BRC Board Meeting 6.13.23

**Branford Rotary Club**

**June 13th 2023**

**Board Meeting Minutes**

In attendance: Carter, O’Connor, Page, Carucci, Cimino, S. Marlatt, Kirsch,

Not Present: Storer, Whiteman, Carloni

Guests: Tina Strell, Terence Elton, Jim Fennell (incoming Directors), Andy Marlatt

Meeting called to order at 5:42 pm

Secretary’s Report: Page/S.Marlatt motion to accept. Passed.

Treasurer’s Report – Storer not present. Carucci/Cimino – motion to approve. Passed.

Storer suggested disbursements from Braffle revenue of $30,765 to BCCS and $10,069 to Foundation. Discussion that dollar amounts did not add up.

O’Connor motion to disperse $30,765 from Braffle proceeds to Branford Counseling Center. Carucci seconds.

Passed unanimously.

We will take up discussion of Foundation allocation at July Board Meeting.

Discussion of history of Foundation getting 15% from club revenues and if it should be revisited. Concerns over what the Foundation counts as income and that there have been no meetings in past year.

Project Committee Report – Ragonese- nothing to present at this point.

Non-traditional Scholarship- Andy Marlatt.

Idea originated through an inquiry through website.

Board has expressed support for this idea and using Gateway as recipient in two recent meetings (September and December 2022. BRC Board/Foundation had also previously voted to support pre-COVID but project got tabled due to pandemic).

Gateway currently has an average of 200 adult students from Branford. Andy had follow up conversation with Dean after their presentation to club at meeting. Since tuition had gone up considerably, she suggested partial payments for a higher number of students.

Pell grants are not available for certificate students; there are a lot of costs incurred for exams, etc. Gateway has their own vetting program to distribute this.

Susan Marlatt – motion for club to create the Branford Rotary Club non-traditional student scholarship(s) which calls for $5,000 to be awarded annually to support a minimum of 5 non-traditional (adult) students attending Connecticut State Community College – Gateway. These recipients would be Branford residents, aged 26 or order, who exhibit financial need as determined by Gateway.

Cimino seconds. Unanimously passed.

Chuck and Sandy to craft email to Foundation asking for financial support for this initiative.

Andy Marlatt will be point person on this project and handle PR. Agreement that Gateway will report semi-annually on use of funds.

Request from Chip Marsh for donation for BCTV. No dollars will be funded until after July 1st but Chip looking for motion of support. Cimino – motion to indicate support/Page seconds.

Unanimous support, dollars to be discussed at July Board Meeting in the traditional amount of $1,000.

New Rotary brochure: being printed, plan to distribute some at Festival.

Partnership Committee- waiting for about 6 more renewals.

Installation Dinner – hoping for a last minute push, attendance pretty meager at this point

Potential Sponsorship of Kenyan student. Colin Gershon has asked if BRC would be willing to be host club. Gershon needs to confirm that tuition is 100% approved.

BRC would not have financial commitment for tuition but unclear what other costs might need to be covered.

Too many moving parts and too little time to figure them out to commit at this point, but we’d be interested in learning more and supporting a student in the future. Sandy/Chuck will communicate this to Colin.

Next meeting is 6/20 at Home restaurant.

Scholarships given out at BHS last evening.

Fennell – Raise the Roof wants to partner with BRC. Interested in coming to speak with us.

Carter thanked the Board for all their support this past year. Board applauded Carter for her hard work.

Carucci/Marlatt – motion to adjourn at 6:51.

Respectfully submitted by Ellen Carucci