay for their items that evening. Also, for big ticket items, club members could identify the winners and accompany them to the checkout table. The board agreed to auction the remaining items at a club meeting in January.

**Membership**. Dana Sippel circulated a list of guests over the past several months and asked whether any of these guests are likely to become members. No one knew of any likely candidates. He said he thought the key to getting more members is better public relations. Public Relations Chair Rick Neldon is on a three month leave of absence while he undergoes chemotherapy. The board suggested asking Michael Arietti to be Rick’s co-chair since, through his role as publicity chair for the chocolate festival, he has made many contacts with area news organizations. Several members noted that other clubs have their meeting times listed in the Local Living supplement to the Washington Post each Thursday, and that the McLean club needs to be listed there. The club’s Facebook page should be updated at least weekly to maintain interest in it, and we should try to build followers to our LinkedIn page. Vice President Dempsey asked why current members are not coming to meetings. Glenn Yarborough said he sensed that members weren’t as involved as they used to be. Perhaps it is a function of the aging of the membership? Todd agreed to ask Michael DeRose to be the “Ambassador of Fun” to introduce more fun into the meetings. Eva Sereghy felt that members would attend if there were good speakers, they worked together on community service projects, and there were more opportunities for group fellowship, such as the party at Jan Auerbach’s.

**Service Projects.** The board reviewed the results of the November 18 multi-vote by club members of proposed service projects. The board agreed to recommend to the club foundation that any project receiving 50 or more votes by considered for funding.